

A Painter's Palette

A Painter's Palette begins with the fundamentals of colour mixing. The simple joy of dis-covering that with only the three primary colours we have the power to make endless hues with which we can express ourselves. Oh the possibilities that lends us!

In this gallery, each colour has its moment to shine. Artworks chosen from the Dunedin Public Art Gallery Collection are displayed alongside an introduction that highlights a particular aspect of each colour's own cultural history.

As you 'Look Out Loud', wonder 'What if?' and play Eye Spy with your tamariki, you are developing cultural understanding and an appreciation for what has been created, to-gether. A Painter's Pallet invites you to begin an exploration of the cultural and historical contexts of colour and consider how art reflects and shapes our cultural identities. For exactly how a colour will be perceived and the response it evokes depends on who you are, where you are, and when it is you see it.

Thank you for spending time in *A Painter's Palette* and remember that when it comes to colour, and art, there is more than what meets the eye. For the curious minded there is always something else to discover.

A Painter's Palette supports the New Zealand Visual Arts Curriculum key objectives that facilitate ākonga/student learning about the cultural and historical contexts of art.

Whero / Red

SCOTT EADY [b.1972 New Zealand]

Red bike 2011

Steel, rubber, plastic, vinyl

Collection of the Dunedin Public Art Gallery. Gifted 2015 by the artist.

NINA KATCHADOURIAN [b.1968 American]

Lavatory Self-Portrait in the Flemish Style 2011

C-print

Collection of the Dunedin Public Art Gallery. Purchased 2012 with funds from the Dunedin City Council (special funds) and the Dunedin Public Art Gallery Society, and with the assistance of the artist and her dealer, Catharine Clark Gallery, San Francisco.

ROSE NOLAN [b.1959 Australian]

I don't know who you are, but can you tell me where I am?

From *Hanky Box Set* 2008

Cotton embroidery on cotton

**LOOK
out LOUD**

Inspired by old portraits, photographer Nina Katchadourian struck similar poses while squeezed into a tiny toilet on a plane one night flying to Aotearoa New Zealand. She used paper towels and pillows. How do you like to pose when you are having your photo taken? Do you ever dress up?

Whero/Red was one of the first known colours people used to make art and visually express themselves. Māori ground up red ochre from the whenua to make kōkōwai, a natural red pigment. You can see an example of this sitting on the shelf next to the kōhatu mauri in our main foyer. What are all the names for red that you can think of?

Whero/Red is one of the primary colours.

Kākāriki/Green is its complementary colour.



Karaka / Orange

JEFFREY HARRIS [b1949 New Zealand]

From Dream #2939 2002-2003

Oil on linen canvas

Collection of the Dunedin Public Art Gallery. Purchased 2005 with funds from the Dunedin Public Art Gallery Society.

**LOOK
out LOUD**

Dunedin artist Jeffrey Harris called this painting *From Dream #2939*. Do you keep track of your dreams and give them a number? What do you think is going on here and what is about to happen?

Karaka / Orange got its name from the fruit, but not until the 16th century. Before that it was known as 'yellow-red'.

Do you think karaka was named after the berry or was the berry named after the colour?

Karaka / Orange is a secondary colour made from mixing red and yellow.

Kikorangi / Blue is its complementary colour.



Kōwhai/Yellow

BILLY APPLE [1935-2021 New Zealand]

**AC / DC (Artist's Cut / Dealer's Cut) 61.8%:
38.2% (golden ratio 1:618) 1986**

Acrylic on canvas

Collection of the Dunedin Public Art Gallery. Purchased 2014 with funds from the Dunedin City Council.

W H Allen [1894-1988 New Zealand]

Marigolds 1930s

Oil on canvas board

Collection of the Dunedin Public Art Gallery.

Bequeathed 2012 by Fred Staub.

**LOOK
out LOUD**

Look how brush strokes of thick paint make droopy petals and lumpy seed heads. Excited by the blazing colour of marigolds, William Henry Allen painted the yellow still life flowers on a yellow table against a yellow wall. How do you think he made all these different shades?

WAYNE BARRAR [b.1957 New Zealand]

Transuranic waste remote handling insertion machine (underground salt walls), Waste Isolation Pilot Project, New Mexico, USA 2006

Colour pigment prints

Collection of the Dunedin Public Art Gallery. Gifted 2012 by the artist.

**LOOK
out LOUD**

Wayne Barrar took this photo of a giant yellow pipe hidden underground. When you look at this photograph what shape stands out the most? Have you ever wondered about what is under the ground when you are out for a walk?

Kōwhai/Yellow has been described as sounding cheerful like a bird chirping, feeling bright and warm on skin like sunlight, and tasting tangy like a pineapple. Some people experience colour with another sense as well as sight. What do you imagine yellow might sound, feel, or taste like?

Kōwhai/Yellow is one of the primary colours.

Waiporoporo/Purple is its complementary colour.

Kikorangi/Blue

RICHARD KILLEEN [b.1946 New Zealand]

Family Tree 1995

Acrylic on aluminium

Collection of the Dunedin Public Art Gallery. Gifted 2001 by the artist.

**LOOK
out LOUD**

Richard Killeen painted symbols to represent individual people and then he put them all together to show that they are a family. If you were to paint symbols for each person in your whānau, what would they be?

Kikorangi/Blue is often used to express emotions and temperature. How do you feel when you see blue?

Kikorangi/Blue is one of the primary colours.

Karaka/Orange is its complementary colour.



Waiporoporo/ Purple

GRETCHEN ALBRECHT [b.1943 New Zealand]

Cushioned Fall 1973

Acrylic on canvas

Collection of the Dunedin Public Art Gallery. Purchased 1973 with funds from the Dunedin Public Art Gallery Society.

**LOOK
out LOUD**

What do you notice about the way the different colours look when they are next to each other? Which pair of colours make the purple stand out the most in your eyes? Gretchen Albrecht painted these vivid colours alongside each other in *Cushioned Fall*, unlocking the power of complementary colours.

Waiporoporo/Purple was first made in the Bronze Age out of shellfish. That's 3-5,000 years ago. It took 10,000 shellfish to make 1 gram of purple dye! As well as showing how powerful people are in portraits, purple has also been used to show when something is magical like the fantastical Knight Bus in Harry Potter.

Waiporoporo/Purple is a secondary colour made from mixing red and blue.

Kowhai/Yellow is its complementary colour.



Kākāriki / Green

SASKIA LEEK [b.1970 New Zealand]

Untitled 2000

Oil and mixed media on board

Collection of the Dunedin Public Art Gallery. Purchased 2000 with funds from the Dunedin Public Art Gallery Society.

ALAN PEARSON [1929-2019 New Zealand]

Portrait of Milton 1969

Oil on canvas

Collection of the Dunedin Public Art Gallery. Purchased 1979 with funds from the Dunedin Public Art Gallery Society.



What if the world was made entirely from shades of one colour? In this portrait it looks like Milton is from the land of Green. If you were to imagine a place made of one colour, which would you like it to be?

Kākāriki / Green has meant different things at different times and in different places. In Egypt it symbolised the power of life, in Europe it has symbolised the natural world, envy and wealth. In comic books a green bottle symbolises Poison.

Kākāriki / Green is a secondary colour made from mixing blue and yellow.

Whero / Red is its complementary colour.



MICHAEL PAREKŌWHAI [b.1968 Ngā Ariki, Ngāti Whakarongo]

They comfort me too 1994

Wood, lacquer

Collection of the Dunedin Public Art Gallery. Purchased 1995 with funds from the Dunedin Public Art Gallery Society.



Does this sculpture remind you of anything? Inspired by a children's game, artist Michael Parekowhai was playing with scale when he transformed a fun childhood memory into a work of art, creating this series of kitset pieces suitable for a giant!



I spy with my little eye:

3 primary colours

2 complementary colours

The colour that yellow and blue make when mixed together.



SCOTT EADY [b.1972 New Zealand]

Red bike 2011

Steel, rubber, plastic, vinyl

Collection of the Dunedin Public Art Gallery. Gifted 2015 by the artist.

100 BIKES PROJECT

For four years Ōtepoti Dunedin artist Scott Eady collected discarded bikes, trikes, and scooters from the recycling shop at the rubbish dump. Each one was carefully restored, repainted, and rebranded with a '100 Bikes Project' badge, transforming the wrecks into desirable sculptural objects that would alter their trajectory and involve them in a two-part plan.

PART ONE: In 2011 the rescued bikes, trikes, and scooters were installed at The Dowse Art Museum in Lower Hutt. En masse they were quite a sight all lined up and gleaming. While the rows of shiny bikes made compelling viewing, it was when the museum's youngest visitors took them off their kick-stands and started laying down laps with their caregivers watching, teaching, and cheering that their potential was fully realised.

PART TWO: The collection was packed, shipped, and relocated all the way to South Korea. For their second outing the bikes, trikes, and scooters were exhibited at the Gwangju Bi-ennale where another community experienced the transformative power of art as they set about making choices, testing performance (the bikes and their own) and, in some in-stances, learning the basics of how to ride!

Eady's *100 Bikes Project* created an opportunity for children and their respective adults to meet art works with their body and soul. Friends and whānau made memories together while the gallery walls echoed with laughter.

The Dunedin Public Art Gallery was gifted a selection of five bikes and scooters by Eady for the collection in 2015. One of these is displayed as a sculpture here in *A Painter's Palette*.