



# PARHAKA

THE ART OF PASSIVE RESISTANCE

**CITY GALLERY WELLINGTON**  
**26 AUGUST 2000 - 19 JANUARY 2001**

Through some of the greatest artworks produced in this country we begin to understand the legacy of Te Whiti o Rongomai and Tohu Kākahi.

A partnership project between City Gallery Wellington and Parihaka Pā Trustees

**FREE PUBLIC EVENTS**

LECTURES - DISCUSSIONS - READINGS - THEATRE - VIDEO - MUSIC - FILM





'A white feather indicates followers of Te Whiti', Parihaka 1901  
photographer unknown, collection of the Taranaki Museum

## SATURDAY 26 AUGUST, 2PM PARIHAKA – INTRODUCTORY TALK

This lecture will open with a kōrero by Mahara Okeroa – MP for Te Tai Tonga/Parihaka Pā Trustee. Lecturer Mereana Hond will speak on behalf of the women of Parihaka and will introduce Dr Hazel Riseborough, author of *Days of Darkness: Taranaki 1878-1884* and *Parihaka and the Historians*.

### PARIHAKA IN FOCUS

The Parihaka story goes back over 130 years. For Māori, especially Taranaki Māori, it has always been in sharp focus, but for many people the picture has been blurred. A clearer understanding of the story will provide a useful background from which to view the art and poetry of the exhibition. Presented by Dr Hazel Riseborough.

## SUNDAY 27 AUGUST, 1PM WORDS TO THE MOUNTAIN

Leading New Zealand poets read newly commissioned works and others relating to Parihaka, land and identity. Join us amidst the exhibition works to hear – JC Sturm, Ian Wedde, Alistair Te Ariki Campbell, Roma Potiki, Rore Hapipi, Robert Sullivan, Elizabeth Smither, Chris Orsman, Dinah Hawken, Apirana Taylor.  
\*gold coin donation

## SUNDAY 3 SEPTEMBER, 1PM THE PROVOCATION OF PARIHAKA: THE SPIRITUAL CHALLENGE TO AOTEAROA

Professor of Religious Studies at Victoria University, Paul Morris seeks to situate Te Whiti and Tohu in their New Zealand and wider colonial context of British military force and Victorian Evangelical Christian missionaries. The unique message of Parihaka, often obscured and reduced by premature comparisons with the later pacifism of Gandhi or Martin Luther King, will be explored. We consider the ways in which Tohu and Te Whiti provoke us to reflect on spiritual resistance to injustice and to re-think our futures together under the aegis of the Treaty of Waitangi.

## SUNDAY 3 SEPTEMBER, 3PM

### ASK THAT MOUNTAIN

Author of the ground-breaking book *Ask That Mountain* (1975), Dick Scott became aware of Parihaka in the early 1950s. His first book, *The Parihaka Story*, appeared in 1954. Dick Scott will talk with Te Miringa Hohaia and Gregory O'Brien about how he became involved with the people of the pā and their history. The evolution of both publications, their impact and the ongoing significance of the Parihaka story will be discussed.

## SUNDAY 10 SEPTEMBER, 3PM

### PARIHAKA – DIRECTOR'S TOUR

Gallery Director Paula Savage takes you on a personal tour of the exhibition. She shares something of the exhibition history and the unique journey that turned a vision into a reality.

"This art confronts the issues of Māori/Pākehā relations. By confronting and acknowledging the damage done, art has the power to heal the wounds and begin the journey toward reconciliation."

PAULA SAVAGE

## SUNDAY 17 SEPTEMBER, 1PM

### TARANAKI CRIES AND WHISPERS

Join Greg O'Brien for a floortalk exploring the voices in Ralph Hotere's 'Te Whiti' series. Texts from ancient times until the present, in Māori and English, are the basis for these dark, atmospheric works. In this series of 'painted utterances', words are set adrift in the natural world or inscribed on the night sky. The talk will also examine the pivotal works in relation to Hotere's oeuvre.

## SUNDAY 24 SEPTEMBER, 3PM

### KO TARANAKI MAUNGA ANAKE KEI TE MŌHIO – TARANAKI SAW IT ALL

As curator of the 1973 exhibition *Taranaki Saw It All*, James Mack stepped into a cross-cultural role that few had undertaken in the gallery environment of the time. In a retrospective excursion, he discusses his involvement and pays tribute to the people of Taranaki and the artists who made the exhibition possible.

"In 1972, as newly appointed Exhibitions Officer at the recently amalgamated Waikato Museum & Art Gallery, I was told to do an exhibition on Te Whiti o Rongomai and Parihaka. I had no idea who he was, neither did I then realise the research I was about to embark on would change my life."

JAMES MACK

## SUNDAY 1 OCTOBER, 12PM

### TĀKIRI MAI TE RAUKURA, HEI ORANGA MO TE IWI

(The Raukura, a symbol of protection, worn to signify the continued strength and well-being of the people)

Women of Parihaka offer an insight into a resilience that is part of the Parihaka legacy. Discussion includes: Māori women and leadership; the impact of confiscation; and the way in which women have been able to pass on tribal knowledge. The importance of traditional chant will be emphasised. With Marj Rau-Kupa, Pare Tito and women of Parihaka.



Untitled (from Nga Puna Waihanga hui, Parihaka 1994)  
Gil Hanly, reproduced courtesy of the photographer

## SUNDAY 1 OCTOBER, 2PM NGĀ WAIATA O PARIHAKA

Te Miringa Hohaia focuses on the origins of waiata in Taranaki and Parihaka tradition. The more ancient Waiata Tāwhito and Poi Manu will be discussed, as well as contemporary Parihaka song and verse. The poi group Te Puapua will join Te Miringa to support this presentation.

## SATURDAY 7 OCTOBER, 2PM YOUR PAST GOES WAY BACK

Tony Fomison's life and work was a quest to tell the stories of the land. From an adolescence spent fossicking through the archaeological traces of Banks Peninsula, the public library and the museum, Fomison became one of this country's most significant history painters. Lara Strongman will look at the relationship between history and myth in Fomison's Taranaki paintings.

## SUNDAY 8 OCTOBER, 1PM TE WAIRUA, TE MŌHIO, ME TE TOKI HAEMATA TOHU KĀKAHI, RĀUA KO TE WHITI O RONGOMAI

Expert in Te Āo Māori, Te Huirangi Waikerepuru shares insights into the wairua, wisdom and leadership of Tohu Kākahi and Te Whiti o Rongomai. They were born into a traditional society, unaware that it was on the threshold of inundation by a tidal wave of European expansion and the impact of colonial domination. The 1800s and the early stages of their lives meant that their wairua, intellect, and values were deeply rooted in Māori mono-culture, maungārongo (peace) and Tino Rangatiratanga (sovereignty).

## SUNDAY 8 OCTOBER, 3PM TE WHARE WĀNANGA O TARANAKI

Ruakere Hond, experienced community educator, discusses the impact that the invasion of Parihaka has had on the traditional institutions of learning in Taranaki. He considers the needs and dreams of the people of Parihaka today.



**SUNDAY 15 OCTOBER, 1PM**

**TWO PLAYS, ONE STORY**

Poet, playwright, and performer Brian Potiki recalls directing *Te Raukura*, *The Feathers of the Albatross* – a play by Harry Dansey, in the mid-1970s. He and former cast members share insights into Dansey's work examining events at Parihaka. Composer and music critic William Dart talks about his collaboration with Mervyn Thompson to produce the Song-play *Songs to the Judges*. *Judges* was first performed in 1980 and immediately provoked strong reaction with its blend of declamatory and provocative songs examining Māori attitudes to land, confiscation and New Zealand law. Toi Whakāri students under the direction of Sally Barratt-Boyes and Simone Lourie give a short, directed reading from *Te Raukura* and perform excerpts from *Songs to the Judges*.

**SATURDAY 21 OCTOBER, 2PM**

**BASTION POINT – DAY 507**

Leader, activist and Labour MP, Joe Hawke introduces a film by Merata Mita that documents the occupation of Bastion Point in the struggle for Maori land rights. The protest began in 1977 when the government proposed subdividing Maori land in the centre of Auckland. Ngāti Whatua people occupied the land, built living areas, and planted crops. The film concentrates on the 507th day of occupation when protesters were forcibly removed. Screening courtesy of The New Zealand Film Archive.

**SUNDAY 22 OCTOBER, 3PM**

**'AN ORNAMENT FOR THE PĀKEHĀ'  
THE PARIHAKA TRIPTYCH**

A signpost in the artist's metaphorical journey and a landmark in New Zealand painting. Colin McCahon's sublime *Parihaka Triptych* belongs with a remarkable group of paintings inspired by Māori messianic movements of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Eminent art historian, curator and writer Jonathan Mane-Wheoki will discuss the genesis of this 'deeply respectful, pioneeringly bicultural' work. With the inscription 'I Te Whiti to people throughout the world and to the people of Parihaka', McCahon depicted a 'regional proponent of passive resistance' as an international figure.

**SUNDAY 5 NOVEMBER, 1PM**

**PARIHAKA IN ART –  
BEYOND A PLACE, A TIME AND PEOPLE**

The work of many contemporary artists has been influenced by the story of Parihaka. While some artists have a personal connection to the place, others have purposefully made a place for Parihaka in their work. Lecturer in Art History at Canterbury, Dr Deidre Brown will look at the different 'ways of seeing' Parihaka, its people, and its events, as presented in recent art, architecture, design and non-fiction writing.

**SUNDAY 5 NOVEMBER, 3PM**

**ARTISTS IN CONVERSATION WITH  
JONATHAN MANE-WHEOKI AND ROMA POTIKI**

Traditions grow and evolve, with artists often interpreting key events, ideas and proposing possible futures. Artists whose works are included in the exhibition discuss their response to Parihaka, and consider their engagement with political and cultural issues. A debate on some of the key issues for contemporary Māori art.

**SATURDAY 11 NOVEMBER, 1-4PM**

**SUPPORTING THE KAUPAPA  
CONCERT FOR PARIHAKA, CIVIC SQUARE**

Sounds of the conscious will echo – from reggae rhythms to Hip-Hop beats some of Aotearoa's finest come together inspired by the story of Te Whiti o Rongomai and Tohu Kākahi, with rhymes and song. Music is power and unity is strength.

**NAU MAI HAERE MAI - ALL WELCOME - FREE**

**KAIARAHĪ – GUIDES FROM PARIHAKA**

On various weekends over the period of the exhibition young people from Parihaka will relate their personal experiences and share their responses to the artworks. They will give floortalks, as well as talk with the public more informally. Contact the gallery for details.

**WEEKEND PUBLIC TOURS – 2PM**

Gallery guides conduct public tours on Saturdays and Sundays at 2pm. They focus on key artworks in the exhibition, discussing the connections between Parihaka, the art and artists. Tours last approximately 40 minutes.

**DAILY VIDEO SCREENINGS**

*Te Whiti & Tohu* – Pounamu series TVNZ 1990

Screenings courtesy of the New Zealand Television Archive

Screenings between 10am - 4pm, in the City Cinema at the Gallery

Except when other events in cinema – check with gallery on (04) 801 4153

Using historical images and dramatic reenactments the video relates the story of Parihaka and the passive resistance movement led by Tohu and Te Whiti. It includes footage of present day Parihaka and interviews with leading figures who narrate events at Parihaka and their consequences.

EDUCATION ENQUIRIES AND COMMUNITY GROUP BOOKINGS: 04 801 3965

FUNCTION ENQUIRIES & BOOKINGS: 04 801 3961

INFORMATION LINE: 04 801 3952 FAX: 04 801 3950

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[www.parihaka.city-gallery.org.nz](http://www.parihaka.city-gallery.org.nz)

COVER IMAGE: MICHAEL SMITHER, *ASK THAT MOUNTAIN* 1973, OIL ON BOARD

ON LONG-TERM LOAN TO THE HOCKEN LIBRARY, UNIVERSITY OF OTAGO, FROM DR MĀRIRE GOODALL.

A partnership project between City Gallery Wellington and Parihaka Pā Trustees.

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