

# GILL GATFIELD

## Biography

New Zealand artist Gill Gatfield (LLB. MFA Hons.) creates conceptual-abstract sculptures and installations using rare stones, unique timbers, crystal-clear glass, fibre and native grass. Her artworks are imbued with ideas and narratives that intersect disciplines: philosophy, politics, history, science and psychology. Her minimalist forms tempt touch, provoke thought, and create reflective space within architectural and natural environments.

Following her first solo exhibition in 1999, Gill's work has been exhibited in NZ, Australia, USA and Europe in galleries, museums and outdoor sculpture events, has won national and international recognition, and commissions for place-making art. Major works include *Native Tongue*, a totemic I-figure carved from the heartwood of a 45,000 year old ancient kauri; *Silhouette* crafted from NZ glacial stone and Indian granite, marking the edge of a lava flow at a city transport station; *The Kiss*, a four tonne black monolith which embraces its audience, winner of a Landscape Art 2017 CODAaward; *Half Glass*, an 'impossible' form and metaphor for human aspiration on an Island headland; and *Kaitiaki* at Te Tuhi, a 17m white woven wall of disposable diapers, a geometric matrix raising issues of care and protection of taonga (treasure), people and land. In 2018, Gill created *Zealandia*, an abstract figure carved from a precious indigenous stone from the mountains of Te Waipounamu NZ, for the 2018 Venice Architecture Biennale exhibition 'Time, Space, Existence'. Her work was presented at A18 American Institute of Architecture 'Blueprint for Better Cities' in New York and EXPO 2018 Chicago by the International Sculpture Centre. She recently completed *Asterisk*, a major public artwork combining three rare Australian rocks, commissioned for a new park in the city of Sydney 2020.

Gill Gatfield's work is featured in art reviews, books, catalogues, radio and TV. A monograph on her theory and practice, *Abstract Figure: Gill Gatfield*, was released at the International Sculpture Centre Symposium in 2013. She was sole Juror of the 18th International Open 2015 Chicago, an open competition for women artists worldwide, and is a member of Global Women, a multi-sector organisation advancing equity, diversity and inclusion. As 2015 artist in residence at Kvindemuseet Danmark / Women's Museum Denmark, she created *Glasloft/Glass Ceiling* flooding the floor of a heritage room with shattered glass, a level playing field with a 'step up' to commemorate the Danish suffrage centenary. Awarded a Creative New Zealand arts grant in 2019, the artist made the monumental *Glass Ceiling (NZ Aotearoa)*, a deep undulating landscape and visual paradox of light and darkness in a city Silo, awarded Merit Honors in the 2019 Public Space international CODAwards. In 2019 Gill was awarded a Sculpture Fellowship and residency at Vermont Studio Centre USA, and was nominated a New Zealand Woman of Influence for her work in arts & culture and diversity leadership. Gill was recognised as one of 25 Creative Revolutionaries - 'artists and arts collaborators, leading the way for positive change' by international commissioned art platform CODAworx in 2020.

The artist's practice expands on her 10 year career in public policy and law reform - working in legal practice, as a senior advisor on human rights law, and as an EEO entrepreneur. She founded and led Equity Works Ltd. (1992-1998) investigating sector-wide systemic discrimination (gender, race, age and disability) and developing new equality and diversity strategies for government, professional and private sector organisations. She conducted 2 years of independent research on the status of women in the law and is author of the landmark text *Without Prejudice: Women in the Law* (Brooker's, 1996, republished as a Heritage Collection Title in 2011). To mark 125 years of women practising law in 2016, Gill re-issued the book as a conceptual artwork - in hardback, cloaked in international suffrage colours, with a subtitle - *Same Issue : New Cover*. In 2018, *Without Prejudice* was published as a digital book by Thomson Reuters in response to the global movement #metoo. Gill supports local arts initiatives in her community north of Auckland and is patron of Estuary Arts Centre.

## CV

### CAREER | EDUCATION

Artist, Gatfield Studio 1998–  
Masters of Fine Arts (Hons.) University of Auckland 2002/2003  
Bachelor of Laws University of Auckland 1987

### PUBLIC PROJECTS | SOLO EXHIBITIONS

*Asterisk* 2020, NSW Westconnex Canal to Creek Sculpture Park, Sydney  
*Residency* 2019 Vermont Studio Centre USA  
*Glass Ceiling (NZ Aotearoa)* 2019 Silo Park, Auckland NZ  
*Zealandia / Project X* 2018-2019 Venice Italy  
*Without Prejudice: Same Issue-New Cover* 1896–2016 / 2018  
*Suffragettes* 2016, Corner Window Gallery, Auckland NZ  
*Glasloft/Glass Ceiling* 2015, Kvindemuseet Danmark/Women's Museum Denmark  
*The Kiss* 2015, Sculpture by the Sea Aarhus Denmark  
*Creative Disruption* 2014, Global Women NZ  
*Square Root* 2013, Langford120, Melbourne Australia  
*Vanity Fair* 2013, Parallax Art Fair, The Prince George, New York  
*Ally Sloper* 2013, 16th International Open, WomanMade Gallery, Chicago

*The Snake Charmer* 2013, NZ Sculpture Onshore, Auckland  
*Native Tongue* 2012, Spark NZ Head Office, Auckland  
*Silhouette* 2011, Smales Farm Station, Auckland  
*Third Person* 2010, Centre of Contemporary Art, Christchurch  
*Suspended Sentence* 2009, The Physics Room Kiosk, Christchurch  
*En Plein Air* 2009, Centre of Contemporary Art, Christchurch  
*Current Work* 2008, City Art Rooms, Auckland  
*Performance Painting* 2008, Blue Oyster Gallery, Dunedin  
*First Person/Present Tense* 2008, Installation, City Art Rooms, Auckland  
*Being-Made* 2007, City Art Rooms, Auckland  
*Nappy Painting* 2006, Massey University, Albany  
*Kaitiaki* 2004, Cameo Project, Te Tuhi / Manukau Public Art Gallery  
*Eve n Eden* 2003, Window Project, Eden Arts Festival  
*In-Out* 2003, University of Auckland  
*Kaitiaki* 2003, Mount Street Studios, University of Auckland  
*Moving Mountains* 2002, Whakatane Museum & Gallery  
*Moving Mountains* 2002, Rotorua Museum of Art & History  
*In the Balance* 2002, Auckland University  
*1000 Words* 1999, ASA Gallery, Auckland

#### GROUP EXHIBITIONS

##### 2020

Hello Again, Scott Lawrie Gallery Auckland  
*The Wall (US)*, Alumx Exhibition, Vermont Studio Centre USA  
Touch (Virtual Exhibition), WomanMade Gallery Chicago  
Season 2020, SCAPE Public Art, Studio 125 Christchurch  
Summer Show, The Vivian / Scott Lawrie Gallery, Matakana NZ

##### 2019

Open Studios, Vermont Studio Centre USA  
Winter Show 2019, SCAPE Public Art, Studio 125 Christchurch NZ  
Love Lives Here, COCA Centre of Contemporary Art, Christchurch  
LIP(S), Silo Park Wynyard Quarter Auckland NZ

##### 2018

International Sculpture Centre, 2018 Expo Chicago  
Small Sculpture Exhibition, SCAPE Public Art 2018, Arts Centre Christchurch NZ  
Venice Architecture Biennale 2018, Time Space Existence, Curated by Global Art Foundation & European Cultural Centre, Giardini  
Marinaressa, Venice  
International Sculpture Centre, 30 Sculptors 2018, Artsy  
A'18, American Institute of Architecture CODAworx, Javits Centre, New York  
Edge, Curator: Dr Irene Barberis, Langford120 Melbourne

##### 2017

Small Sculpture, Studio 125 Gallery SCAPE Public Art Season 2017, Christchurch  
Headland Sculpture on the Gulf 2017, Pavillion Gallery Waiheke Island NZ  
Opening Show, Studio 125 Gallery SCAPE Public Art, Christchurch NZ

##### 2016

*The Kiss* SCAPE Public Art 2016 'Presence' Curator: Heather Galbraith, Christchurch NZ  
*Aroha* SCAPE Public Art 2016 Christ's College Christchurch  
*Trinity* National Small Sculpture Prize 2016, Waiheke Art Gallery

##### 2015

Sculpture by the Sea 2015 Aarhus Denmark  
Fifteen-Trajectories, Langford120 Melbourne Australia  
Headland Sculpture on the Gulf 2015, Pavillion Gallery Waiheke Island NZ

##### 2014

New Zealand Sculpture Onshore (10th Biennial) Auckland NZ  
Chicago Sculpture International 2014, Lewis University Chicago USA  
National Small Sculpture Prize 2014, Waiheke Art Gallery  
Fourteen-Trajectories, Langford120, Melbourne Australia  
Shapeshifter 2014, NZ International Arts Festival, Dowse Art Museum

#### 2013

Squaring Up, Langford120 Melbourne  
Safe, In[box], ArtBox Gallery Christchurch  
x, Sculpture by the Sea Bondi 2013, Sydney  
Multiple Choice, Sculpture Inside, SxS Bondi 2013 Sydney  
Vanity Fair, Parallax Art Fair New York, The Prince George New York  
Ally Sloper, 16th International Open, Woman Made Gallery Chicago  
Chip, Off the Wall - Sculpture Invitational, Waiheke Art Gallery

#### 2012

The Snake Charmer, New Zealand Sculpture OnShore  
Lean II, ArtHouse, NZ Academy of Fine Arts  
Nappy Painting, Women: An Exhibition, NZ Academy of Fine Arts  
I+I, National Small Sculpture Prize 2012, Waiheke Art Gallery NZ  
Platform, Summer: Sky Above Earth Below, Curator: Andrew Clifford, Waikato Sculpture Trust

#### 2011

Native Tongue, Sculpture in the Gardens, Auckland Botanic Gardens  
Not I & II, Sculpture on the Peninsula, Banks Peninsula  
Black Fringe, Wallace Finalists Exhibition, Dowse Art Museum  
Wallace Art Awards Exhibition, Pah Homestead Auckland  
Not I, National Small Sculpture Prize 2011, Waiheke Art Gallery NZ  
White I. (Whakaari), Morpeth Canaday Art Award, Whakatane

#### 2010

Portia & Je Suis, NZ Sculpture Onshore  
All Black, Spring Catalogue 2010, Nadene Milne Gallery  
Natural Selection, Walker & Hall 2D Art Award, Waiheke Art Gallery  
13% Painting, Anthony Harper COCA Art Award Exhibition, Centre of Contemporary Art  
Portia & Babel, Shapeshifter 2010, NZ International Arts Festival, Dowse Art Museum  
Blood Work, Bouncy, Sanderson Contemporary Art, Auckland  
Cliffhanger, Sculpture in the Park | E: Scape, Curator: Rob Garrett, Waikato Sculpture Trust  
Babel, Exhibition 2010, Kaipara Coast Sculpture Gardens

#### 2009

Half Glass, Headland Sculpture on the Gulf, Waiheke Island  
Bush, Sealink Small Sculpture Prize Exhibition, Waiheke Art Gallery  
Silver Lining, NZ Painting & Printmaking Award, Hamilton Gardens  
All Black, Black Candy, City Art Rooms, Auckland  
High Country / Black Cloud, COCA Art Award, Centre Of Contemporary Art  
Black Cloud & Bush, Mesh, Antoinette Godkin Gallery, Auckland  
Present, National Drawing Award, Artspace, Auckland; Physics Room, Christchurch; Enjoy Public Art Gallery, Wellington

#### 2008

Mirror Image, NZ Sculpture Onshore, North Shore City/Auckland  
Prickle, City Art Rooms at Bridge Art Fair, Berlin, Germany  
Prick, Unlimited, City Art Rooms, Auckland  
Six Days, COCA Art Award, Centre of Contemporary Art, Christchurch  
Cloud, Reflecting Skin, City Art Rooms, Auckland  
First Person/Present Tense, Installation, City Art Rooms, Auckland

#### 2007

Canvas, Off the Wall, Auckland Art Gallery

*Live Recording*, Sculpture in the Park (Curator: Carole Shephard), Waikato Sculpture Trust  
*Prick*, Wallace Art Awards, Auckland Town Hall  
*Muses*, Fine (Curator: Tamara Darragh), Sanderson Contemporary Art, Auckland

## 2006

*Grass Roots*, NZ Sculpture Onshore, North Shore City/Auckland  
*Lawn*, Trust Waikato National Contemporary Art Award, Waikato Museum  
*Nappy Painting*, Bath Street Gallery, Auckland  
*Practice*, National Drawing Award, ArtSpace Auckland; Physics Room, Christchurch

## 2005

*Undercoat*, Skirt Collective, Installation & Performance, Auckland  
*End of Line*, Activate – Contemporary NZ Artists, Centre of Contemporary Art  
*Untitled*, National Waikato Contemporary Art Award, Hamilton  
*Handmade*, National Drawing Award, ArtSpace, Auckland; Physics Room, Christchurch

## 2004

*Tui-pie*, Altered States (Curator: Carole Shephard) Museum of Cultural Anxiety, Auckland  
*In/Out*, National Waikato Contemporary Art Award Exhibition

## 2003

*Foray*, A4 Exchange (Curator: Karin Sander) Weisensee Art School, Berlin, Germany  
and George Fraser Gallery, University of Auckland  
*Fake*, Congreve Odyssey House Auction, Auckland  
*Fake*, Winter at the ASA, ASA Gallery, Auckland  
*Sacred Ground*, Goldwater Art Award Exhibition, Waiheke Island  
*Eve n Eden*, Window Project, Eden Arts Festival, Auckland  
*Remuera*, Window Project, Guardian Trust, University of Auckland

## 2002

*Marque 4*, ASA Gallery, Auckland

## AWARDS | GRANTS | RESIDENCIES

Creative New Zealand 2020 Arts Grant  
Creative Revolutionary CODAworx 2020  
NSW Government Westconnex Sculpture Park Sydney 2019, Commissioned Artist  
NZ Women of Influence Awards 2019 Finalist (Arts & Culture, Diversity)  
CODAawards 2019 Public Space Award 'Glass Ceiling (NZ Aotearoa)' Merit Honors  
CODAawards 2019 Top 100 'Glass Ceiling (NZ Aotearoa)' Jury Selection  
Creative New Zealand 2019 Arts Grant  
Vermont Studio Centre 2019 Sculpture Fellowship  
Venice Architecture Biennale 2018, Global Art Affairs Foundation Invited Artist  
A'18 American Institute of Architecture New York 2018 Invited Artist  
CODAawards 2017 Public Art Landscape Award 'The Kiss' Winner  
CODAawards 2017 Top 100 'The Kiss' Jury Selection  
SCAPE Public Art 2016|2017 Season, Christchurch NZ, Invited Artist  
NZ Small Sculpture Prize 2016 Finalist  
Women's Museum Denmark 2015 Artist in Residence  
Sculpture by the Sea 2015, Aarhus Denmark Jury Selection  
18th International Open Art Award 2015, WomanMade Gallery Chicago, Juror  
Chicago Sculpture International 2014, Lewis University, Jury Selection  
Shapeshifter 2014, NZ International Arts Festival Wellington, Selected Artist  
NZ Small Sculpture Prize 2014 Finalist  
Sculpture by the Sea Bondi 2013 Sydney Australia, Selected Artist  
16th International Open 2013, WomanMade Gallery Chicago, Finalist  
Parallax Art Fair 2013 New York, Invited Artist  
NZ Small Sculpture Prize 2012 Finalist  
Public Art Sculpture Award 2010 Winner | Smales Farm 2011 Commissioned Artist  
Wallace Art Awards 2011 Finalist | Travelling Exhibition 2011 Selected Finalists  
NZ Small Sculpture Prize 2011 Finalist  
Morpeth Canada Art Award 2011 Finalist

Walker & Hall National 2D Art Award 2010 Finalist  
COCA Centre of Contemporary Art Award NZ 2010 Finalist  
NZ Painting & Printmaking Award 2009 Finalist  
NZ Small Sculpture Prize 2009 Finalist  
COCA Centre of Contemporary Art Award NZ 2008 and 2009 Finalist  
Dunedin Performance Art Festival 2008, Blue Oyster Gallery Open Call Selected Artist  
Wallace Art Awards 2007 Finalist Salon de Refuse  
National Contemporary Art Award (3D) 2006 Finalist  
International Women's Art Festival 2006 Vienna Austria, Skirt Collective Jury Selection  
Waikato National Art Award (2D) 2005 Merit Prize  
Waikato National Art Award (2D) 2004 Finalist  
Te Tuhi Public Gallery Auckland 2004 Cameo Project  
Goldwater Art Award 2003 Finalist  
Morpeth Canada Art Award 2002 Finalist  
Auckland City Creative Communities 2001 Exhibition Grant  
North Shore Pumphouse Art Awards 2001 Finalist

#### ARTIST TALKS

'Zealandia - At Home', Government House 2020  
'Glass Ceiling (NZ Aotearoa)' 2019 Silo 6 Auckland  
'Suffragette - A Model' 2019 Global Women Auckland NZ  
Native Tongue: Real and Imagined - Art in Augmented Reality' Spark Foundation 2018  
'Baroque Abstraction: A Romance between Conceptual Abstraction & Italian Baroque' European Cultural Centre, 2018 Venice Architecture Biennale, Italy  
'Creative Process Artist's Panel' Facilitator 2017 Estuary Art Centre NZ  
'The Kiss in Context' SCAPE Public Art 2016, Christchurch Art Gallery NZ  
'Suffragettes' 2016 Corner Window Gallery Auckland NZ  
'Creative Process - Logic + Intuition' 2015 Creative Mornings Aarhus Denmark  
'The Kiss', Sculpture by the Sea 2015 Education Programme, Aarhus Denmark  
'Disruption: The Business of Art', Global Women Breakthrough Leaders Forum 2014, Auckland  
'Disruptive Innovation & Creativity', Global Women Conference 2014, Queenstown  
'Square Root', at Squaring Up 2013, Langford120, Melbourne Australia  
'On x', Education Program, Sculpture by the Sea, Bondi 2013, Sydney Australia  
'Abstract Figure: Gill Gatfield', International Sculpture Centre Symposium 2013: International Dialogue, Auckland 2013  
'Art for A Public Wall', Artist's Panel, NZ Sculpture OnShore 2011, Auckland NZ  
'Native Tongue', Sculpture in the Gardens, Auckland Botanic Gardens 2011  
'Performance Painting', Blue Oyster Performance Art Series, Dunedin 2008  
'BeingMade', University of Auckland Cont. Education Group, Auckland 2007  
'Grass Roots', Te Tuhi Art Theory Group, NZ Sculpture Onshore 2006  
'Kaitiaki', Public Lecture Series, Te Tuhi / Manukau Public Art Gallery 2004  
'Fake', Elam Masters Students, ASA Gallery, Auckland 2003  
'Moving Mountains', Public Lecture Series, Rotorua Museum of Art & History 2002

#### MEMBERSHIPS | ASSOCIATIONS

International Sculpture Centre, Professional Member  
Global Women, Arts Sector Lead  
SheEO Women Entrepreneurs, Activator  
National Council of Women, Member  
Estuary Arts Centre Auckland, Patron

#### HUMAN RIGHTS | ADVOCACY

Advisory Panel, Platforms for Good 2020  
Researcher/Advisor, NZLS Review of Sexual Harassment & Bullying 2019  
Chair, 'Women in Law Summit' Key Media Auckland 2018  
Author, *Without Prejudice: Women in the Law* (Brooker's 1996, 550pp.; Brooker's Heritage Title 2011; *Same Issue: New Cover* Gatfield 2016; *Same Issue: New Cover* Thompson Reuters 2018)  
Founder & Director, Equity Works Ltd. 1993-98  
Research Scholar Grant, New Zealand Law Foundation 1994 and 1995  
Law Reform Division Senior Advisor, New Zealand Law Society 1992-93  
Policy & Law Reform Senior Advisor, Ministry of Women 1990-91  
Solicitor, Brookfields Auckland 1987-89 (Litigation, Commercial, Tax)  
Barrister & Solicitor, High Court of New Zealand 1987-98 (NZ Roll of Barristers & Solicitors 1997)  
Bachelor of Laws University of Auckland 1987

STUDIO

Gatfield Studio Auckland NZ  
studio@gatfield.co.nz  
www.gillgatfield.com