

Emil McAvoy

Curriculum Vitae

Artist | Art Writer | Educator | Gallery Professional | Consultant

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Current Employment

- 2015 – Art writer (essayist, critic, interviewer, journalist, editor)
- 2018 – Consultant for selected artists and arts organisations
- 2018 – Tutor and mentor, Browne School of Art, Auckland
- 2017– Independent educator (courses and workshops in person and online)
- 2004 – Artist (principally photography, publishing, painting, curation)

Education

- 2013 Master of Fine Arts Degree, First Class Honours, Elam School of Fine Arts, University of Auckland
- 2002 Bachelor of Visual Arts Degree, Auckland University of Technology
- 1998 – 99 Conjoint Bachelor of Arts & Commerce Degrees, University of Auckland (towards BA / BCom)
- 1997 1st in New Zealand (Art History), New Zealand Education Scholarships Trust Examination

Teaching Positions

- 2017 – 20 Lecturer, Photo Media, Whitecliffe College of Arts & Design, Auckland (PBRF research accredited)
- 2018 – 19 Mentor, The Big Idea Mentoring Programme, Auckland (photography, video, new media)
- 2017 Mentor, Artists Alliance Programme for Recent Fine Arts Graduates (painting)
- 2009, 06 Tutor & Guest Lecturer, Victoria University, Wellington (Design, Media Studies)
- 2009 Tutor, Massey University, Wellington (Media Studies, Academic Writing)
- 2007 – 08 Tutor & Guest Lecturer, Wellington Institute of Technology (Fine Art, Video Production)

Awards, Scholarships & Residencies

- 2019 Goethe Institut Scholarship for Cultural Ambassadors, Berlin
- 2016 Finalist, New Zealand Painting and Printmaking Awards
- Finalist, Glenfiddich Artist in Residence Programme (Australia & NZ), Melbourne exhibition
- 2014 Finalist, National Contemporary Art Awards
- Artists Alliance Mentorship Recipient
- 2013 Residency, Development AIR Project Space, Auckland
- Finalist, Glaister Ennor Graduate Art Awards
- 2011 First Runner Up Prize, 20th Annual Wallace Art Awards
- 2010 – 11 University of Auckland Summer Research Scholarship
- 2010 Finalist, 19th Annual Wallace Art Awards
- 2009 Archives New Zealand 50th Anniversary Scholarship
- 2007 Finalist, Trust Waikato National Contemporary Art Awards
- Finalist, 16th Annual Wallace Art Awards

Curatorial Projects

- 2021 Air, New Zealand, an online exhibition of New Zealand art photography, PhotoForum [April]
2009 – Ongoing artist-as-curator project deploying photographic archives from the New Zealand Government's National Publicity Studios in contemporary art exhibition and publication contexts

Solo Exhibitions

- 2020 The National Basement, Old Government House, University of Auckland
2016 Red Earth Reconnaissance, Papakura Art Gallery, Auckland
2014 PRISMISM, Enjoy Public Art Gallery, Wellington
2014 Reflections on Lily Pond, Projectspace, Elam School of Fine Arts, University of Auckland
2012 occultivation, Snake Pit, Auckland
2011 CAUCASIA: Selling New Zealand at the 1970 Japan World Expo, Projectspace, Elam

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2021 Opus, Faculty Exhibition, Browne School of Art, Auckland [June]
2020 Matrix, Faculty Exhibition, Browne School of Art, Auckland
2019 – 20 Sculpture in the Gardens, Auckland Botanic Gardens. Curated by Linda Tyler, Brett Graham & Rachael de Lambert
2018 This is New Zealand, City Gallery Wellington. Curated by Robert Leonard & Aaron Lister
Auckland Art Fair Projects Programme, Curated by Gabriela Salgado & Francis McWhannell
FREE SPEECH, Demo Art Project Space, Auckland. Curated by Whitecliffe staff & MFA students
2017 This Might Be The Place, Ilam Campus Gallery, Christchurch. Curated by Alice Tappenden
2016 this is the cup of your heart, The Dowse Art Museum, Lower Hutt. Curated by Alice Tappenden
2011 – 12 New Zealand Condition: Framing of the Nation, Waikato Museum. Curated by Karl Chitham
2007 Intimacy and in.yer.face. Curated by Daniel James (formerly Daniel Agnihotri-Clark)
2005 Tired of Dancing, SHOW artist run space, Wellington (with Marnie Slater & Sarah Jane Parton)
2004 Outer Nebular Drifter, in Prospect 2004: New Art New Zealand, NZ Film Archive, Wellington (with Eugene Hansen, Jenny Gillam, Kaleb Bennett & Simon Morris). Curated by Emma Bugden
2004 Another 48 Hours, Enjoy Public Art Gallery, Wellington (with Gary Peters & Sandra Schmidt)

Selected Bibliography

- 2020 [Marketing a Mythical 'New Zealand'](#), John Hurrell, EyeContact (review), 25 Sep
2019 Basement Biopsies, Photo essay, Landfall 238, Spring 2019, text by Robert Leonard, November
2018 Aaron Lister, [The National Basement](#), 'This is New Zealand' exhibition catalogue, City Gallery
Stella Ramage, [Review of 'This is New Zealand'](#), Art New Zealand, Issue 166, Winter 2018
Mark Amery, [Is There a 'Real' New Zealand?](#) Review of 'This is New Zealand', EyeContact, 5 April
2016 Alice Tappenden, [Enjoy, beanbags and the GCSB](#), The Third Enjoy Five Year Retrospective, Enjoy Publishing (a response to PRISMISM, Enjoy Public Art Gallery, Wellington)
2014 Emma Jameson, [Political Abstraction](#), review of PRISMISM exhibition, EyeContact, 7 Aug
[Contemplating National Gallery & PRISMISM](#), Doug Dillaman, The Lumiere Reader, 1 Aug
Emma Jameson, [Blurred Boundaries](#), mention in Ben Clement review, EyeContact, 2 November
2012 Matthew Plummer, [Medium Cool: Emil McAvoy's Conceptual Constellation](#), occultivation exhibition catalogue. Snake Pit, Auckland, 2012
2010 Rozzy Middleton, [Being Emil McAvoy](#), Freerange Journal, Volume 3: The Trickster

Selected Publications

- 2021 Photo essay, street photography, Freerange Journal, Vol.12: Everything is Temporary
- 2018 \$1/Word: A Living Wage for New Zealand Art Writers, page work, inside back cover, Art NZ Issue 166, Winter 2018. Part of the Projects Programme, Auckland Art Fair 2018
- Look Both Ways: Peter Alsop & Emil McAvoy in Conversation, 'This is New Zealand' exhibition catalogue, City Gallery Wellington
- 2016 People's Park, PDF & photobook print publication, Harbourview Sculpture Trail
- 2015 bigwoods, The Dendromaniac Issue, Enjoy Public Art Gallery Occasional Journal
- 2014 PRISMISM, published by Enjoy Public Art Gallery, Wellington, New Zealand.
Edited by Emil McAvoy. Texts by Matthew Plummer, Guy Cohn & Henri Carlos, Samuel O Var, Emil McAvoy. ISBN 978-0-473-29108-2 & ISBN 978-0-473-29109-9
- 2013 soft launch: Towards an Exopoetics of the 'Crop Circle' Phenomenon, dissertation submitted in partial fulfilment of a Master of Fine Arts Degree, Elam School of Fine Arts, University of Auckland
- 2011 CAUCASIA: Selling New Zealand at the 1970 Japan World Expo, Projectspace, Elam, Auckland
- 2007 The Beat Goes On: Emil McAvoy's 'Better Work Stories', PDF exhibition catalogue. Edited by Emil McAvoy. Essays by John Minto, Emma Bugden & Emil McAvoy, 2007
- 2004 Dancing with the Stars: Thoughts on Belonging in 'Tired of Dancing'. SHOW Gallery, Enzyme Publishing, Auckland, New Zealand, 2009, p. 40-43. ISBN: 0-9582706-0-0

Selected Writing on Art

- 2021 Essay, Jono Rotman [May]
Auckland exhibition reviews, Art News New Zealand [May]
Essay, Monique Lacey [April]
Essay, Mark Schroder: GOLDKORP, RM Gallery & Project Space [April]
Essay, Shane Cotton, Webb's auction catalogue [March]
Essay, Michael Parekowhai, Art +Object auction catalogue [March]
Tia Ranginui, Undiscovered segment, Art Collector magazine [March]
Essay, Gretchen Albrecht, Two Rooms, Feb
Articles on Chelsea Nichols, Russ Flatt, Simon Ingram & the Auckland Art Fair, Art Collector, Jan
- 2020 Essay, CRACKER: Anderson, Clarke, Shelton & Waugh exhibition, Two Rooms, Auckland, Nov
Essay, Pat Hanly's 'Golden Age F', Art+Object auction catalogue, September
A Take on a Take on a Take, essay in Gavin Hipkins' The Homely II exhibition catalogue, published by Bouncy Castle & City Gallery Wellington, August
Essay, Hannah Valentine's Interference, Visions, August
Uncivilised: Civilisation, Photography, Now, Auckland Art Gallery, D-Photo magazine, July
One Sentence Review, Art Collector magazine, July
Jae Hoon Lee: Tilting the Horizon, Visions, May
Wellington Paranormal, article on James Gilberd, NZSOS, Carlo Van de Roer and 'spirit photography', D-Photo magazine, May
Stella Corkery: Perpetual Irresolution, Art Collector, April
Nikau Hindin, Undiscovered Segment, Art Collector, April
Bill Hammond's 'Canopy 7', Important Paintings & Contemporary Art, Art + Object, March
Gretchen Albrecht: Arrivals & Departures, Essay for Two Rooms catalogue publication, March
As Above, So Below: Recent Photographs by Anne Noble & Kate van der Drift, Art New Zealand
This Side of the Window, essay on News from the Sun exhibition, Art News New Zealand, March
Article, Laurence Aberhart acquisition by Auckland Art Gallery, Art Collector, January
- 2019 Rainbow Podium: Interview with Shannon Novak, Sympathetic Resonance, The Suter, Oct
Somewhere Around Here, essay on Tim Croucher's exhibition, Ramp Gallery, Wintec, Oct
Commentary, What's Wrong with the Art World? Upfront (survey segment), Art Collector, Oct
Essay, Gretchen Albrecht, Pull Focus, Art Collector, Sydney Contemporary Special Ed., September

Medium/Rare, Essay on 'Rarely Seen: Photographs of the Extraordinary' (Aotea Utanganui Museum of South Taranaki), PhotoForum, September
Essay, Seung Yul Oh, Art Collector magazine, July
Essays, Parekowhai & Wilkinson, A+O's Important Paintings & Contemporary Art catalogue, July
Raw Matériel, In Conversation with Jono Rotman, Contemporary Hum, June
Review, Vinesh Kumaran exhibition, Mangere Art Centre, PhotoForum, May
Review, Live from the Moon, Geoffrey Batchen curator, Suite gallery, PhotoForum, May
Resonant Absence, Susan Philipsz at the Adam Art Gallery, Art News New Zealand, May
John Reynolds: Walk with Me, Art Collector Magazine, Auckland Art Fair Special Edition, May
Hikalu Clarke, Undiscovered section, Art Collector Magazine, Issue 88, April-June
Memory Material, Chauncey Flay, Weasel Gallery for Auckland Art Fair, May
Walking Alone: Don Binney, Art + Object auction catalogue, March
Higher Thought Forms, Wanda Gillespie exhibition, March

2018
Purveyor by design: Interview with Jason Bonham, Interior Design Consultant, Urbis, No.107, Dec
Click + Collect: Patrick Pound's 'On Reflection', PhotoForum (Review), November
Spectral Presences: Michael Harrison's Blue Robe & King and Queen of Swords, November
In the Public Domain: Paul Baragwanath (interview), Interior Magazine, No. 29, September
Bill Hammond's 'Wild Life Quiet Life', Webb's 'Significant Art' Auction Catalogue, September
Chris Corson-Scott interviewed by Emil McAvoy, 'Evanescence Monuments' exhibition catalogue
Power-Plants: Ann Shelton's 'the missionaries', exhibition text, Two Rooms, June
Looking Out, Looking In: Conor Clarke's 'Ground Water Mirror', exh. text, Two Rooms, June
Elsewheres: Jae Hoon Lee's 'In the mood for elsewhere', EyeContact (Review) April
Ground Water Mirror: An Interview with Conor Clarke, PhotoForum, April
Street Level - The 're:trace' Project, PhotoForum, April
Dendromania. Glen Hayward's dendrochronology at Objectspace, EyeContact (Review), April
The Canvas is No Longer Blank: Selina Foote's Take On Painting, Art New Zealand 165, March
Construction Sight: Johl Dwyer, Art News New Zealand, Autumn, March
Pay Dirt: Energy, Extraction & Expenditure in Nicholas Mangan's 'Limits to Growth', The Dowse Museum, EyeContact (Review), Jan

2017
Surface Area: 'Surface Affect' at the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, EyeContact (Review), Nov
Walk the Talk: David Clegg's 'loca projects/correction', Govett-Brewster, EyeContact (Review), Nov
Caryline Boreham's 'Disco Volante', InSitu Photo Project, Christchurch, Oct (& PhotoForum NZ)
Utopian, Player, Radical, Other: Representations of Artists in the NZ International Film Festival, EyeContact (Review), Oct
Pipilotti Rist's 'Eye Pot', Art+Object, Glen Schaeffer Collection, Oct
Shane Cotton's 'Compressed View', Art+Object, Glen Schaeffer Collection, Oct
Ultramarine: Stephen Ellis' Anthropogenic Sublime, 20/20, Sanderson Gallery, Oct
Futures Trading: The Tomorrow People, Adam Art Gallery, EyeContact (Review), Sep
Celestial Hum: The Cosmic Landscapes of Michael Illingworth, Art+Object Auction Catalogue, Sep
Burning Out: John Ward Knox's 'Tauhou', Robert Heald, Wellington, EyeContact (Review), Aug
Shane Cotton's 'Outlook (Purple)', Art + Object Auction Catalogue, Aug
HOW TO BURN THE HOUSE DOWN, Elliot Collins' 'Restless Pilgrim', Tim Melville, June
Turning the Telescope Inside Out, Mark Adams' 'View From Astronomer's Point', Two Rooms, June
Eating Dirt, Ruth Watson's 'Geophagy', Gus Fisher Gallery, EyeContact (Review), May
Modernism in the Medicine Cabinet, 'John Nixon: Collages', Two Rooms, April

2016
Matt Henry & Madoka Kouno 'Personal Recordings', Writing Around Sound, No. 3, Dec (Review)
Dashper the Friendly Ghost: A Response to 'Julian Dashper: Video Works'
Phantom Topologies: CIRCUIT Symposium, Pantograph Punch, 12 October 2016
Voodoo Ray vs. Zombie Modernism, Catalogue Essay for Matt Henry: Long Division, Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, September, ISBN: 978-0-908848-87-7
Cloud Funding: The Auckland Art Fair, EyeContact, 3 July 2016 (Review)
Peter Peryer: Datura, Bowerbank Ninow Auction Catalogue No. 2, March, 2016

- 2015 [Wet Paint: The Auckland Art Gallery's 'Necessary Distraction'](#), EyeContact, 29 Dec 2015 (Review)
[Rohan Wealleans' 'Black Panther' & 'The Thing'](#), Bowerbank Ninow Auction Catalogue No.1, Nov
[The Kiss & Cry: Russ Flatt's 'Nationals'](#), Tim Melville Gallery, Auckland & Black Magazine, No.24
[Augmenting Architecture: Shannon Novak's 'Cryptocosmos'](#), Te Uru Gallery

Conference, Symposium & Public Presentations

- 2019 Raw Matériel: Jono Rotman's Photographs of Firearms, Encounters: AAANZ Conference, 5 Dec
 2018 Combined artist talk with Gavin Hipkins, This is New Zealand, City Gallery Wellington, 3 March
 2017 Combined artist talk with Caroline McQuarrie & Johanna Mechen, This Might Be The Place,
 Ilam Campus Gallery, Christchurch, 3 May 2017
 2016 Artist talk with Matt Henry, Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth, 11 September 2016
 Artist talk, Red Earth Reconnaissance, Papakura Art Gallery, Auckland, 23 April 2016
 Artist & curator talk, this is the cup of your heart, Dowse Museum, Lower Hutt, 12 March 2016
 2015 Futurist Painting for GCSB Boardroom, Rebooting Futurism Symposium, Victoria University,
 15 May 2015
 2013 The Artist as Public Intellectual, Artist Presentation, Auckland Art Gallery, 5 August 2013
 2011 Super/natural: A Beginner's Guide to Psychobotany. Presentation at Eco Sapiens:
 SCANZ 2011 Symposium, Owae Marae, Waitara, Taranaki, 16 January 2011
 2009 Discursive Formations: Circumnavigating the 'crop circle' phenomenon via contemporary art
 theoretical discourses. Interconnections: SCANZ Symposium, Govett-Brewster Art Gallery,
 New Plymouth, 8 Feb 2009

Other Recent Initiatives

- 2021 Curator, ART WALKS, Auckland gallery tours in association with the Auckland Art Fair [March]
 Tutor, Springboard: Professional & Conceptual Development for Emerging Artists, online course,
 Lakehouse Arts, March-April
 STATION Gallery representative, Auckland Art Fair, Feb
 Zoom artist interviews (Auckland Art Fair), Pull Focus segment, Art Collector magazine, Feb
 Tutor, workshop on career strategy for artists, Art.Work, Feb
 2020 Tour Guide Programme Curator, Open Late in the Arts Precinct, Artweek Auckland, October
 Tutor, Proposal Writing Workshop (in person & via Zoom), Art.Work, Feb, July & October
[Zoom interview](#) with Ann Shelton, Pull Focus segment, Art Collector magazine, October
[Zoom interview](#) with Seung Yul Oh, Pull Focus segment, Art Collector magazine, October
[Zoom interview](#) with Richard Lewer, Pull Focus segment, Art Collector magazine, October
 Advisory on documentary feature film project surveying selected New Zealand painters, May-June
 Online workshop on proposal writing, Matthew Browne School of Art, May
[Zoom Interview](#), Richard Lewer, Artists at Home (Covid-19 lockdown), Art Collector magazine
 Tour Guide, Sculpture in the Gardens exhibition, Auckland Botanic Gardens, Feb – March
 Tour Guide, Art Explore, Parnell Galleries, Auckland, Feb
 2019 Tour Guide Programme Curator, Open Late K' Road event, Artweek Auckland
 Tutor, workshop on photographic documentation, Matthew Browne School of Art, Aug & Oct
 Tutor, Breaking Through: A workshop on creativity, Art.Work, June
 Tour Guide, Matthew Browne School of Art Students (Auckland Art Fair)
 2018 Tour Guide Programme Curator, K Road Business Association (During Artweek Auckland)
 2018 Life Hacks for Artists, Artists Alliance Bootcamp Professional Development Workshop, 28 April
 Tour Guide Programme Curator, K Road Business Association (During Auckland Art Fair)
 2017 Tutor, Contemporary Photography: Theory & Practice, Te Tuhi, Adult Education Short Course
 Tour Guide, Electric Night, K Road Business Association (Artweek Auckland)

Representation in Art Collections

Wallace Arts Trust Collection
Trust Waikato Art Collection
National & international private collections

Selected Media Coverage

- 2020 [‘40 Under 40: 40 Inspiring University of Auckland Alumni aged 40 or under’](#), Ingenio, Nov
[Seeing our self-promotion in a new, sometimes awkward light](#), Margo White, Uni News, July
- 2018 [Turning Back Time](#), Stephen Olsen, Working Life: PSA Journal, July 2018
A response to The National Basement, ‘This is New Zealand’, City Gallery Wellington
- 2015 [Remembering We Can Forget](#), Janet McAllister, New Zealand Herald, 15 Jun 2014
- 2012 [Police Brutality and Other Stories: The Work of Emil McAvoy](#), Robyn Murphy, Craccum, 2012
- 2007 [Pointed Message](#), Waikato Times, 13 August 2007
[Move, move, move](#), Jim & Mary Barr, Over the Net, 21 August 2007

Screenings of Video Works

- 2016 [Lusi in the Sky](#), Viewfinder, Nga Taonga Sound & Vision, Auckland. Curated by Siobhan Garrett
- 2008 Artist: Video Noir Re-edit (with Damian Stewart AKA Frey) in Artist’s Film Festival
Govett Brewster Art Gallery, The Physics Room, NZ Film Archive. Curated by Paula Booker
Artifact (w/ Damian Stewart AKA Frey) in Seance for Nam June Paik, screening/performance event
Aotearoa Digital Arts Symposium, Christchurch. Curated by Daniel James
- 2006 [Tunnel Vision: For Viola](#), Video & Train (w/ Lissa Meridan & Donald Maurice), World Viola
Congress, Montreal & Lilburn Electroacoustic Music Studio 40th Anniversary, Victoria University
- 2005 [Flare](#) (w/ Damian Stewart AKA Frey) in Poetry to Go film festival, curated by Kathryn Dudding
NZ Film Archive, Wellington & Iris Out film festival, curated by Diane McAllen, NZ Film Archive
- 2004 – 05 [Untitled \(Feedback\)](#) (with Marcel Allen) in Take001 film festival. Curated by Louise Menzies
Gertrude Contemporary Art Space, Melbourne; City Gallery & Enjoy Gallery, Wellington

Live Video Performances

- 2007 [Googlism for: tube](#) (with Damian Stewart AKA Frey) in Intimacy and in.yer.face
Online performance event, Massey University, Wellington. Curated by Daniel James
- 2006 [Forgotten Pretty Things](#) (with Damian Stewart AKA Frey) in Soundtracks
Live cinema festival, NZ Film Archive, Wellington. Curated by Mark Williams
[Reciprocity](#) (with Damian Stewart AKA Frey) in Interdigitate
Digital performance festival, Moving Image Centre, Auckland. Curated by Deborah Lawler-Dormer
- 2005 [Untitled](#) (with Damian Stewart AKA Frey) in Indeterminacy & Interface
New media performance event, Massey University, Wellington. Curated by Daniel James
- 2004 [Outer Nebular Drifter](#) (with Eugene Hansen, Jenny Gillam & Kaleb Bennett)
Prospect 2004: New Art New Zealand, NZ Film Archive, Wellington. Curated by Emma Bugden

Contact

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