

# Emil McAvoy

## Curriculum Vitae

**Artist | Art Writer | Educator | Gallery Professional | Consultant for Artists**

[emilmcavoy.com](http://emilmcavoy.com)

[emil.mcavoy@gmail.com](mailto:emil.mcavoy@gmail.com)

### 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, film and video, 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 (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 [June]  
*ART WALKS*, curated Auckland gallery tours in association with the Auckland Art Fair, March
- 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  
*Lusi in the Sky*, Viewfinder, Nga Taonga Sound & Vision, Auckland
- 2014 *PRISMISM*, Enjoy Public Art Gallery, Wellington  
*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 Art 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 New Zealand*, issue 166, Winter 2018. Part of the Projects Programme, Auckland Art Fair  
*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 towards 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
- 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 Bibliography

- 2020 John Hurrell, *Marketing a Mythical 'New Zealand'*, EyeContact (review), 25 Sep
- 2019 Robert Leonard, *Basement Biopsies*, Photo essay, Landfall 238, Spring, 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
- 2010 Rozzy Middleton, *Being Emil McAvoy*, Freerange Journal, Volume 3: The Trickster

## 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, a response to The National Basement, 'This is New Zealand', City Gallery Wellington
- 2014 *Remembering We Can Forget*, Janet McAllister, New Zealand Herald, 15 Jun
- 2012 *Police Brutality and Other Stories: The Work of Emil McAvoy*, Robyn Murphy, Craccum
- 2007 *Pointed Message*, Waikato Times, 13 August  
*Move, move, move*, Jim & Mary Barr, Over the Net, 21 August

## Selected Writing on Art

- 2021 *Essay*, Jono Rotman [June]  
*Essay*, Monique Lacey [June]  
*Essay*, Mark Schroder: GOLDKORP, RM Gallery & Project Space [June]  
Auckland exhibition reviews, Art News New Zealand, May  
Tia Ranginui, Undiscovered segment, Art Collector magazine, April  
*Essay*, Gregory Bennett: Edifice, Two Rooms, April  
*Essay*, Clayton Morgan: Terra Obscura, Toi Poneke, Wellington, April  
*Essay*, Shane Cotton, Webb's auction catalogue, March  
*Essay*, Michael Parekowhai, Art + Object auction catalogue, 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*, essay, 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 #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, 'Evanescent 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)  
 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 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 (Review), Dec  
*Dashper the Friendly Ghost: A Response to Julian Dashper: Video Works'*  
 Phantom Topologies: CIRCUIT Symposium, Pantograph Punch, 12 October  
*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

- 2015 *Wet Paint: The Auckland Art Gallery's 'Necessary Distraction'*, EyeContact, 29 Dec (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  
 2016 Artist talk with Matt Henry, Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth, 11 September  
 Artist talk, Red Earth Reconnaissance, Papakura Art Gallery, Auckland, 23 April  
 Artist & curator talk, this is the cup of your heart, Dowse Museum, Lower Hutt, 12 March  
 2015 *Futurist Painting for GCSB Boardroom*, Rebooting Futurism Symposium, Victoria Uni., 15 May  
 2013 *The Artist as Public Intellectual*, Artist Presentation, Auckland Art Gallery, 5 August  
 2011 *Super/natural: A Beginner's Guide to Psychobotany*. Presentation at Eco Sapiens: SCANZ 2011 Symposium, Owae Marae, Waitara, Taranaki, 16 January  
 2009 *Discursive Formations: Circumnavigating the 'crop circle' phenomenon via contemporary art theoretical discourses*. Interconnections: SCANZ Symposium, Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth, 8 Feb

## Other Recent Projects

- 2021 Tutor, *Springboard: Professional & Conceptual Development for Emerging Artists*, online course, Lake House Arts Centre, March-April  
 STATION Gallery representative, Auckland Art Fair, Feb  
 Zoom artist interviews (Auckland Art Fair), Pull Focus segment, Art Collector magazine, Feb  
 Tutor, *Career strategy for artists*, workshop, 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, June  
 Tutor, *Proposal writing*, online workshop, 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, Parnell Galleries for Art Explore, Auckland, Feb  
 2019 Tour Guide Programme Curator, *Open Late on 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, Auckland Art Fair for Matthew Browne School of Art Students  
 2018 Tour Guide Programme Curator, K Road Business Association (During Artweek Auckland)  
 Tour Guide Programme Curator, K Road Business Association (During Auckland Art Fair)  
 Tutor, *Life Hacks for Artists: Artists Alliance Professional Development Workshop*, 28 April  
 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

Trust Waikato Art Collection  
 Wallace Arts Trust Collection  
 International private collections  
 National private collections