

TUIA 250 WHITIANGA

# Street Art Festival GUIDE

MARCH 2019



[www.mercurybayartescape.com](http://www.mercurybayartescape.com)

# TUIA 250 WHITIANGA STREET ART FESTIVAL

A Mercury Bay Art Escape project for the Tuia 250 Te Whanganui O Hei (Mercury Bay) commemorations

**Dave Fowell.** Mercury Bay Pharmacy Monk Street side. Dave is a sculptor and painter and has exhibited works in both genres in New Zealand (at Eggsentric, Flaxmill Bay) and Italy. He is an accomplished portrait painter. Instagram @ [dave\\_fowell\\_art\\_work](#) Ph.021138966

**Flox and Trustme.** Service Lane on Monk Street between The Cave and Town Hall. Flox and Trustme are working in collaboration in Whitianga but both have separate outstanding reputations on the national and international street art scene. They recently worked together on a mural in Riverton using spray paint and with the extensive use of stencils. Flox : [www.flox.co.nz](#) : Trustme : [www.rossliew.com](#)

**Peter Nicholson.** Albert Street, Plaza side on Mainly Casual and also on the southern side of Soldiers Memorial Park. Peter is well known for his murals in Whitianga, the Waikato and Bay of Plenty. He enjoys depicting historical scenes and his 2 murals included in the Festival illustrate HMB Endeavour and Whitianga Wharf in 1890.

**Monique Rush.** Blacksmith Lane. Hammer Hardware. Monique's inspirations come from nature, Kiwiana and landscapes. She is continually experimenting with new mediums and teaches art in her studio space. [www.mercurybay-artescape.com/monique-rush](#)

**Charles and Janine Williams.** Service Lane Blacksmith to Taylors Mistake. Charles and Janine have created murals throughout Aotearoa ( New Zealand) & around the globe. Their creative practise shows their passion for featuring cultural designs with native/endemic life which connect us to the whenua (land), koreoro (stories) & the tangata whenua (local people). [www.charlesjaninewilliams.com](#)

**Pauly B.** Coghill Lane on the side of Subway. Pauly B is an artist based in the Waikato, who has painted extensively in the Central North Island. Pauly's murals engage with their locations, responding to history, local communities, and how surrounding spaces are used. Pauly is the cofounder of the Boon Street Art Festival in Hamilton. [www.paulyb.co.nz](#)

**Caitlin Moloney.** BNZ . 70 Albert Street. Caitlin is primarily a ceramic artist from Coromandel town and transfers her vivid colours and patterns to her large murals. Her mural for Whitianga references the part fish played in guiding the early navigators to Aotearoa. [www.caitlinmoloney.com](#)

**Michael Smither.** A prominent New Zealand artist, Michael's mural derives from his boat series of paintings and screen prints. Michael is the patron artist of Mercury Bay Art Escape. [www.michael-smither.co.nz](#) There has been a late change of the location of Michaels work on panels. Please refer to our website for the new location. [mercurybay-artescape.com](#)

**Anne Bowden.** Mosaic signs for 'Ladies' and 'Men' will be installed at the entrances to the planned renovation of the public toilets in Blacksmith Lane. This renovation is due for completion at the beginning of July. [www.mercurybay-artescape.com/anne-bowden](#)



Yellow rectangle: Festival Mural

Green dot: Café, Restaurant & Festival supporting business

This map shows the sites of murals being created, or recently completed during the Festival. At the completion of the TCDC town upgrade there will be more public art added to the central Whitianga township area. A new guide will be available with full details of all the artworks so you can enjoy a walk through the town to view the installations.

# Whitianga Mural Themes

## First Encounters

Te Whanganui o Hei/ Mercury Bay is one of the four landing sites in Aotearoa/New Zealand where Europeans and Maori first met in October 1769. Nationally, the anniversary commemorations are taking place in 2019 and 2020 under the banner of Tuia Encounters 250, to celebrate and acknowledge the two great voyaging traditions which brought two cultures together. In November 1769, when HM Bark Endeavour sailed into Te Whanganui o Hei waters, tangata whenua Ngati Hei welcomed the newcomers ashore at their turangawaewae, Wharekaho, and guaranteed their safe passage to their marae, Wharetaewa Pa. There, Ngati Hei honoured Lieutenant James Cook, Tupaia (a Polynesian linguist, navigator and priest) and the scientists and crew on board the Endeavour with a Powhiri, the Maori ritual of welcome and inclusion. For information and commemorations see [www.mercury250.org](http://www.mercury250.org)

## Navigation

The understanding of cosmology – or the patterns of the sun, moon and stars and their influence on this earth were key to the early great voyaging canoes like Te Arawa and Tainui, which followed after Kupe from Hawaii. Wave patterns, birds, fish and cloud formations assisted the navigators as they made their way across the vast Pacific Ocean. In 1769 the opportunity arose for Lieutenant James Cook's voyage in the Endeavour to observe the transit of Mercury across the sun. He accomplished this observation while in Te Whanganui o Hei and this led to the first accurate confirmation of the longitude of Aotearoa/New Zealand. The recent town upgrade of Whitianga is based on the theme of navigation.

## Thank you

**The Artists:** These murals would not have been possible without the very generous donation by the artists who have donated their time and effort. We gratefully thank Charles and Janine Williams, Flox and Trustme, Pauly B, Caitlin Moloney, Michael Smither, Anne Bowden, Monique Rush, Peter Nicholson and Dave Fowell. **The building owners** must be commended for their community spirit and support for the project.



Blue Ginger : Bread & Butter Gallery : Coastal Signs : Coghill Café : Dreamland Design :  
Espy Café : French Fig Café : Flooring Xtra : Hahei Explorer : Harbour House Café :  
Hula Café : Mercury Bay Pharmacy : Snapper Jacks : Subway : The Pour House Hahei :  
Umino Hoshi Sushi : Whitianga Butchery.