



Iwi – Ngati Manawa, Te Arawa
lives and works in Auckland

Master of Fine Arts (First
class honours), Elam School
of Fine Arts, 2015

Bachelor of Fine Arts. Elam
School of Fine Arts, 1997

After finishing his BFA from Elam School of Fine Arts in 1997 Billy McQueen worked as a print technician at Manukau Institute of Technology Visual Arts School and as a designer for the Auckland Museum. In 2000 he transitioned into a successful career in advertising, winning a number of awards, nationally and internationally for his work as a creative director.

Twelve years and two children later, McQueen returned to Elam to complete an MFA, graduating in 2015 with 1st Class honours.

McQueen is from the Ngati Manawa tribe. His current subject matter is largely drawn from domestic scenes of family life or imagery of, or connected to, ancestral land in the Kaingaroa Plains. While his subject matter is quietly biographical - it's only a starting point for the artist - and secondary to his central aim, which is concerned with painterly substance and surface as well as the illusionistic spaces it can create. McQueen's paintings are consciously manipulated and reversed, as a way to investigate traditional painting techniques and the materials employed. In this process, certain abstractions and distortions naturally occur sometimes summoning new and unexpected imagery.

EDUCATION

1997 BFA Elam School of Fine Arts, Auckland.

2013 PGDip Elam School of Fine Arts, Auckland.

2015 MFA (First Class Honours), Elam School of Fine Arts, Auckland.

SELECTED SOLO SHOWS

2020 Archive 02, Föenander Galleries, Auckland

2018 Archive, Antoinette Godkin, Auckland

2016 Abveil, Antoinette Godkin, Auckland



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SELECTED GROUP SHOWS

2019 Throwing Dirt at The Sun, Föenander Galleries, Auckland

2019 Small Work Salon, Föenander Galleries, Auckland

2018 Big Pop Up Art Show, Big Pop Studios, Auckland

2018 Disintegrating Form, Arthaus Orakei, Auckland

2018 Moonlight, All Press Gallery, Auckland

2017 Graduate Art Fair, Guangzhou, China

2016 Auckland Art Fair, Antoinette Godkin, Auckland

2015 30upstairs, Wellington, Traces. Memories. Ghosts.

2015 Elam Masters Graduation Show.

2015 Railway Gallery, Parnell, One Thing for Certain

2015 Elam Postgraduate Graduation Show

1998 George Fraser Gallery, Terminal Lounge

COMMISSIONS

Auckland City Council, Panmure Queen Street Mural

COLLECTIONS

Wallace Arts Trust

Auckland City Council

Private Collections - New Zealand, Australia, Europe & USA