

## MEDIA RELEASE



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# ***fine***

## **Contemporary Nelson art and design comes to Wellington**

***fine: contemporary nelson art and design***, an exhibition showcasing the breadth and excellence of Nelson's creative sector, will be staged during the 2005 Montana World of WearableArt™ Awards in Wellington's Shed 11.

The exhibition will run from 24 September to 2 October and will feature 28 Nelson artists and designers working with photography, furniture, painting, ceramics, glass art, jewellery and sculpture.

***fine*** will present works by well established Nelson artists such as Austin Davies, Jane Evans, Ola Hoglund, and Craig Potton alongside furniture designers such as David Haig and Mike Hindmarsh and younger artists Daniel Allen, Kay van Dyk, Thorkild Hansen, and Issac Ibbotson.

The exhibition has been developed by **Nelson Bays Arts Advocacy and Marketing Trust**, a charitable trust established by artists in 1993 to create opportunities for the arts to flourish in the Nelson Tasman region. It has attracted funding support **from Creative New Zealand** as well as a number of regional and local sources including the Canterbury Community Trust, the Nelson Regional Economic Development Agency, Enterprising Communities Work & Income and local businesses.

**Martin Rodgers**, Chief Executive of Nelson Bays Arts Advocacy and Marketing Trust, says this exhibition will profile the Nelson region as a centre of excellence in the visual arts and design and provide an opportunity for the participating artists to build their profile and relationships in Wellington which is a key arts buying market.

"The Nelson creative sector was a significant beneficiary of the Montana Wearableart Awards™ (WOW® Awards) taking place in Nelson. This event attracted large numbers of people to the region who, as well as attending the show, stayed for an extended period in Nelson and often bought the work of local artists. Now that WOW® has decided to stage the Awards in Wellington, the region is embracing this as an opportunity to profile itself to people throughout New Zealand and beyond," says Rodgers.

“The ***fine*** exhibition will promote the Nelson region as an innovative, thriving centre for contemporary New Zealand art and design as well as drawing attention to those specific artists profiled. We also hope it will help encourage people living in Wellington, as well as those attending the World of WearableArt Awards <sup>TM</sup> from other parts of New Zealand and overseas, to visit the Nelson region in the future,”he continues.

**Elizabeth Kerr, Chief Executive of Creative New Zealand**, says, “I’m impressed by the diversity of artwork being produced in the Nelson region: there’s everything from installation art to the finest jewellery, glassware and contemporary furniture. This exhibition shows the exciting evolution of Nelson art and design.”

The exhibition will be open from 10am to 6pm and later on the evenings of the WOW® Awards show when it will be open until an hour after the show finishes. There will be no charge for entry and most of the works will be for sale although some will be on loan from private collections.

**For further information and a full list of artists and designers taking part contact:**

**Undine Marshfield**

Senior Media and Communications Adviser  
Creative New Zealand  
Tel: 04 498 0725, Mob: 0274 965 925  
Email: undinem@creativenz.govt.nz

**Martin Rodgers**

Chief Executive  
Nelson Bays Arts Advocacy and Marketing Trust  
Tel: 03 539 0828, Mob: 021 060 7489  
Email: martin@nelsonarts.org.nz  
Website: www.nelsonarts.org.nz