



Iwi – Ngati Manawa, Te Arawa

Lives and works in Tāmaki  
Makaurau 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

2021 *Archive 03*, Föenander Galleries, Auckland

2020 *Archive 02*, Föenander Galleries, Auckland

2018 *Archive*, Antoinette Godkin, Auckland

2016 *Abveil*, Antoinette Godkin, Auckland

## SELECTED GROUP SHOWS

2021 Aotearoa Art Fair TENT, Auckland

2021 *Cinder and Smoke*, group exhibiton, Föenander Galleries, Auckland  
2021 Auckland Art Fair, with Föenander Galleries, Auckland  
2020 *Hauhake Wānanga*, curated by Jade Townsend, Objectspace, Auckland  
2020 *Auckland Virtual Art Fair* with Föenander Galleries, Auckland  
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

#### **SELECTED PUBLICATIOND AND REVIEWS**

'Archive 02' exhibition review written by Kyla McKenzie, *Art New Zealand magazine*, Winter 2020,