

March 2023

***Perpetual Guardian Sculpture on the Gulf 2024* — Open Call for Expressions of Interest**

Key Information

- Sculptures by New Zealand and international artists
- Open to emerging and established artists
- An estimated 50,000 visitors over the exhibition duration

**Overview**

Since the first event in 2003, Sculpture on the Gulf has become established as a renowned outdoor sculpture exhibition, a unique contribution to the cultural life of Aotearoa New Zealand. The event fosters the potential of contemporary sculpture to activate the environment, creating opportunities for audiences to experience the power and beauty of sculpture in the landscape. *Perpetual Guardian Sculpture on the Gulf 2024* will continue the conversation between sculpture and site through a multiple significant works.

Established as a biennial exhibition, Sculpture on the Gulf has an open brief to support all forms of sculpture that provoke innovative ideas and new modes of engagement and reception. *Perpetual Guardian Sculpture on the Gulf 2024* will be structured according to a dispersed site model, featuring contemporary, site-responsive sculptures across an extended coastal landscape.

**The Brief**

*Perpetual Guardian Sculpture on the Gulf 2024* will be curated by Robert Leonard and Brett Graham who will develop a framework for the exhibition with a refined number of ambitious projects.

Sculpture on the Gulf is calling for New Zealand artists to submit concepts for recent, existing, or new sculpture conceived for the two-kilometre stretch of coastline along the Waiheke headland from Church Bay towards the Te Atawhai Whenua Reserve and Matiatia.

New Zealand artists interested in being considered can submit a **1-page expression of interest before May 5, 2023.**

Selected artists will be assisted to deliver and present their works for the exhibition to be shown on Waiheke Island, Auckland, from **February 24, 2024.**

The exhibition explores sculpture in its broadest sense: transient or permanent, dispersed, or monumental, event or architectural, participatory or installation, light or sound based—from traditional media to temporal works. Proposals may incorporate a journey or activity, comprise an architectural intervention, offer a shelter or activate a temporary social space into the rhythm and flow of the walkway. Building on the success of 2022, *Perpetual Guardian Sculpture on the Gulf 2024* will direct the exhibition's future as an internationally renowned biennale.

Key expectations are that proposals are for work that is sufficiently resilient to survive coastal conditions for the full period of the exhibition and demonstrate an active and purposeful engagement with site. Inspiration can come from the coastal elements of the natural environment, mana whenua, social, historical, and cultural contexts, visitors, and local community or beyond. The potential for 'sites' of engagement is local, but global in the connection to people and place.

### Selection considerations

<p>Artistic excellence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Artist’s proposal/statement</li> <li>• Reputation, practice, body of work</li> <li>• Demonstration that each artist can reliably fulfil their commitments to the project</li> </ul>
<p>Site responsiveness/awareness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appropriateness of work to the site</li> </ul>
<p>Risk assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Financially and logistically viable for the artist and for SOTG (construction, freighting and installing)</li> <li>• Impact on environment</li> <li>• Robustness and project longevity – artwork must withstand minimum of 4-5 weeks of strong wind, salt spray, sun etc.</li> <li>• Public safety</li> </ul>

Please submit your proposals to [exhibitions@waihekeartgallery.org.nz](mailto:exhibitions@waihekeartgallery.org.nz)

For further information contact [info@waihekeartgallery.org.nz](mailto:info@waihekeartgallery.org.nz)