

Artist Brief: "Our Land //HER HAND " Exhibition

Presented by Arts Murihiku at Whare Taupua, Community Arts Space, Invercargill

Exhibition Dates: 28 February – 29 March 2025

Part of Southland Heritage Month

Introduction

Nestled in the heart of Invercargill, The Rest Room on Forth Street is more than a Community Arts Space & Gallery—it is a testament to the courage and vision of Southland's pioneering women. Established nearly 100 years ago, on April 13, 1927, as a safe, welcoming space for women and children, its legacy is a cornerstone of the community.

As part of Southland Heritage Month, Arts Murihiku invites artists to contribute to "**Our Land – Her Hands**", an exhibition that bridges past and present through artwork evoked from snapshots of a time passed but not lost. Memories reimagined and returned to us using meaningful artistry.

The Concept

This exhibition invites artists to reinterpret either their own or archival imagery of Southland women from the past 100 years.

Artists are challenged to preserve a portion of the original imagery while adding a modern reimagining in their preferred medium.

The result will be a striking collection that contrasts historical depictions with contemporary perspectives, celebrating the enduring strength, creativity, and resilience of Southland women and children.

Key Details

- **Theme:** Our Land //HER HANDS
- **Medium:** Artists may work in any medium (e.g., painting, printmaking, digital art, mixed media). The medium should allow for a clear reinterpretation of the historical imagery provided.
- **Preservation Ratio:** Maintain an aspect of the original image, creating a side-by-side narrative of past and present.
- **Artworks:** Final works must be ready for exhibition (framed or appropriately presented for display).
- **Exhibition Venue:** The Rest Room, Whare Taupua, Community Arts Space, Invercargill.

Timeline & key dates

- **4 December 2024:** Call for Artists opens. Invitation and creative brief sent to artists, women's groups, and community organizations.
- **14 January 2025:** Submission of expressions of interest (EOI) due. Artists must confirm participation and submit a brief concept proposal.
- **20 February 2025:** Deadline for submission of completed works to Arts Murihiku.
- **28 February 2025:** Exhibition opens at Whare Taupua as part of Southland Heritage Month.
- **29 March 2025:** Exhibition closes.

How to Apply

Conditions of entry:

- Open to any Southland artist or one that resides here
- All submissions will be reviewed by Arts Murihiku. Final inclusion in the exhibition will be at the discretion of the curatorial team to ensure alignment with the exhibition's theme and objectives.
- A concept proposal (300 words max) outlining their approach to reimagining the provided historical imagery.

Submit your application via email to kiaora@artsmurihiku.co.nz by **14 January 2025**.

Please provide the following information in your submission

Name:

Email:

Phone:

Artwork Title:

Brief Concept:

Category: Painting/2D Media/Photography/Sculpture/Embroidery/other

Medium:

Any Attachments:

Post-Exhibition Opportunities

After the exhibition, there are plans to have artworks auctioned to support future arts initiatives and The Rest Room's legacy. A 20% commission will be taken from any sales. Select works may also be adapted into merchandise, such as prints and postcards, extending the impact of the project.

Contact Information

For more information or questions about the brief, please contact

bindy@artsmurihiku.co.nz

RESOURCES for photographic imagery:

- Link Arts Murihiku website and online submissions form
<https://artsmurihiku.co.nz/our-programme/>
- **Alexander Turnbull Library** (National Library of New Zealand): The National Library has a vast collection of historical photographs, including advertising and domestic life images from Southland and other regions of New Zealand.
Website: natlib.govt.nz
- Southland Regional Heritage Archive: Check with the Southland District Council or local museums for access to their historical collections.
- Hocken Collections: Based in Dunedin, this archive contains images and documents about southern New Zealand history. Website:
<https://www.otago.ac.nz/library/hocken>
- Te Ara - The Encyclopedia of New Zealand: This includes historical images and stories relevant to New Zealand's regions. Website: teara.govt.nz