

**Dan Arps**

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# Dan Arps

Born 1976 in Christchurch, New Zealand  
Lives and works in Auckland, New Zealand

Collective ideologies - education systems, cult groups and extremes of belief - have played a critical role in Dan Arps' practice, which responds to consumer capitalism, dated design and the detritus of everyday life. Using pre-fabricated commercial materials and processes that combine mark-making and casting, Arps' installations transform the gallery into a distinct reality not usually at home in an art context.

Dan Arps was born in Christchurch, New Zealand in 1976. He graduated with a BFA (2000) from the University of Canterbury, MFA (2006) and Doctor of Fine Arts from the University of Auckland's Elam School of Fine Arts (2014). In 2010 Arps was awarded the Walters Prize by international judge Vicente Todoli for his installation *Explaining Things* at the Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tamaki. Recent exhibitions include *Necessary Distraction: a painting show*, Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tamaki (2015) and *Local Knowledge* at the Dowse Art Museum, Lower Hutt (2011).

## EDUCATION

2014  
Doctor of Fine Arts, Elam School of Fine Arts, University of Auckland

2006  
Master of Fine Arts, (First Class Honours), Elam School of Fine Arts, University of Auckland

2000  
Bachelor of Fine Arts, (Sculpture) School of Fine Arts, University of Canterbury

## SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

2021  
The New Brutal, Disneyland Paris, Melbourne, Australia (solo)  
Dungeon and Meadow, Melbourne (group)  
ALIVE INSIDE, Neon Parc, Melbourne (group)  
Encapsulated, Caves, Melbourne (group)  
The Floral Maze, Michael Lett, Auckland (solo)  
The Historical Gesture, Robert Heald, Wellington (group)

2020  
White Paintings, Michael Lett, Auckland (solo, online)  
The Hermetic Playa, Sydneysydney, Sydney, Australia (solo)

2017  
Nested Cells, Michael Lett, Auckland (solo)  
Tinnitus Miracle, Robert Heald, Wellington (solo)  
Game, Bowerbank Ninow, Auckland (group)

2016  
Plastic Mouthfeel III, Te Uru, Auckland (solo)  
Light Switch and Conduit, Dunedin Public Art Gallery, Dunedin (group)  
Bilder Bilder, Neon Parc, Melbourne (group)  
Jim Allen, Dan Arps, Stella Corkery, Michael Lett, Auckland (group)

2015  
Necessary Distraction: A painting show, Auckland Art Gallery, Auckland (group)  
3 in the morning part 2, Minerva, Sydney (solo)  
3AM ETERNAL, Robert Heald Gallery, Wellington (solo)  
Plastic Mouthfeel II, Michael Lett, Auckland (solo)  
Plastic Mouthfeel, Neon Parc, Melbourne (solo)  
Appococycollapsed, Ilam Campus Gallery, Christchurch (solo)  
Occasional Table, TG, Nottingham (group)

2014  
Kicking Against the Pricks, Michael Lett, Auckland (group)  
Snakes, tanks and drapes, Robert Heald Gallery, Wellington (solo)  
DocFA Exhibition, George Fraser Gallery, University of Auckland, Auckland (solo)

2013

Freedom Farmers: New Zealand Artists Growing Ideas, Auckland Art Gallery, Auckland (group)  
After Hobson Gardens, Michael Lett, Auckland (solo)  
Relics, Robert Heald Gallery, Wellington (solo)  
Porous Moonlight, Papakura Art Gallery, Auckland (group)

2012

Letter from Alice May Williams, Michael Lett, Auckland (group)  
Abstracts and Vision Statements, Neon Parc, Melbourne (solo)

2011

Local Knowledge, The Dowse Art Museum, Lower Hutt (group)  
Frieze Art Fair, Michael Lett Stand, London (solo)  
Hobson Gardens, Michael Lett, Auckland (solo)  
Charlie Sheen, Y3K, Melbourne, Australia (solo)

2010

Everything is near and inflorescent, forever and present, Michael Lett, Auckland (group)  
A Rock That Was Taught It Was A Bird, Artspace, Auckland (group)  
Modern Arrangements with The Estate of L. Budd, Michael Lett, Auckland  
The Walters Prize, Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tamaki, Auckland (group)  
Unpacking My Library, Te Tuhi, Auckland (group)

2009

Toyota Corolla, Neon Parc, Melbourne (solo)  
Shallow Relief, Gambia Castle, Auckland (solo)

2008

Explaining Things, Gambia Castle, Auckland (solo)  
Affirmation Dungeon, Jack the Pelican Presents, Brooklyn, New York (solo)  
Motivation Bunker, Neon Parc, Melbourne (solo)  
Fractal Tears, Michael Lett, Auckland (solo)  
Gallery Artists and Special Guests, Kaliman Gallery, Sydney (group)  
Tokyo 101 Art Fair, Neon Parc, Tokyo (group)

2007

Gestapo Pussy Ranch, Physics Room, Christchurch (solo)  
Affirmation Dungeon, Gambia Castle, Auckland (solo)  
Existence, Waikato Museum, Hamilton (group)  
The Shining Path, Carlton Club and Studios, Melbourne (group)  
Slowing Down, Glen Eira City Council Gallery, Melbourne (group)  
I DIG YOUR VOODOO, Joint Hassles, Melbourne (group)  
Omnipresents, Gertrude Contemporary Art Spaces, Melbourne (group)

2006

Accumulations, Ramp Gallery, Hamilton (solo)  
One for the Other, TCB inc. Melbourne (group)  
Local Transit, Artspace, Auckland (group)  
Silver Clouds, Next Wave Festival Container Village, Melbourne (group)  
Silver Clouds, CLUBSproject, Melbourne (group)  
Super Natural, The Physics Room, Christchurch (group)

2005

Plastic Nudity and Projected Stories (with James Cousins) 64zero3, Christchurch (solo)  
Projecting and Underground Scene, Window, University of Auckland Library, Auckland (solo)  
Houseplant, Ledge, Hamilton (solo)  
Picking Favourites, Enjoy, Wellington (group)  
Bring Your Caddy, Elam Masters 05, Stanbeth House Gallery, Auckland (group)  
Waikato Contemporary Art Awards Finalists exhibition, Waikato Museum of Art and History, Hamilton (group)

2004

DH Lawrence's Apocalypse, rm103 Auckland (solo)  
Remember New Zealand, 2004 Sao Paulo Biennale, Sao Paulo (group)  
Ampersand, temporary site, Part of the 2004 Art and

Industry Biennial, Temporary Site, Christchurch (group)  
Cuckooborough, West Space, Melbourne (group)  
Telecom Prospect 2004, Wellington City Art Gallery, Wellington (group)

2003

Third Kind, Dunedin Public Art Gallery, Dunedin (solo)  
Wonderland, Artspace, Auckland (group)  
Cuckoo Retrospective, New Roseum Critical-Studies Test-Site, Malmö, Sweden (group)  
Arcadia, Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth (group)  
Put out more flags, Cuckoo at the Moving Image Center, Auckland (group)  
Downtown Frown, Special, Auckland (group)

2002

Complex, Starkwhite, Auckland, New Zealand (solo)  
Ascot Place (With Paul Johns), Dunedin Public Art Gallery, Dunedin (solo)  
Break, Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth (group)  
S\*W\*A\*B presents: Flying High, Temporary Site (group)

2001

Unfinished works, Black Cube, Christchurch (solo)  
New Contemporaries: Abstract Art, Rm401, Auckland (solo)  
Pharmacy, Temporary Site (facilitated by the Enjoy Project) Wellington (solo)  
Office/Space (With Doug Kelaher), Blue Oyster Gallery, Dunedin  
The Museum of X and Dolphins and some of Steve's stuff, Lift Space, High Street Project, Christchurch (solo)  
Ready-mades and found objects of profound mythological importance (with Eddie Clemens), Moving Image Center, Auckland  
Fuse, Dunedin Public Art Gallery, Dunedin  
Thrash, Experimental Art Foundation, Adelaide (group)  
Sex, Drugs and Rock and Roll, CoCA, Christchurch (group)  
The Argonaut, Linwood Community Art Center, Christchurch (group)

2000

A Winter Garden, The Physics Room, Christchurch (solo)  
Observation Deck, Enjoy Project, Wellington (solo)  
Nowhere, High Street Project, Christchurch (solo)

1999

Inhibitor, S\*W\*A\*B studios, Christchurch (solo)

## BOOKS AND CATALOGUES

2012

The Downward Spiral. Auckland: DDMMYY, 2012. Text by Tahi Moore and Dan Arps.

2011

Affirmation Dungeon. Auckland: Couds and Michael Lett, 2011. Texts by Dan Arps, Jon Bywater, Matthew Hyland and Narelle Pathways.

2008

Gestappo Pussy Ranch. Christchurch: Physics Room, 2008. Texts by Dan Arps and Gweynneth Porter.

## SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

2016

Jessie French 'Worth Their Weight in Gold: Young Australian Artists to Invest in Right Now'

2015

Dan Rule "Dan Arps Anne Ferran, Junko Go", Sydney Morning Herald 20 February 20 2015

Claudia Aroqueta 'Dan Arps's "Plastic Mouthfeel II"' Art Agenda

2009

Jon Bywater, Dan Arps: Explaining Things (review), Artforum, March 2009, p.262-263

2008

Interview with Sarah Hopkinson, Artworld Magazine, June/July 2008

2006

John Hurrell "A Gathering into Language" Artbash.co.nz 19th May 2006

2004

Hanna Scott, Hot Prospect, Pavement Magazine Issue 64 Winter 2004 p.32

Marcus Moore, Episode 2, Art New Zealand 112 / Spring 2004

2003

Hanna Scott, Arcadia (catalogue), p.20

Gwynneth Porter, 'Speed Kings', Probe 5, p.42-53

Jon Bywater, 'Neo in New Plymouth', The Listener June 14-20, 2003

Joanne Campbell, Third Kind, Otago Daily Times, September 18

Jon Bywater, 'Break', Broadsheet, Vol 32 no.1, p.32

2002

Simon Rees, 'Point Break', Visit, Summer 2002-2003, p.5, 7, 8

Emma Bugden, 'The Museum X and Dolphins', Log Illustrated #15, p.32

B.S Thompson, 'Wellington Roundup', Log Illustrated #15, p.40

2001

Interview with Gwynneth Porter, 'Pain is the Ransom of Formalism', Like #16, p.24-27

Michael Havel 'But its for Art Mum', The Critic #1, 2001, p.23

Richard Dingwall, 'Radical Transformations on Familiar Landscapes', The Otago Daily Times, March 15th 2001

Chris Chapman, 'Thrash Mix' Log Illustrated #14, p.33

Andrew Paul Wood, 'Christchurch Roundup' Log Illustrated #14, p.46

Harry Liminal, 'Auckland Roundup' Log Illustrated #13, p.38

Mathew Appleby, 'No Jumble Sale', The Christchurch Press, April 15 2001

2000

Lee Devenish, 'Christchurch Roundup', Log Illustrated #12, p.42

Lee Devenish, 'Christchurch Roundup', Log Illustrated #11, p.38-39

## ARTIST PAGES

2005

Beyond Good and Evil, A Ramp Magazine 3, Mediarts department, Wintec, Hamilton pp 14-15 & 42-43

2004

New New Zealand Art (an anthology of artists' pages art)

## CURATORIAL PROJECTS

2014

Probstian Aesthetics, Blue Oyster Project Space, Dunedin

2002

S\*W\*A\*B presents: Flying High, Temporary Site, Auckland

2001

S\*W\*A\*B presents: Black Cube (with Emma Bugden) Artist-run gallery, Christchurch

Office/Space (with Doug Kelaher), Blue Oyster Gallery, Dunedin

2000

S\*W\*A\*B presents: Rumble in the Bronx, temporary site, Christchurch

1999

S\*W\*A\*B presents: (with Emma Bugden) A series of one-night performances, installations and social events.

## EDITORIAL PROJECTS

2006

Natural Selection #5 co-editor, with Gwynneth Porter

2005

Natural Selection #4, co-editor, with Gwynneth Porter

Natural Selection #3 co-editor, with Gwynneth Porter

2004

Natural Selection #1 co-editor, with Gwynneth Porter

Model for a Comune Reading Corner (Artist's Publications):

Gwynneth Porter, Gravity is no longer a problem

Hari Kunzru, Autonomous Living

Jon Bywater, Relating to hippies, man: towards a description of some conversational ideological logics

Nova Paul, Marae Styles

Dan Arps, Notes

## EXHIBITION DESIGN

2005

Sharpshooting- Self-Published Zines and Ephemera by Artists and Designers, St Paul St Gallery, AUT Auckland

## PUBLISHED WRITING

2014

10 Ideas, Le Roy 2, DDMMYY Auckland

2013

Towards a Positive Cynicism, Un Magazine volume 7, issue 1

2012

The Downward Spiral (artist's book of drawings) DDMMYY, Auckland

2011

Affirmation Dungeon (monograph) Clouds Publishing, Auckland

2004

'We are all made of stars', on the work of Peter Madden, New Zealand Journal of Photography, June 2004 page 26

Review of the 2nd Auckland Triennial, Natural Selection, issue 2 (With Gwynneth Porter)

'I don't think much of myself, but I think about myself all the time', Review of Ronnie Van hout, I've Abandoned Me, Natural Selection #1 (<http://www.naturalselection.org.nz>)

2002

Interviews and Conversations with Brutal Pseudonym, 1,2,3,4,4 (Sydney Fanzine)

'A Painting and a Photograph', Presto #59, Christchurch

2001

'Christchurch Roundup (Group shows: Tomorrow People/ Flavour Flav/ Objection)', Presto #58 p22-23 (under the assumed name of Dr Bruce Jenner)

'Pain is the Ransom of Formalism', interview with Gwynneth Porter, Like, #16 p24-27

'Office/ Space', Log Illustrated #14 p42-43, (under the assumed name of Dr Bruce Jenner)

'The Abyss' Arts Roundup, Presto# 54 p24-25