

paul hartigan

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Paul Hartigan (b1953)

Auckland-based contemporary artist Paul Hartigan is New Zealand's leading proponent of neon art, with a four decade-long career. He is also one of New Zealand's most significant makers of public art, widely recognised for his large-scale public light commissions, which have enhanced many of its urban spaces. Though respectful of neon's history as a signage medium, Hartigan is not restricted by it, and uses this most urban of art media to create conceptually successful, publicly accessible installations that importantly, work both day and night.

Colony 2004, his spectacular Tangerine neon monochrome, commissioned by The University of Auckland for the Faculty of Engineering on Symonds Street, was awarded Best Public Sculpture, Metro Magazine Awards 2006. Hartigan was commissioned by Orion NZ Ltd in 2001 to transform the public face of an electricity substation in central Christchurch, *Nebula Orion* is the result, a monumental neon work that survived the earthquake of 2011 and continues to operate today! Hartigan is currently constructing a major neon work for Newmarket, Auckland, installation due 2022.

CURRICULUM VITAE

Paul Hartigan (b.1953)

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Date of Birth: 18 March 1953,
New Plymouth, New Zealand

Education: 1967 - 1970 New Plymouth Boys High,
New Plymouth.
1971 - 1973 Elam School of Fine Arts,
The University of Auckland

Qualifications: School Certificate
Sixth Form Certificate
Fine Arts Prelim
University Entrance
Bachelor of Fine Arts UOA

C A R E E R S U M M A R Y :

2020-2021 Design of **DECO** a large-scale public neon light work for Broadway, Newmarket, to be installed late 2022.

2018 Created ***Alphabetica Redux***, a reformatted 3D laser-light installation for 2018 SCAPE Biennale inside Christchurch Art Gallery foyer space.

Participation in Sydney Contemporary, Carriage Works, NSW Australia.

2014-2015 Liaised with Don Abbott, co-editor of *Art New Zealand*, on the development, design and production of *Vivid: The Paul Hartigan Story* (published by RF Books, release date November 2, 2015), a major survey of my career.

Liaised with the Gus Fisher Gallery at the University of Auckland on the major retrospective of my work, *Vivid: A Paul Hartigan Retrospective*. The exhibition ran from October 30 – December 19, and was curated by Don Abbott, co-editor of *Art New Zealand* and author of *Vivid: The Paul Hartigan Story*.

Designs and submits the concept for **CINEMA**, a new neon commission for the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, to be installed late 2017.

2013-2014 Collaborated with retailers and architects in the adaption of print and neon artwork in three separate retail fit-outs – Dry & Tea, WORLD and Workshop.

Liaised with Don Abbott, Editor of *Art New Zealand*, who completed a Masters thesis at The University of Auckland on the work of Paul Hartigan.

2011-2013 Development of proposal for ***Pathfinders***, projected neon public commission for the new Len Lye Centre, Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, 2015.

Participation in a range of public and dealer gallery exhibitions around New Zealand. Development of new neon and fluorescent tube works for exhibition.

2012 Public exhibition of neon *Revolutions* at Waikato Museum. *Powerflowers* – Bledisloe Light boxes exhibition with Auckland Council.

2011 Completed research, development and proposal for Mt Roskill major public sculpture **Argeon**, a large neon tower work.

2009-2010 Further development of free-form neon work for exhibitions with dealer galleries in Auckland and Wellington. Travelled to New York, London and Paris for research relating to current practice.

2007-2008 Created a large body of 3D neon work involving non-pattern based glass bending for dealer gallery exhibitions.

2005-2006 Developed new H-type Ultrachrome paintings for exhibition, a series of hybrid canvases synthesizing paint, print and photographic media disciplines. Also created a new series of large format Ultrachrome print works on paper.

Initial design and development towards a major public sculpture for Central Auckland precinct utilizing neon light. Additional private commissions throughout New Zealand using neon tubes.

2003-2004 Installation of ***Colony***, a large scale orange monochrome neon commissioned by The University of Auckland for the Faculty of Engineering, Symonds Street; awarded Best Public Sculpture, Metro Magazine Awards 2006.

	Created Alphabetica , a 3D laser-light drawing installation for 2004 SCAPE Biennale inside Christchurch Art Gallery foyer space.
2002-2003	Developmental research towards new paintings and neon lighting works for dealer galleries as well as private and public commissions.
2001	Completed two large public commissions using neon lighting: Nebula Orion , a 13 x 23 Meter animated work in Christchurch CBD for Orion NZ Ltd; and Signal-Echo for the 80 Meter wide fascia of the newly constructed New Lynn Community Centre in West Auckland.
1996-2000	Researched and created a new body of work for exhibition(s) using computer software and billboard vinyl printing machines.
1997	Commissioned to create and install Pathfinder , a permanent neon work for the facade of new Govett-Brewster Art Gallery building extension in New Plymouth.
1995-1997	Half time lecturer in painting at Elam School of Fine Arts, University of Auckland.
1994	Part time lecturer in printmaking at Elam School of Fine Arts, University of Auckland, working full time with painting, printmaking and neon media.
1992-1994	Researched and developed of a range of ceramic ware using the technique of decalcomania, a silk screen-based process.
1989-1991	Produced a comprehensive body of lithographic monoprint works at Muka Studios, Auckland.
1989	Travelled to USA to investigate recent trends and developments in the American neon industry and to liaise with artists, glass artisans and neon technicians.
1982-1990	Continued as an exhibiting fine artist creating neon fine art works, along with manufacturing neon for corporate clients.
1986-1988	Created and installed Whipping the Wind , a large, sequencing, 10 paneled neon work commissioned by Wellington City Council and National Mutual Property Development in Wellington.
1982	Established <i>Gone On Neon Ltd</i> , producing fine art neon works for exhibition, installation and for corporate and individual clients.
1980-1982	Full time professional artist. Mounted acclaimed <i>NEON/NEON</i> exhibition – RKS Art, Auckland.
1981	Awarded \$5,000 Queen Elizabeth II Arts Council Grant for major projects in the visual arts.
1979	Attended the 4th World Tattoo Convention in Houston, Texas, USA, to document recent trends and styles in tattooing within the Pacific basin region.
1978-1980	Employed by Auckland Institute and Museum as Assistant Display Artist.
1979	First one-person exhibition, <i>Picturesque</i> - Barry Lett Galleries, Auckland.
1977-1978	Travelled extensively for one year throughout Australia, Asia, Europe and USA.
1976	Winner of the inaugural Wanganui Lions Club /AA Travel Art Award.

1974-1975	Returned to New Zealand and established <i>Snake Studios Ltd</i> , an Auckland silkscreen printing studio producing fabrics, T-shirts and artist print editions.
1974	Trained in commercial screen-printing at Summer Bros., Melbourne, Australia.
1973	Graduated Elam School of Fine Arts, The University of Auckland.

S O L O E X H I B I T I O N S :

2024	I LIGHT	Tim Melville Gallery, Auckland
2020	POP ART	Aesthete Gallery, Hamilton
2018	HEAD IN THE CLOUDS	Anderson Rhodes Gallery, New Plymouth
2015	VIVID: A Paul Hartigan Retrospective	The Gus Fisher Gallery, Auckland
2015	SILVER SKY: neon eye	Te Uru Waitakere Contemporary Gallery, Auckland
2014	HELIUM	Depot Artspace, Auckland
2014	THE INFINITIES	Pierre Peeters Gallery, Auckland
2013	LIGHT UP	Pierre Peeters Gallery, Auckland
2012	HARTRELL DE HURRIGAN	Antoinette Godkin Gallery, Auckland
2012	REVOLUTIONARY	Waikato Museum Te Whare Taonga o Waikato, Hamilton
2012	POWERFLOWERS	Bledisloe Lightboxes, Auckland Council
2011	POLARUDES	Kreisler Gallery, Melbourne
2010	THE VAPOURS	Page Blackie Gallery, Wellington
2009	THE UNDRAWN	Artis Gallery, Auckland
2008	CHROMOPHOBIA	Artis Gallery, Auckland
2008	PUFF DADDY	Designworks, Wellington
2008	REVOLUTIONS	Black Barn Gallery, Havelock North
2007	REVOLUTION	Tinakori Gallery, Wellington
2006	STREET COUNTRY	Black Barn Gallery, Havelock North
2006	SECOND SKIN	Tinakori Gallery, Wellington
2005	SIGN UP	The Signal, Hamilton

S O L O E X H I B I T I O N S : c o n t i n u e d

2005	VINTAGE NON VINTAGE	Black Barn Gallery, Havelock North
2004	ALPHABETICA	Christchurch Art Gallery, Christchurch
2000	HYBRID	Manawatu Art Gallery, Palmerston North
2000	NEW AGE	Janne Land Gallery, Wellington
1999	HYBRID	Artis Gallery, Auckland
1998	FLAT-OUT	Artis Gallery, Auckland
1997	ART-SPEAK	The Drawings Gallery, Auckland
1996	HARD & SOFT	Janne Land Gallery, Wellington
1995	Q:8	R.K.S. Art, Auckland
1993	NEW PAINTINGS	Janne Land Gallery, Wellington
1993	ARTIST'S SHOWCASE	Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth
1992	RECENT WORKS	Lesley Kreisler Gallery, New Plymouth
1992	HARTIGAN	Claybrook Gallery, Auckland
1990	THE DECADE PAST	Fox Street Gallery, Auckland
1990	NEW WORKS	Lesley Kreisler Gallery, New Plymouth
1989	MONOPRINTS	Muka Studio, Auckland
1989	BIG INSTANTS	Real Pictures Gallery, Auckland
1985	PIECES OF THE PUZZLE	R.K.S. Art, Auckland
1982	NEON/NEON	R.K.S. Art, Auckland
1981	COLORWORDS	R.K.S. Art, Auckland
1980	CATALOGUES	Barry Lett Galleries, Auckland
1980	TATTOO CLASSIQUES	Denis Cohn Galleries, Auckland
1979	PICTURESQUE	Barry Lett Galleries, Auckland
1979	MODERNESQUE	Galerie Legard, Wellington

G R O U P E X H I B I T I O N S (S e l e c t e d)

2025	LAND / MARK II	Tim Melville Gallery, Auckland
2021	A PLACE TO STAND	Artis Gallery, Auckland
2019	ABOUT FACE	Artis Gallery, Auckland
2018	NOT AS WE KNOW IT	Sarjeant Gallery Te Whare o Rehua, Whanganui
2018	SYDNEY CONTEMPORARY	Carriage Works, Sydney, NSW Australia
2018	AUCKLAND ART FAIR	The Cloud, Auckland
2018	ANTIPODEAN EMANATIONS: Cameraless Photographs from Australia and New Zealand	Monash Gallery of Art, Victoria, Australia
2016	NZ SCULPTURE ONSHORE	Fort Takapuna, Auckland
2016	EMANATIONS: The Art of the Cameraless Photograph	Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth
2015	MEDAL ARTISTS OF NZ: Regroup, Reflect, Regenerate	The James Wallace Arts Trust, Pah Homestead Auckland
2015	BENE COMUNE	Lot 23 Gallery, Auckland
2014	WALLACE ART AWARD	The James Wallace Arts Trust, Pah Homestead Auckland
2014	DIFFERENCE	The Vivian, Matakana
2014	SPROUT	Remuera Gallery, Auckland
2014	KNUCKLEBONES	Lot 23 Gallery, Auckland
2013-14	TOI AOTEAROA	Auckland Art Gallery, Toi O Tamaki, Auckland
2012-13	ELECTRIC GLASS	The James Wallace Arts Trust, Pah Homestead
2012	SINGULAR COMPANIONS	Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth
2012	LOST IN A DREAM	Snake Pit, Auckland
2012	NZ SCULPTURE ONSHORE	Fort Takapuna, Auckland
2011	GAME ON	Hastings City Art Gallery, Hawkes Bay
2011	PRESENCE	Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth
2010	NZ POP	Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth
2010	MILLE-FLEURS	The Suter Gallery, Nelson
2009	ARE YOU RIGHT TO NOT LIKE MODERN ART?	Te Manawa, Palmerston North

G R O U P E X H I B I T I O N S (C o n t i n u e d)

2008	ART-SPEAK: Works from the University of Auckland Art Collection	The Gus Fisher Gallery, Auckland
2007	LIGHTBOX	Paul Baragwanath, Auckland
2007	PATHFINDERS: Collection Focus	Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth
2006-07	ENCOUNTER - New Zealand Design & Decorative Arts	Auckland Museum
2006-07	THE ART OF ASSEMBLAGE	Corban Estate Art Centre, Waitakere City
2006	BIRDS - The Art of New Zealand Birdlife	Pataka, Porirua
2006	VIEWFINDER	Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth
2006	RETURN OF THE HAND	Sarjeant Gallery, Wanganui
2006	NORSEWEAR ART AWARD	Hawkes Bay Exhibition Centre, Hastings
2005	IRIS FISHER ART AWARDS	Te Tuhi The Mark, Pakuranga
2005	JAMES WALLACE ART AWARD	Wallace Trust Gallery, Auckland Pataka Museum, Porirua
2004	LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION: Critical Moments from The Govett-Brewster Collections 1969 - 2004	Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth
2003-04	TRACING POLAROID	McNamara Gallery, Wanganui
2001-02	THE CARTOON SHOW	Auckland Art Gallery, Auckland
2001	MASQUERADE: THE ART OF COURTSHIP	Te Papa Tongarewa, Wellington
2001	DIVERSIONS	The Gus Fisher Gallery, Auckland
2001	LET THERE BE LIGHT	Gow-Langsford Gallery, Auckland
2000	CONTEMPORARY ART FROM THE COLLECTION	Auckland Art Gallery, Auckland
2000	THE NUMBERS GAME	Adam Art Gallery, Wellington
2000	COLLECTORS CHOICE	Te Papa, Wellington
1999	ANDY & FRIENDS	Auckland Art Gallery, Auckland
1999	GOOD DREAMS, BAD DREAMS	Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth

G R O U P E X H I B I T I O N S (C o n t i n u e d)

1998	LEAP OF FAITH	Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth
1997	BRACING ACQUISITIONS	National Library of New Zealand, Wellington
1997	LEADING LIGHTS	Artis Gallery, Auckland
1996	DEFYING GRAVITY	Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth
1996	GLOW IN THE DARK	Manawatu Art Gallery, Palmerston North
1995	NZ LIGHT	Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth
1995	CONTEMPORARY NEW ZEALAND ART	Hawke's Bay Exhibition Centre, Hastings
1994	75 OF THE BEST	Sarjeant Gallery, Wanganui
1994	NEW ZEALAND ART SEEN	Manawatu Art Gallery, Palmerston North
1992	CONTEMPORARY UPDATE	Sarjeant Gallery, Wanganui
1991	WORKS FROM THE PERMANENT COLLECTION	Auckland City Art Gallery, Auckland
1990	UNITED / SARJEANT GALLERY ART AWARD	Sarjeant Gallery, Wanganui
1990	A VIEW OF ELAM	James Wallace Gallery, Auckland
1990	ELAM CENTENARY EXHIBITION	Auckland Institute and Museum, Auckland
1990	A FEW YEARS OF NEW ZEALAND LANDSCAPE	The George Frazer Gallery, Auckland
1989	UNITED NEW ZEALAND MODERN MASTERS COLLECTION	New Zealand Touring Exhibition
1989	CONSTRUCTED INTIMACIES	Moet & Chandon New Zealand Art Foundation
1988	PUBLIC ART -BONUS ART	Wellington City Art Gallery, Wellington
1988	DRAWING - ANALOGIES	Wellington City Art Gallery, Wellington
1983	NEW IMAGE	Auckland City Art Gallery, Auckland
1983	PACIFIC GLASS	Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth
1981	MODERN PRINTS SAMPLER	Auckland City Art Gallery, Auckland
1980	DIRECTIONS IN NEW ZEALAND PRINTMAKING	Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth

G R O U P E X H I B I T I O N S (C o n t i n u e d)

1980	KOLORPLATEN	Real Pictures Gallery, Auckland
1980	PHOTOGRAPHS BY FOUR PAINTERS	Real Pictures Gallery, Auckland
1979	MAKING AN IMPRESSION	Dowse Art Gallery, Lower Hutt
1979	INTERNATIONAL BIENNIAL EXHIBITION OF PRINTS	Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo, Japan
1978	LITTLE WORKS	Auckland City Art Gallery, Auckland
1977	BIENNIAL OF GRAPHIC ART	Moderna Galerija, Ljubjana, Yugoslavia
1977	YOUNG CONTEMPORARIES	Auckland City Art Gallery, Auckland
1977	NEW ZEALAND PRINTS	Auckland City Art Gallery, Auckland
1977	39 DRAWINGS BY EIGHT ARTISTS	Auckland City Art Gallery, Auckland
1976	NEW ZEALAND DRAWING	Auckland City Art Gallery, Auckland
1975	PROJECT 7	Auckland City Art Gallery, Auckland
1972	INFLUX	Bledisloe Place, Auckland City
1970	TARANAKI REVIEW	Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth

C O L L E C T I O N S :

Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tamaki, Auckland
ASB Bank
Connells Bay Sculpture Park
Dowse Art Museum, Lower Hutt
ECNZ, The Rutherford Trust Collection
Fletcher Challenge Collection
Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth
GOMA, Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane, Australia
James Wallace Arts Trust
Jenny Gibbs Collection
John Matthews Collection
Real Art Roadshow, Wellington
Sarjeant Gallery Te Whare o Rehua, Whanganui
Telecom New Zealand
Te Manawa, Palmerston North
Terry Boon Collection
The Chartwell Collection
The Hocken Library, Dunedin
Trevor Farmer Collection
The Museum of New Zealand, Te Papa Tongarewa, Wellington
The National Bank
The National Library of New Zealand
The University of Auckland Collection

Private Collections throughout New Zealand, Australia, England, Germany and USA

P U B L I C N E O N C O M M I S S I O N S :

2020

Title: ***DECO***
(*Static Neon Installation - Multicoloured*)

Size: 1.8 x 12 meters O/A

Location: Broadway, Newmarket
Auckland

Client: **The Newmarket Arts Trust**

2018

Title: ***PLNOS***
(*Static Neon Installation – Pastelcoloured*)

Size: 1.5 x 1.5 meters O/A

Location: Merci Intra Cardiology
Wairau Rd, Glenfield

Client: **Mercy Intra Auckland**

2004

Title: ***COLONY***
(*Static Neon Installation - Monochrome*)

Size: 7.5 x 20 meters O/A

Location: Faculty of Engineering Foyer
22b Symonds Street

Client: **The University of Auckland**

* Best Public Sculpture Auckland Metro Magazine Awards 2006

P U B L I C N E O N C O M M I S S I O N S : C o n t i n u e d

2001 Title: **NEBULA-ORION**
(*Animated Neon Installation - Multicoloured*)

Size: 13 x 80 meters O/A

Location: Exterior facade of Orion Sub-Station, Armagh St

Client: **Orion NZ Ltd, Christchurch**

2001 Title: **SIGNAL-ECHO**
(*Sequenced Neon Installation - Multicoloured*)

Size: 7.2 x 80 meters O/A

Location: Exterior facade of New Lynn Community Centre

Client: **Auckland City Council**

1997 Title: **PATHFINDER**
(*Static Neon Installation - Monochrome*)

Size: 3 Panels each 12 x 5 meters
12 x 15 meters O/A

Location: New exterior facade of gallery extension

Client: **Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth**

1988 Title: **WHIPPING THE WIND**
(*Sequenced Neon Installation - Multicoloured*)

Size: 10 Panels each 2700 x 1100 mm
3 x 18 meters O/A

Location: SYBASE House, 101 Lambton Quay,
Wellington

Client: **National Mutual / Wellington City Council**
Arts Bonus Project

PRIVATE NEON COMMISSIONS :

2004

Title: *SUN-STRIKE*
(Multicoloured Static Neon Installation)

Size: 2.8 x 2.5 and 1.5 x 1.2 meters O/A
(2 panels in 2 locations)

Location: Interior, private beach house, Piha

Client: Leonie & John Hynds, Auckland

2003

Title: *REALM*
(Tri-Coloured Static Neon Installation)

Size: 2.0 x 1.5 meters O/A

Location: Exterior, private garden, Grey Lynn

Client: Sally Tagg Photography, Auckland

1998

Title: *LINE-DANCE*
(Static Neon Installation - Multicoloured)

Size: 4.8 x 3.6 meters O/A

Location: Exterior, facade of gallery premises

Client: Muka Gallery, 46A Brown Street, Auckland

1997

Title: *SPIRAL GYRA*
(Static Neon Installation - Multicoloured)

Size: 2.8 x 1.5 meters O/A

Location: Interior, courtyard wall

Client: Mary Castles, Drake St, Victoria Park,
Auckland

P R I V A T E N E O N C O M M I S S I O N S : C o n t i n u e d

1996

Title:

ELEMENTAL
(*Static Neon Installation - Multicoloured*)

Size:

1.5 x 10 meters O/A

Location:

Exterior / Interior, fascia of domestic building

Client:

Terry Boon, Architect, New Plymouth

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