



Conference 2022 | *Stitch-a-Plenty*

Hosted by Tauranga Embroiderers' Guild Inc

National Exhibition judging panel

Merrilyn George is an award-winning, contemporary artist, working with fibre, and any other means possible to tell a story. Her work is deeply influenced by events in history, Maori art and the rich mountain environment in which she lives. Merrilyn has exhibited and taught, nationally and internationally, and her work is in collections world-wide. She has been featured in Quilters Newsletter, Quilters Companion, Down Under Quilts, Fabricate, Quilting Arts, NZ Quilter, Stitch, and Quilts around the World. Merrilyn loves teaching adult and student workshops and recently was awarded a Queen's Service Medal for services to education and community.

Peta McMillan has been an embroiderer for as long as she can remember, but seriously since 1987 when she joined Whakatane guild. She began teaching traditional techniques like Snutki, Kalocsa, Il Punto Antico, Deruta in 1990 and travelled from Kerikeri to Gore and most places in between, until retiring. Peta entered embroidery into ANZEG exhibitions where she was awarded places. She also exhibited in USA. She is known for her keen eye for detail and loves fine counted work and old samplers. Peta began committee work in 1988 and has served many years on the Whakatane Embroiderers' Guild committee in many different rolls. She self-published two Snutki books and many pattern folders. Her embroidery and projects have been featured in several embroidery magazines, both here and overseas. Her full profile can be read in Threads magazine April 2003 issue.

Simone Anderson is the founding Director of the Incubator Creative Hub. She established the organisation in 2013 and the organisation has grown from one entity to seven entities including Arts Education, Music, Pottery, Fashion, three galleries and includes a community of 20 artists in working studios. Simone and her team are committed to seeing community arts flourish and to elevate the importance of arts as a huge contributor to personal and community wellbeing. During this time, they have hosted over 150 exhibitions, delivered a programme of music, art, education and catered to the thriving Tauranga art scene.

Simone in a past life before the growth of the Incubator monster was an established visual artist. Her work focuses on the Allegory. She establishes incongruous allegiances between unlikely objects, juxtaposing anatomy with bird parts, skulls with birds.