

Unitec School of Creative Industries - Weekly Newsletter: 15 Feb 2021

NEWS

Great news for BCE graduand **John Crouch** who was selected by Sanderson Contemporary Art Gallery for their annual Emerging Artists exhibition in Newmarket, Auckland, 26 January to 28 February 2021. The exhibition supports



promising new talent showcasing a collection of works from recent graduates giving viewers insight into the practices of these talented artists, whose careers are ones to watch. With the many uncertainties of 2020, students spent much of their university year in isolation, confined to web-based learning and the materials at hand. 2020 pushed these artists to unconventionally explore their creativity and art practise. Crouch's work *Penina* (acrylic on MDF board, 1200mm x 1200mm) was

selected to exhibit by Sanderson. The same work was also exhibited with Crouch's other work from 2020 at last year's Unitec Grad Show in B76. More info [here](#).

Interdisciplinary artist and Unitec Dance alumna **Alexa Wilson** considers dance and performance art in the time of Covid - how does a medium that relies so much on physical presence, collaboration, audience and space respond to global lockdowns and a forced shift online? Featuring interviews with fellow dance and performance artists from Aotearoa including Unitec alumna **Josh Rutter**, Wilson considers how dance and performance artists around the world have responded to 2020, and the transformative potential of moving away from traditional forms of creating dance and performance works. More [here](#).



Contemporary Arts discipline leader **Emma Smith** and Screen Arts discipline leader **Michael Miller** represented the School of Creative Industries at Unitec's Career Advisors Day at Te Puna, Mt Albert campus last week. Great to see so much interest in what we do from the Auckland secondary schools and we thank the Unitec Pathways College (UPC) for their mahi and relationship building in that secondary schools space.



Out of the ashes of 2020, New Zealand has emerged as the new mecca for movie making. There's no better time to be working in the film industry: 9 international productions, 18 local projects, 3,500 people employed, \$770 million pumped back into the economy. Our effectively COVID-free status has made NZ a hot destination. NZ

Government's COVID response fund pumped NZ\$23 million into the film industry allowing 20 stalled projects to crank back into action. *Baby Done*, by Unitec alumni and husband/wife team;

Sophie Henderson (writer) and **Curtis**



Vowell (director) - *pictured below courtesy The Spinoff*, was one local film that bucked trends by performing well at the Box Office last year after a delayed release. And that trend is set to continue with even more overseas productions pouring in. See the full story on [TV3's the Project](#).



New Dunedin Arts Festival director and 2000 Unitec acting alumnus **Charlie Unwin** has released his first programme for 2021 after the cancellation of last year's event due to COVID. This year's festival runs from 6-25 April. See the schedule [here](#). And [Read more](#) about Charlie.

Proud voices on screen is a half-day event for creators of film, series and documentary from the queer, LGBTQIA+ and rainbow community taking place on 20 February at the Ellen Melville Centre, Auckland.

Unitec alumni feature among the panel guest speakers: Writer, director, producer, actor **Hanelle Harris** (*Baby Mama's Club*), writer, actor **Chye-Ling Huang** (*Life is Easy*) and producer **Ruby Reihana-Wilson** (*Life is Easy*). Find out more [here](#).



EVENTS CALENDAR:

FEBRUARY

3-28 Auckland Pride Festival
14 Auckland Fringe (until 6 March)

MARCH

1 Semester One - Powhiri Welcome @1pm TNK Wharenui
4-21 Auckland Arts Festival
9 DCA Student BBQ building 76 @12-1pm
10 PASA Student BBQ building 7 @12.45-1.30pm

Check out more news on our social media channels, [Unitec's Art & Design Facebook page](#) or [Unitec's Performing & Screen Arts Facebook page](#).

For all other social media updates on Unitec's School of Creative Industries visit our [official facebook page](#) and Instagram & Twitter channels [@unitec_creative](#)