

[Back to Events](#)**Absolute Divide -- an installation work at E:SCAPE Sculpture in the Landscape****15th March - 25th May 2008**[www.sculpturepark.co.nz](http://www.sculpturepark.co.nz)

Guest curator: Kim Paton

E:SCAPE opens in just over one week. This year's autumn exhibition of sculpture at the Waitakaruru Arboretum is curated by Kim Paton. Kim was the founding Manager of The Engine Room Gallery in Wellington and a senior tutor in Fine Arts and Design at Massey University in Wellington. Kim is a practicing artist, now living and working in Raglan.



Kim Paton and CK Reynolds discussing the installation of 'absolute divide'

Kim has recognised that the character of the environment -- spaces, trees, water, rocks and stones -- and the evolving arboretum all contribute to a complex and ever changing physical landscape which makes this park a unique setting for sculpture to be exhibited. All the pieces are being carefully matched to specific sites throughout the Park and include both static and fluid works, providing opportunity for widely varied work to co-exist without any risk of visual clutter.

An example of the site-specific work that Kim Paton has attracted to the Park is 'absolute divide' by CK Reynolds. Reynolds is a Waikato-based artist whose work is exhibited internationally. Reynolds portrays the 43 km-long straight border between the Waikato and Matamata-Piako districts with a linear assemblage of aerial photographs. This divide, which forms one of the boundaries of the Park, is part of the original confiscation line from the 1860s and was used in 1876 to determine the divide between the Waikato and Matamata/Piako district boundaries. It has indelibly changed the landscape. To this day, it is still visible from the air. Reynolds illustrates the landscape of this divide in a 26 metre long installation. The photographs are suspended in a way that visitors can look down on them as though they, too, were looking over the land from above.

This year E:SCAPE has received funding assistance from Hamilton City Council, SKY City, and WEL Energy Trust all of whom recognise the contribution these sculpture events make to the fabric and recreational opportunities of the region.

Among the many artists participating are: Fred Graham, James McCarthy, Jim Cooper, Gaye Jurisich, John Ioane, Jon Hall, Barbara Smith, Carol Fletcher, and Ben Pearce

In the first three weeks of E:SCAPE, the Waikato Sculpture Trust will be running a photographic competition which will be judged by David Fowler and Kerry Blakeney-Williams. The winning entries of the competition will be shown in four locations throughout May at Artspost, Inspirit, Hotshots (Cambridge), and The Framing Workshop.

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