



Brain Day 2010, 20 March

Dear alumni and friends,

15 to 21 March is International Brain Awareness Week - a celebration of that vital organ you made great use of during your time at university.

The Centre for Brain Research and the Neurological Foundation of New Zealand are hosting [Brain Day 2010](#) on 20 March. It's a free public open day featuring lectures and seminars from New Zealand's leading brain experts.

Read on for further information about Brain Day 2010, and other news and events from around the University.

## Visiting Seelye Fellow to lecture on ocean acidification



Professor Gretchen Hofmann

Professor Gretchen Hofmann of the University of California, Santa Barbara - a Seelye Fellow sponsored by the Seelye Charitable Trust - is to present a free public lecture on ocean acidification on 9 March.

The rising acidity of the oceans is predicted to dramatically affect marine ecosystems in the coming decades. In this lecture, Prof. Hofmann will discuss what ocean acidification is exactly, why it challenges marine creatures in their shell forming abilities, and how it might impact our precious marine ecosystems from coral reefs to the Antarctic.

There will also be a special screening on 11 March of the award winning documentary *A sea change: imagine a world without fish*.

[Read more about Professor Hofmann's lecture](#)

[Read more about the film screening](#)

[Read more about the Seelye Fellowships](#)



Sven Huseby on location in Norway during filming of 'A Sea Change'

## Brain Day 2010: Unlock the secrets of your brain

### ALUMNI EVENTS

5 March

■ [Distinguished Alumni Awards Dinner](#)

6 March

■ [Distinguished Alumni Speaker Day](#)

### UNIVERSITY EVENTS

6 March

■ [Felix Kelly: Curator talk](#)

7 March

■ [95bFM Summer Series](#)

8 March

■ [Monday Night Jazz Series: hip flask At the Gus Fisher Gallery](#)

9 March

■ [Public lecture: Ocean acidification: What is it and what can we expect for our marine ecosystems of the future?](#)

11 March

■ [Movie: A Sea Change](#)

12 March - 6 June

■ [Last Ride in a Hot Air Balloon Part of the 4th Auckland Triennial](#)

12 March

■ [Lunchtime Concerts: Voice and Flute Students](#)

16 March

■ [Communiqué - Lena Henry and Rau Hoskins: Māori and the Future of Local Government](#)

18 March

■ [Ben Levin presents How to change 2700 schools](#)

■ [Max Gimblett: Honorary Visiting Professor, Max Gimblett discusses his practice 1963-2010.](#)

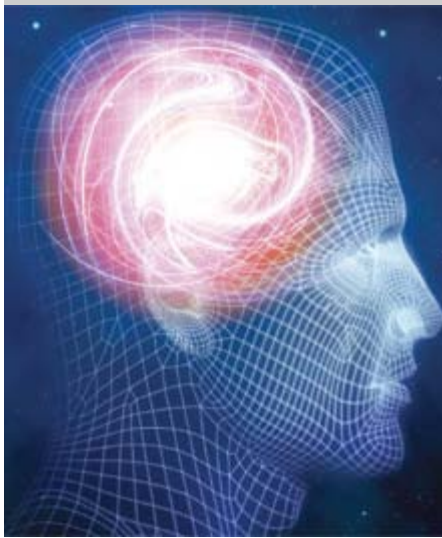
■ [Learning machines discussion](#)

20 March

■ [Screening: Brideshead Revisited](#)

■ [Brain Day 2010: Unlock the secrets of your brain](#)

■ [Staff and Guests in Recital:](#)



The Centre for Brain Research and Neurological Foundation present a free public open day on 20 March as part of International Brain Awareness Week.

Neuroscientists, clinicians and community groups will welcome members of the public to learn more about our greatest asset, our brain. The event features lectures from New Zealand's leading brain experts discussing the latest research and treatment trials for brain health and disease. Seminars will provide practical tips to encourage optimum brain health for adults and brain development for children.

[Read more about Brain Day 2010](#)

## Helen Clark's achievements saluted



Chancellor Roger France with Helen Clark

The Rt Hon Helen Clark has received a supreme accolade from The University of Auckland where she spent 14 years as a student and academic.

At the ceremony, Helen Clark said she looked back on her years as a student and then a teacher "as certainly among the happiest of my life". Long hours spent in the University Library and later researching and updating lectures "could not have been a better preparation for what was to follow - a very tough political career which required tremendous self-discipline and rigour".

[Read more about Helen Clark's honorary degree](#)

## Denys Watkins - I'll Never Forget What's isname 3-13 March 2010

An exhibition of drawings by Elam Senior Lecturer Denys Watkins will be the inaugural event at Elam School of Fine Arts' gallery projectspace B431. The drawings, completed over the last two decades, range from ideas jotted in sketchbooks to activities expanded on through the process of drawing.

Comprising a 7 x 7-metre cube, projectspace B431 is designed to offer a flexible, multidisciplinary space. For Elam's emerging artists, the gallery will provide practical experience in exhibition design, curatorial care, installation and promotion, and will encourage discourse between students, staff and the general public.

[Read more about the exhibition](#)

### Scrapyard Cabaret

25 March

■ [New Zealand and the Asia Pacific Economy Asia Pacific Regional Economic Integration and Architecture Conference](#)

28 March

■ [Emerging Artists: Tiantian Xu - Piano](#)

30 March

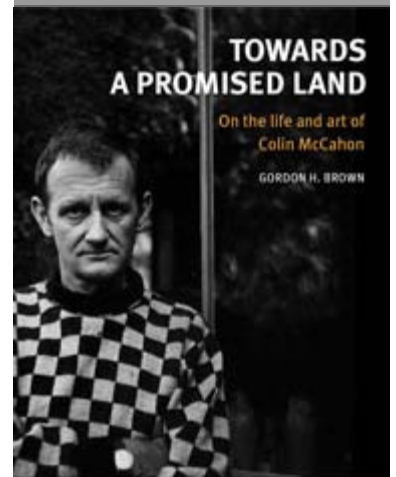
■ [Elam International Artist in Residence Lecture Series: Shahab Fotouhi](#)

31 March

■ [Communiqué - David L. Pike: "An Expanding Subterra," and the New Life Underground](#)

■ [View a full list of University events](#)

### BOOK OF THE MONTH



**Towards a Promised Land:  
On the Life and Art of Colin  
McCahon**

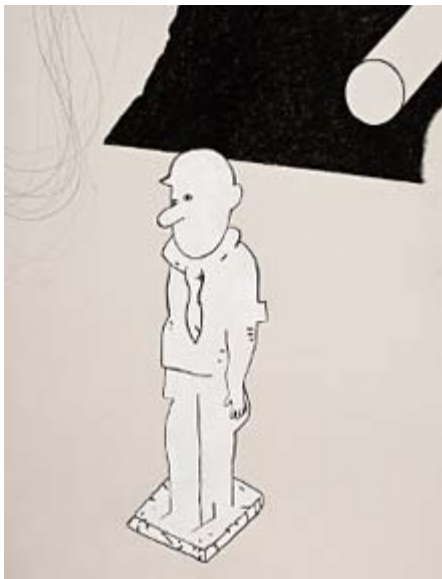
Gordon H Brown, Auckland  
University Press

Hardback; illus; RRP \$79.99;  
UoA alumni price \$67.99

A trusted friend of Colin McCahon for over three decades, Gordon H Brown offers a vivid new portrait of our most distinguished artist and fresh insights into key elements of McCahon's art.

■ [Read more about \*Towards a Promised Land\*](#)

■ [Download the AUP order](#)



## Seats still available for popular Distinguished Alumni lectures

Interest is running high in the Distinguished Alumni events later this week with 500 people expected for the DA Awards Dinner on Friday and more than 1000 registrations for the DA Speaker Day on Saturday.

The six high-achieving graduates to be honoured represent fields as diverse as dance, earthquake mechanics, engineering, brain disease, theology and youth law.

Registrations are still being accepted for the DA Speaker Day on Saturday. Two lecture streams will run concurrently at the Business School's Owen G Glenn Building between 10.30am and 2.30pm.

[Click here for more information about the 2010 Distinguished Alumni Award winners](#)

[Click here to register for the Distinguished Alumni Speaker Day](#)

## Viewpoint: Global warming - why can't scientists agree?



Professor Grant Guilford, Dean of Science, addresses the concern voiced recently by the *New Zealand Herald's* weather analyst that public information on climate change is confusing.

"The question 'What is really happening out there?' is actually relatively easy to answer" Grant argues, before considering why there is often a common disconnect between scientific consensus and public opinion.

[Read Professor Guilford's Viewpoint](#)

## Faculty sporting events 2010

[form](#)

### LATEST HEADLINES

1 March

■ [Students develop big ideas for world problems](#)

25 February

■ [Elam artist invited to Venice Biennale](#)

■ [Study to learn about advanced ageing in New Zealand](#)

18 February

■ [Germany recognises Professor Zoran Salcic with Humboldt award](#)

17 February

■ [Taking parenting programmes to the people](#)

9 February

■ [John Hattie to run workshops on e-asTTle and national standards](#)

### FEATURED VACANCY

**Library Assistant - Fine Arts Library**

Auckland City Campus

Would you enjoy helping students succeed in finding library resources? Want to be part of a leading University Library based in a specialist art library within a dynamic art school?

The Fine Arts Library has two vacancies for Library Assistants - one of which will work a Tuesday to Saturday week and the other will work a Monday to Friday week.



Faculties compete in the 2009 rugby tournament

2010 looks set to be a great year for faculty sport at the University, with new tournaments, new teams and more faculties represented.

The programme kicks off with the Interfaculty 20/20 cricket competition on 18 March at Colin Maiden Park and the Domain, where eight faculty teams will compete for the Sparling Cup.

Later in the year, faculties will face off against one another in basketball, soccer and netball as well as the traditional rugby tournament to finish the sporting year.

For more information, including dates, results and how to get involved, visit [www.auckland.ac.nz/sport](http://www.auckland.ac.nz/sport)

Closing date 12 March

[Read more about this vacancy and apply online](#)

[View current vacancies on the University website](#)

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## Call for 2011 Distinguished Alumni Award nominations



As our 2010 Distinguished Alumni are about to be presented with their prestigious awards this Friday, we invite alumni to help us in our search for worthy recipients for next year.

Nominees should be alumni who are truly exceptional in their given field. Up to five Distinguished Alumni will be selected plus one Young Alumnus or Alumna of the Year, who must be under 35 years of age.

[Click here to find out more and to make a nomination](#)

## Call for applications - Fulbright-Creative New Zealand Pacific Writer's Residency

Fulbright New Zealand and Creative New Zealand invite applications for the 2010 Fulbright-Creative New Zealand Pacific Writer's Residency, an award which offers a New Zealand writer of Pacific heritage the opportunity to work for three months on a creative writing project exploring Pacific identity, culture or history at the University of Hawai'i.

[Read more about the New Zealand Pacific Writer's Residency](#)

## Seeking "lost" alumni



The Alumni Relations Office is seeking help from alumni in NZ and around the world in finding its 29,000 "lost" alumni, so that we can give them the opportunity to stay in touch with the University and enjoy the growing number of benefits we offer.

At the end of 2009 our database listed 134,000 alumni and friends but we did not have an active address for 29,000 - or 22% - of these. @auckland readers are asked to encourage friends or family who are alumni to [update their details](#) on the Alumni and Friends Website. They can then choose to receive the monthly @auckland newsletter, the *Ingenio* alumni magazine,

and invitations to events; and can take advantage of benefits such as discounts on short courses and Auckland University Press books and CDs.

[Alumni can update their details here](#)

## Lantern Festival photo gallery



A record crowd of over 180,000 visited the Lantern Festival at Albert Park this weekend, to be entertained by a leading Shanghai music ensemble, Mongolian throat singers, Chinese cinema presented by the Business School, rolling lantern folk dancers from South China and of course, the many lanterns.

[View a photo gallery from the event by university photographer Godfrey Boehnke](#)

[View a photo gallery from Asia: NZ](#)

## Music research seminars open to all



The School of Music has just finalised their research seminar programme for the first half of 2010. Presenters will discuss their current research across a wide variety of topics, from early opera performance to jazz in New Zealand. The seminars take place at the Music Theatre on Tuesday lunchtimes 1-2pm and all are welcome.

[Read more about School of Music events](#)

*Ed McDonald, who will present a seminar based on his current research entitled 'Creating the Classical Gig: Exploring New Roles for the Classical Performer'.*

## Alumnus named Head of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons



Mr Ian Civil, an alumnus of The University of Auckland, lecturer in the Department of Surgery at the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences and the Director of Surgery at Auckland City Hospital, has been elected the next President of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons.

"I am honoured to have been chosen as President-elect by my fellow Councillors and will do my utmost to preserve the finest traditions of the College," Mr Civil said. "With issues of public health at or near the top of the political agenda in both Australia and New Zealand, I will endeavour to ensure that the voice of surgeons is strong, unified and, most importantly, heard."

[Read more about Ian Civil's appointment](#)

## Our graduates are making their mark on the world



- Creating a living building with net-zero carbon consumption and energy use in Canada.
- Education, care of persons with HIV-AIDS, and child protection in Thailand.
- Translator and Tour Manager for a performing arts group in Japan.
- Senior Policy Officer with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade in Wellington.

These are just some of the amazing ways our graduates are making their mark on the world. To find out more about these and read hundreds of other graduate stories visit

[www.makeyourmark.ac.nz](http://www.makeyourmark.ac.nz)

Tell us about how you are making your mark on the world. Contact: [c.solomon@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:c.solomon@auckland.ac.nz)

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Best wishes,  
The Alumni Relations Team  
The University of Auckland  
[www.alumni.auckland.ac.nz](http://www.alumni.auckland.ac.nz)

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