

Quay Art Walk



The **Early Settlers** sculpture **1** depicts a young migrant family arriving in Nelson around 1842 and marks an early landing site for both Māori and early settlers. English born artist Anthony Stones, famous for his works in bronze, was commissioned by the Nelson 2000 Trust to create this piece. He is known for his research and meticulous attention to detail such as here, with costumes and belongings of the trio. His work is in public and private collections worldwide.

The statue is adjacent to the fascinating **Early Settlers Memorial** wall **2**. Facing seawards, the panels of engraved granite give an overview of Māori and European settlement in the area, and the lists of the Nelson passengers arriving by boats here from 1841-1850. Many ship names are remembered in Nelson landmarks and street names.

In the nearby garden a carved wooden Totara globe sits atop a pillar of hardwood. **The Navigator** **3** is by Tim Wraight, who is an artist who has trained with a traditional Māori Master Woodcarver. It links with the stories of migration to Nelson and how we found our way. First travellers used the stars, then the compass and now satellites.

Nic Channon's whimsical **Lighthouse weathervane** **4** sits atop the Sealord Search and Rescue Centre. It celebrates the lighthouse seen across the Haven on the natural phenomenon, the Boulder Bank.

An **un-named sculpture** **5** by **Jim Mackay** has an enduring beauty in robust Corten Steel, which has been oxidised to a rich deep orange. This is the same material used for the hulls of the commercial ships coming into the harbour, and the containers on them. The artist recalls living on the waterfront and the eerie sensation of the large container ships entirely filling his window.

Darryl Frost, best known in Nelson for his stainless steel art at the airport, created this charming **Spyhole**. **6** The weathered steel gate-like structure focuses the viewer's eyes on the water between the path and the road. At night a magical effect is created with lights reflected on the water when the tide comes in.

Christopher Finlayson said of his mural **Aotearoa** **7** *"Whatever I painted there on the edge of land and sea would stand as a portal of softer human expression within the context of a hard edged, often unforgiving artificial urban environment."*

This talented artist is one of New Zealand's leading mural artists, first creating this iconic work in 1984 on the side of a heritage building. He is known for working with the community and when he refurbished the work in 2009 he had 28 willing helpers.

Grant Palliser's **Seafarer** **8** depicts a sailor at the helm of ship on a turbulent sea. It was commissioned to be a memorial to "lost seafaring men who led a life at the whim of the sea". Poet Geoff Waring's words are found on the base of the work. The Sunderland Marine Pier was built by the Seafarers Memorial Trust as a site for the artwork and is a favourite spot for fishermen of all ages. Nearby, towards the yacht club the Neptune war memorial **9** records a naval disaster of WWII.

Michael Macmillan is a fourth generation potter and first explored sculpture through this medium. His work **Evolution** **10** in front of Haven Apartments, is a 2.5 tonne water feature incorporating stone, copper, stainless steel, ceramics and polished aggregate.

11 **The Anchor Shipping and Foundry building** is an example of a beautifully restored heritage building in Nelson.



QUAY ART Walk

Wakefield Quay boasts beautiful views of Nelsons sheltered harbour and is also home to a collection of varied and exciting art works that enhance the setting. A bus stop is close by, or it is an easy 20 minute walk from the city centre. Heritage buildings such as the Anchor Shipping and Foundry building contrast with modern high rise apartments while large ships and pleasure boats of all sizes traverse the busy waterway. Cafés, restaurants and a fish'n'chip shop offer refreshments while you watch the sun go down.

More arts & heritage information, walks and events, can be found on www.nelsoncitycouncil.co.nz

