

LITTLE WORKS



Auckland City Art Gallery : October/ November 1978

INTRODUCTION

I initially planned 'Little Works' to be an exhibition of miniature prints from the Auckland City Art Gallery Permanent Collection, to show a wide selection of works, in a variety of styles which, because of their diminutive size and comparative inconspicuousness, often suffer from being exhibited in the proximity of larger works. Such little works are not displayed as often as they deserve. This problem was to be surmounted by making an exhibition consisting wholly of little works.

I decided on a maximum size of 6" x 4" (the size of a postcard) and then culled the Permanent Collection of works within this size. The selection is, however, only a small proportion of the gallery's total holdings of little works, but is nevertheless representative. In cases where the gallery has a large number of little works by a particular artist it was impractical to show more than a few.

An effort has been made to keep frame sizes as small as possible to emphasise the smallness of the work. Moreover, the way the works have been displayed, in a single line around the walls of the undivided gallery, conditions the viewer to the miniature scale.

Besides the works from the Permanent Collection are a number of prints lent by Dr. W.S. Auburn, Honorary Print Consultant to the Auckland City Art Gallery, from his excellent collection which includes extensive holdings of Callot, the brothers Beham, Lucas van Leyden and Hollar, all masters of the little print.

Also included are a number of contemporary little works, in a variety of media - painting, sculpture, printmaking, drawing, photography, collage and pottery - by New Zealand artists who were asked to submit no more than four works, within specified size limits - 6" x 4" for two-dimensional works and 4" x 4" x 4" for three-dimensional works.

The response was enthusiastic, almost 300 items were received - more in fact than could reasonably be exhibited - so a selection was made. Most of the works were made especially for the exhibition. Some, however, were done several years ago and happened to be within the imposed size limits.

The historical works date from the 15th Century to the 1940's and include fine examples by masters of the small image, such as Aldegrever, Pencz, Callot, Hollar, Norblin, Rembrandt and Le Blond.

While there is scope in an exhibition of this sort for little works from a number of disparate cultures, the gallery's predominantly European holdings restricted this. Some important artists, who were masters of the little work are not represented.

But then no attempt has been made to present a chronological survey. To have done so would have involved much searching for pertinent works. Rather, the intention has been to show both the strengths and weaknesses of the gallery's holdings in this area and see how contemporary New Zealand artists reacted to similar restrictions on size.

Andrew Bogle,
Curator of Prints & Drawings

LIST OF EXHIBITS FOR 'LITTLE WORKS'

WORKS FROM THE AUCKLAND CITY ART GALLERY

PERMANENT COLLECTION

(All measurements, height before width)

HEINRICH ALDEGREVER (1502-1558), German

Decoration I, II, 1546,
engraving, 92 x 51mm

ALBRECHT ALTDORFER, (1480-1538), German

Joachim and Anna, c.1500-38,
woodcut, 73 x 48mm

The Lamentation, c.1500-38,
woodcut, 73 x 48mm

CORNELIS-PIETERSY BEGA, (1620-1664), Dutch

Peasant Tailor with Woman Customer, c.1640-64
etching, 57 x 73mm

The Lecher, c.1640-64,
etching, 70 x 76mm

Peasant at Window, c.1640-64,
etching, 76 x 79mm

Peasant Group, c.1640-64,
etching, 76 x 86mm

HANS SEBALD BEHAM, (1500-1550), German

* Adam and Eve, 1524,
engraving, 79 x 51mm

* Coat of Arms with Lion Rampant, 1544,
engraving, 66 x 56mm (polygon)

* Impossible, 1541
engraving, 85 x 55mm

* Works on loan from Dr. W.S. Auburn

STEFANO DELLA BELLA, (1610-1664), Italian,

Head of a Woman, c1640-64
etching, 108 x 79mm

Presented by Professor A. S. Green, Auckland

Woman's Head and Shoulders viewed from behind, c1640-64,
etching, 79 x 98mm

Presented by Professor A. S. Green, Auckland

GIOVANNI BENEDETTO CASTIGLIONE, (1616-1670), Italian

Head of a Man, c1640-70
etching, 105 x 82mm

ABRAHAM LE BLOND, (1819-1894), British

Venice, c.1860
hand tinted engraving (1st state), 63 x 95mm

Brighton, c1860
Baxterotype, 98 x 143mm

Diana the Huntress, c1860
Baxterotype, 108 x 79mm

Young Woman seated in a Shell-shaped Boat, c1860
Baxterotype, 95 x 70mm

J. E. B. BOSWELL, (1906-1971), New Zealand

Spanish Civil War I, II, III, IV, c1930
lithograph, 133 x 95mm (4)

JACQUES CALLOT, (1597-1635), French

* 3 plates from Varie Figure, 1617,

1. The Printseller

2. Officer with Sword

3. Turk

etching, approx. 90 x 90mm (3)

* Deux dames de condition debout
etching, 55 x 78mm

* La dévideuse et la fileuse
etching, 55 x 78mm

* Works on loan from Dr. W.S. Auburn

JACQUES CALLOT (1597-1635), French

- * Military Exercises, 1635
(6 plates from set of 12), etching, 65 x 80mm
- * Les Caprices, 1618,
(10 plates) etching, 60 x 80mm

PAUL CEZANNE (1839-1906), French

Paysage a Auvers, 1873,
etching, 133 x 112mm

Tete de Femme, 1873,
etching, 133 x 108mm

JOHN CROME (1768-1821), British

Men and Cows, c1800
etching with softground, 73 x 98mm

EDGAR DEGAS, (1834-1917), French

Bust of Manet, 1864,
etching, 130 x 105mm

ARMAND GAUTIER (1825-1894), French

Work,
etching, 105 x 76mm

CLAUDE GELLEE (LORRAIN) 1600-1682), French

Landscape, c1660,
etching, 157 x 106mm

ERIC GILL (1880-1940), British

Moonlight, c1910
Wood engraving, 115x80mm

K. W. HASSAL, New Zealand

Up for Repair, c1940
woodcut, 100 x 70mm

- * Works loaned by Dr. W.S. Auburn

WENCESLAS HOLLAR (1607-1677), Bohemian/English

- * The Dead Mole, 1646,
etching, 75 x 140mm
- * Butterflies, Beetles, Bees, 1646,
(4 plates from set of 12), etching, 85 x 120mm (4)

AUGUSTUS JOHN, (1878-1961), British

Jacob Epstein, No.2,
etching, 130 x 102mm

Sheet of Studies: Horses and Figures,
etching, 101 x 149mm

WILLIAM JONES (b.1923-), New Zealand

Men Painting the Side of a Ship, 1955
wood engraving, 73 x 48mm

LUCAS VAN LEYDEN (1494-1533), Dutch

- * Musicians, 1524,
engraving, 120 x 76mm
- * The Surgeon, 1524
engraving, 120 x 76mm

RENE MAGRITTE (1898-1967), Belgian/French

Pear and Rose, 1967
etching and aquatint, 160 x 107mm

ARISTIDE MAILLOL (1861-1944), French

A Man and Woman Gathering Branches, c1926
(illustration to Virgil's 'Les Georgiques')
woodcut, 91 x 120mm

EDOUARD MANET (1832-1883), French

Portrait of Charles Baudelaire, 1865,
etching, 92 x 82mm

- * Works on loan from Dr. W.S. Auburn

CHARLES MERYON (1821-1868), French

Approaching the Mulgrave Islands, 1866,
etching, 114 x 73mm

PAUL NASH (1884-1946), British

Bouquet, 1927,
wood engraving, 120 x 95mm

JEAN PIERRE NORBLIN (1745-1830), French

(All presented by Mr. Wallace Alexander in 1940)

Man in a Long Fur Coat, from the back, 1779
etching, 20 x 12mm

Woman holding a basket, 1779,
etching, 20 x 12mm

Man in a narrow-cut coat, 1779
etching, 27 x 15mm

The Chronicler, c.1780
etching, 25 x 20mm

The Smaller Player of Bagpipes, 1781
etching, 42 x 30mm

Portrait of Jean Sobieski, King of Poland, c.1780
etching, 90 x 85mm

The Field of Corn, 1780
etching, 87 x 22mm

Farmyard, 1777,
etching, 45 x 87mm

The Artist's Wife, 1787
etching, 60 x 47 (oval)

Head of a Monk, 1787
etching, 35 x 30mm

Bust of a man in a large bonnet, 1787
etching, 57 x 45mm

Bust of a man in a Cossack Hat, 1787
etching, 70 x 60mm

Head of a Bald Man with a Bear, 1787,
etching, 75 x 62mm

Man in a long Fur Coat, 1779
etching, 27 x 15mm

GEORG PENCZ, (c.1500-1550), German

Medea presenting the Household Gods to Jason, 1539,
engraving, 111 x 60mm

PIERRE AUGUST RENOIR, (1841-1919), French

Le Chapeau Epingle, 1813
etching and drypoint, 132 x 93mm

REMBRANDT VAN RIJN (1606- 1669), Dutch

Self-Portrait in Fur Cap, 1631
etching, 62 x 60mm

CHRISTIAN ROHLFS (1844-1938), German

The Couple,
woodcut, 149 x 101mm

MAX SLEVOGT, (1868-1932), German

Kleine Grottesken I, II, c.1900-32
lithograph, c.40 x 40mm

Kleine Tangrottesken, c.1900-32
lithograph, 40 x 40mm

J. T. SMITH (1766-1833), British

Landscape: Trees by a River, c.1800
etching, 89 x 63mm

Landscape with Gypsies camped under a Tree, c.1800
etching, 60 x 89mm

Near Edmonton, Middlesex, c.1800
etching, 60 x 89mm

Landscape: A Tree, c.1800
etching, 57 x 38mm

MAY SMITH, (B.1906-) New Zealand

Hayricks, c.1930
woodblock, 74 x 85mm

Orpheus, 1931,
wood engraving, 128 x 95mm

WILLIAM A. SUTTON (b1917), New Zealand

Marlborough Evening, 1946
coloured linocut, 75 x 90mm

DAVID TENIERS (Younger) (1610-1690), Flemish

Peasant Regarding a Dish of Eggs,
etching, 114 x 89mm

PERCY THOMAS (1846-1922), British

August Delatre at work, 1874
etching, 95 x 70mm

Happy New Year, c.1870
etching, 98 x 133mm

Miss Tuckey (translator of Romany Poetry), 1876
etching and drypoint, 98 x 133mm

HAROLD TORNQUIST, New Zealand

Tree Study, c.1920-40
wood engraving, 86 x 80mm

Tree Study, c.1920-40,
wood engraving, 50 x 45mm

Tree Study, c.1920-40
wood engraving, 70 x 60mm

THEODORE VAN KESSEL (b.1620-), German

Frontispiece to Alcune Animale
(after) Giovanni vanden Hecke, 1654,
etching, 70 x 100mm

Four Dogs (from Alcune Animale), 1654
etching, 70 x 100mm

JAMES McNEIL WHISTLER (1834-1903), British

View of the Thames (Invitation)
etching and drypoint,
Donated by Mr. M. Harrison

WORKS CONTRIBUTED BY CONTEMPORARY NEW ZEALAND ARTISTS

MARTIN BALL

Another Saturday Night, 1978
pencil, 67 x 97mm

IAN BERGQUIST

That That is is That That is not is That it it is, 1978,
mixed media, 101 x 127 mm

DON BINNEY

McKenzie Pass (II), 1978
photograph, 101 x 152mm

Piha, Nov. 1977, 1977
photograph, 101 x 152mm

Anawhata River, 1978
photograph, 101 x 152mm

DAVID BROWN

MTCHRX I, II, III, 1978
mixed media, 101 x 152mm (3)

GLENN BUSCH

Blind Child, 1976
photograph, 125 x 85mm

Old Man in his Bedroom, 1974
photograph, 95 x 95mm

LEN CASTLE

Trinket Box, 1977
stoneware pottery, dia. 65mm

Trinket Box, 1977
stoneware pottery, 95 x 85mm

Trinket Box, 1967
stoneware, 70 x 65mm

PHILIP CLAIRMONT

Untitled, 1978
mixed media, 155 x 98mm

RICHARD COLLINS

Mokatu Bay I, II, III
photographs, 101 x 152mm (3)

BRONWYN CORNISH

Matchbox I, II, III, 1978
glazed porcelain, approx. 76 x 51 x 25mm (3)

NEIL DAWSON

Small Work I, II, 1978
soldered piano wire, 100 x 30 x 100mm, 140 x 20 x 100mm

VICTORIA EDWARDS

Untitled I, II, III, IV, 1978
photographs, 90 x 130mm (4)

TONY FOMISON

Portable Momento Mori, 1977
oil painting, 90mm dia.

One of the Outer Bays, 1978
oil painting, 90 x 110mm

TOM FRAZER

Don't Wish to, 1978
photo construction, 140 x 190mm

Don't Seem to, 1978
photo construction, 140 x 190mm

DICK FRIZZELL

Dopey War, 1971
collage, 203 x 152mm

Now That's what I call a Painting, 1978
watercolour/collage, 203 x 178mm

RODNEY FUMPSTON

Learning Etching One
(2 plates/softground and aquatint), 1978
101 x 152mm

Learning Etching Two
(2 plates/hard ground with surface rolled colour) 1978
101 x 152mm

RODNEY FUMPSTON

Learning Etching Three, 1978
(2 plates/sugar-lift aquatint and drypoint)
101 x 152mm

Learning Etching Four, 1978
(2 plates/aquatint and engraving)
101 x 152mm

PAUL GILBERT

Susan, 1978
photograph, 70 x 105mm

MURRAY GRIMSDALE

May in Red, 1978
oil, 130 x 98 x 28mm

May looking out the Window, 1978
oil, 130 x 98 x 28mm

PATRICK HANLY

Torso, 1978
etching, 110 x 95mm

PAUL HARTIGAN

I Don't Like Egg, 1978
colour photograph and enamel paint, 170 x 120mm

I was a G.I.'s Slave Bride, 1978
enamel on plastic, 127 x 127mm

And Again, 1978
marker pen over photo, 152 x 101mm

PAUL HEWSON

War in the Pacific, I, II, III, 1977/8
mixed media, 78 x 80mm, 101 x 101 x 101mm, 78 x 80mm

DAVID HOPE

Small Collage I, II, III, IV, 1978
acrylic, collage, 150 x 100mm (4)

LEO KING

Sigma, 1978
Ceramic, approx. 51mm dia.

Folding Form, 1978
ceramic, approx. 51mm dia.

COLIN McCAHON

North Otago, 1973
linocut, 80 x 105mm

North Otago, 1973
Hardboard and linocut, 80 x 100mm

North Otago, 1973
Hardboard print, 80 x 100mm

RICHARD McWHANNELL

White T-shirt I, 1978
oil, 85 x 110mm

DAVID MEALING

Talking to Phyllis, 1978
Tape recording, 45 mins.

ROBIN MORRISON

Central Otago Hill, 1977
colour photograph, 101 x 152mm

CHESTER NEALIE

Box with Tortoise, 1978
saltglazed stoneware, 80 x 70mm

Manuka Box, 1978
Saltglazed stoneware, 90 x 65mm

RALPH PAINE

Tomato Triptych, 1978
carbon paper, watercolour, 101 x 152mm (3)

STANLEY PALMER

Rakitu I, II, III, IV, 1978
dry point engraving, 101 x 101mm (4)

JOHN PARKER

Set of 4 Pieces of Souvenir China, 1978
Bone china blanks with transfers and lustre, 85mm dia. (4)

GLENDA RANDERSON

Composition with Matches, 1978
oil on wood, 101 x 152mm

Composition with Manila Envelope, 1978
oil on wood, 101 x 152mm

DAVID RAPP

Love Affair, 1978
construction, 101 x 76 x 76mm

Don't, 1978
construction, 101 x 76 x 76mm

JAMES ROSS

Conversation Triptych (Lifesize Fragments), 1978
monoprints, 101 x 101mm, 152 x 101mm, 101 x 101mm

PETER SIDDELL

Greetings from Blockhouse Bay, 1978
acrylic, 143 x 100mm

Greetings from Sunny Auckland, 1978
acrylic, 148 x 100mm

NICHOLAS SPILL

Cover Yourself, 1978
Polaroid and written text, 140 x 203mm

Artist's Warning, 1978
polaroid and rubber stamp plate, 140 x 203mm

CLIVE STONE

Talk of the Town (No.8), 1977
photograph, 101 x 101mm

Talk of the Town (No.9), 1977
photograph, 101 x 101mm

Talk of the Town (No.10), 1977
photograph, 101 x 101mm

TERRY STRINGER

Face seen from below, 1978
bronze, 95 x 100 x 95mm

Head of Jo
Bronze, 90 x 70 x 60mm

Profile Head, 1977
bronze, 90 x 150 x 80mm

MARTE SZIRMAY

Sculpture 78, I, II, III, 1978
cast marble, approx. 63 x 76 x 63mm (3)

ROB TAYLOR

Postcard from Wellington, 1978
pencil, 101 x 153mm

MARK THOMAS

Lion Rock, 1978
linocut, 152 x 101mm

New Flower, 1978
linocut, 152 x 101mm

JIM TOMLIN

Small Interface 5, 1978
vinyl on hardboard, 152 x 101mm

Small Interruption 9, 1978
vinyl on hardboard, 152 x 101mm

GARY TRICKER

Landscape 74, 1978
etching, aquatint, 130 x 130mm

MERYLYN TWEEDIE

Untitled I, II, 1978
Polaroid, 79 x 79mm (2)

GORDON WALTERS

Rewa, 1976
acrylic, 120 x 101mm

GORDON WALTERS

Nuku, 1975
acrylic, 120 x 120mm

DENYS WATKINS

The Musician, 1978
etching, aquatint, 89 x 89mm

The Poet, 1978
etching, aquatint, 89 x 101mm

The Artist, 1978
etching, aquatint, 89 x 89mm

ANS WESTRA

Hills II, 1977
photograph, 101 x 101mm

Tree, 1977
photograph, 152 x 76mm

Wall Encrustation, 1978
photograph, 89 x 89mm

MERVYN WILLIAMS

Study I, II, III, 1978,
Gouache, 152 x 127mm (3)

RODERICK WILLS

You don't always get what you want, 1978
Polaroid, 79 x 79mm

An Imminent Kiss, 1978
Polaroid, 79 x 79mm

PAMELA WOLFE

Domestic Interior, 1978
mixed media, 101 x 101 x 101mm

FRANK WOMBLE

Breederz Guide, 1978
collage, 63 x 70mm

Zimply a Black Faced Zebra, 1978
collage, 76 x 76mm

FRANK WOMBLE

The Exhibitionizt aza Young Opportunizt, 1978
collage, 76 x 101mm

Jezt befor da Change, 1978
collage, 51 x 76mm

CHRISTABEL WYLIE

Vendredi, Samedi, Dimarche, Lundi, 1978
Feather, fabric, sequins, 101 x 152mm (4)

JOE WYLIE

Just Like Me, 1978
pencil, U-Bix, watercolour, 75 x 140mm

Housewife's Choice, 1978
pencil, U-Bix, watercolour, 107 x 150mm

EVA (MAN-WAH) YUEN

Art has no Angles, 1978
Rubber stamps/drawing paper, 101 x 101mm, 25 x 152mm
152 x 203mm