



The urban centre of Palmerston North city is dotted with a colourful eclectic array of sculptures, carvings, paintings, murals, mosaics and galleries. This guide highlights a selection of key artistic works and places – all open to the public, free to view, and within walking distance of The Square.



### PRIVATE GALLERIES TO VISIT

Snails (Window Gallery)  
449 George Street

Taylor-Jensen Fine Art  
33 George Street  
www.finearts.co.nz

The White Room Co.  
154 Fitzherbert Ave  
art.whiteroom.co

Zimmerman Art Gallery  
359 Main Street  
www.zimmerman.co.nz

## START

This walking tour starts from the middle of The Square, and will take at least an hour and a half to complete. Follow the map at the back of this Guide to visit each feature in turn, or select which features you wish to see.

Along the way you'll find many great cafes and eateries to enjoy.



Toilet facilities at this venue



Indoor feature (visit during open hours)

### THE SQUARE



**1** **CENOTAPH – WAR MEMORIAL**  
*FV Blundstone, 1925*  
CENTRE OF THE SQUARE

Designed by British sculptor FV Blundstone, this memorial was unveiled in 1926. It is a scaled down replica of a memorial in Folkstone, England. The bronze figure, facing north-west towards the battlefields of Europe, represents the spirit of motherhood, and is holding a wreath of remembrance and a New Zealand flag. The memorial was rededicated in 2005, at which time several additions were made: six flagpoles, steps leading up the bronze figure, and plaques listing the names of the region's war dead.



**2** **TE PEETI TE AWE AWE**  
*Harold Anderson, 1906*  
SOUTH-EASTERN CORNER OF THE SQUARE

Born around 1820, Te Awe Awe was a Rangitane chief who played a significant role in early relations between local Maori and European settlers. This commemorative statue was carved from Carrara marble by an Italian sculptor, based on a design by Harold Anderson of Palmerston North. In Te Awe Awe's right hand he holds a mere (short flat club), and on the pedestal are words spoken by him in Maori before his death in 1884, which translate as "I have laid the foundations of friendship for you to bring to completion." The statue was commissioned by Te Awe Awe's younger sister, Ereni, with funds raised by the Rangitane people.



**3** **PRIME SCULPTURES**  
*Sculpted in 2000*  
BESIDE THE SQUARE-FACING ENTRANCE TO THE PNCC CUSTOMER SERVICES CENTRE

These ten sculptures were fashioned from Taranaki andesite as part of a sculpture project for PRiME, the Pacific Rim Millennium Experience. Organised by the Community Arts Council, the sculptors who participated in the project were Steven Gwaliasi, Johnny Peninsula, Dr Richard Shortland Cooper, Warren Warbrick, Deborah Anne Hall, Sarah Dutt with Metuanooroa Tapuni, Para Matchitt, Hisao Kameyama, Filipe Tohi and Naibuka Tuitaru. Sculpted in 2000, the sculptures were moved to Te Rangimarie Marae while bases and mounts were made, and were returned to The Square for installation in 2006.



**4** **TE MARAE O HINE CARVINGS**  
*John Bevan Ford, assisted by Warren Warbrick, 1990*

CARVED POSTS BESIDE PRIME SCULPTURES, AND CARVED PANELS ON OUTSIDE WALL OF CITY COUNCIL CUSTOMER SERVICES CENTRE

Commissioned by the Palmerston North City Council and Rangitane Maori Committee, these carvings honour the significance of the Maori name for The Square, Te Marae O Hine. The name symbolises their hope that people of all tribes and races would live together in lasting peace in Palmerston North. The pou whenua (land-marking post) closest to i-SITE pays tribute to European settlers, and to their contribution to the development of the city. It depicts European tools (saw, file, nails and bolts): symbols of technology and endeavour. The pou whenua closest to the City Council depicts Ronomaraeroa, guardian of peace and agriculture. The three carved panels to the right of the entrance to the City Council Customer Services Centre depict the ancestor Rangitane, flanked by his grandmothers, Reretua and Hinerau.



**5** **THE PRODIGAL SON**  
*Colin Webster-Watson, 1990*  
GROUND FLOOR OF THE CITY COUNCIL CUSTOMER SERVICES CENTRE

Born in Palmerston North in 1926, Webster-Watson was a flamboyant character who lived and worked for

most of his adult life in Italy and the United States. He was an acquaintance of many famous personalities, and at one time had a tempestuous relationship with Winston Churchill's daughter, Sarah. Webster-Watson crafted *The Prodigal Son* in his studio in Rome in memory of his father, Ernst Watson. He gifted the Portuguese rose marble sculpture to the Palmerston North City Council in 2007, a month before he died in Wellington. A posthumous collection of his poems, *Natural Zoo*, was published in 2011.

### CORNER OF THE SQUARE & CHURCH ST



**6** **GHOST OF THE HUIA**  
*Paul Dibble, 2010*  
FACING THE ROUNDABOUT OPPOSITE SQUARE EDGE BUILDING

Paul Dibble's *Ghost of the Huia* sculpture is a tribute to the memory of the extinct huia. A unique native bird, the last confirmed sighting of a live huia was in the Tararua ranges in 1907. The sculpture was installed in this central location for public enjoyment by Dibble Art Studio and Zimmerman Art Gallery. The huia is made of bronze, and the base of the sculpture is made from Corten steel.



**7** **COMMUNITY ARTS PALMERSTON NORTH**  
GROUND FLOOR OF SQUARE EDGE BUILDING, 47 THE SQUARE

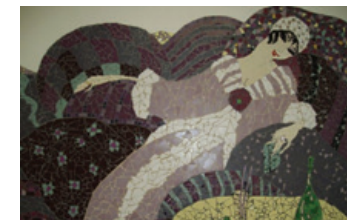
Housed in the distinctive blue and red "Square Edge" building, Community Arts Palmerston North seeks to encourage, support and promote artistic and cultural expression in the

wider Palmerston North community. Its creative centre includes two exhibition galleries and affordable studios for creative people.



**8** **MAURI-ORA PAPATUANUKU ME TANGAROA**  
*Te Aturangi Nepia Clamp, 1982*  
GROUND FLOOR OF SQUARE EDGE, 47 THE SQUARE

This totara wood carving depicts the Earth Mother, Papatuanuku, and the Sea God, Tangaroa, with a net between them. The work was created with Square Edge in mind, expressing the ideals of a co-operative surviving off the land (Papatuanuku), and the sea (Tangaroa), with the net of knowledge (Te Kupenga) to make this possible. The carving was gifted to Square Edge by the artist.



**9** **LADY RELAXING IN HER BOUDOIR**  
*Wendy Grace Allen (nee Dawson), 2005*  
FOYER OF TOILETS (AT FAR END OF EXHIBITION GALLERIES), GROUND FLOOR OF SQUARE EDGE, 47 THE SQUARE

This ceramic and glass mosaic was commissioned by a former manager of Square Edge. It took around 300 hours for the artist to develop this site-specific work. The work was conceived in response to the building's art deco design, and was inspired by fashion illustration designs from around 1912 by French artist George Lepape. Born and raised in Palmerston North, the artist at one time operated an art studio in the former "Vault" of the Square Edge building.

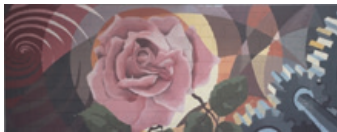


**CHURCH ST TO MAIN STREET WEST**



**10 BODY LANGUAGE—SPIRIT OF PLACE**  
*Terry Stringer, 2010*  
OUTSIDE CITY COUNCIL CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRE

This three-metre high cast bronze sculpture was commissioned by the Palmerston North Public Sculpture Trust. Adapted for Palmerston North from the artist's "Body Language" series, the sculpture is made up of body fragments: a head, a hand and a foot. The head, with a winged temple, suggests thoughts taking flight, and faces in the direction of the learning institutions across the Manawatu River. The hand holds a horn of plenty and is oriented towards the boutique shopping and café area. The foot, as seen from The Square-facing side, holds a rose between its toes, reflecting the enjoyment of nature that can take place in The Square.



**11 ROSE CITY MURAL**  
*Frank Davis, 1982*  
CIVIC ADMINISTRATION BUILDING (OPPOSITE CITY COUNCIL CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRE), CNR THE SQUARE AND MAIN ST

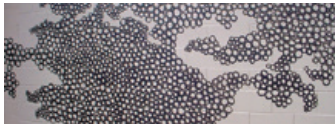
Frank Davis was a principal lecturer in the art department of Palmerston North Teachers' College. He headed the department from 1968 until his death in 1983. The mural was completed with assistance from Project Employment Program workers. The large pink rose and cogs may reference Palmerston North's reputation as New Zealand's "Rose City".



**12 RETURNING COLUMN**  
*Greg Johns, 2008*  
ROUNDBOUT AT THE INTERSECTION OF MAIN STREET WEST & THE SQUARE

This five-metre high sculpture was commissioned by the Palmerston North Public Sculpture Trust. Johns, a South Australian-based artist, has a significant history of sculpture practice. This work is based loosely on electromagnetic wave patterns and the heat shimmer of the arid Australian desert. Made of Corten steel, the orange-brown colour is formed by a thin layer of oxidation.

**MAIN STREET WEST**



**13 UNTITLED**  
*Jemma Cheer, 2012*  
OPPOSITE ZIMMERMAN GALLERY, MAIN STREET

Local resident Jemma Cheer created this mural during one of the City's Art on Edge festivals. Art on Edge is a celebration of Palmerston North's artistic diversity. It takes place every year on the footpaths and outdoor spaces in the arts and culture triangle between Square Edge, Te Manawa and Coleman Mall.



**14 UNITED DIVIDED**  
*Phil Price, 2010*  
OUTSIDE CONVENTION CENTRE, 354 MAIN STREET WEST

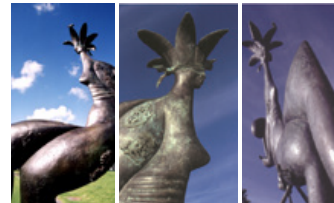
Commissioned by the Palmerston North Public Sculpture Trust, this sculpture

consists of a powder coated steel pedestal, on which four quarters of a glass fibre disc are mounted. The work is kinetic: the bright blue quarters dip, roll and rotate in the wind, sometimes coming together, and then dividing in a continuous, seemingly random, performance. A graduate of the Canterbury School of Fine Arts, Price's name has become synonymous with wind activated kinetic sculpture.



**15 THE SKUNK**  
*Len Bailey, 1981*  
GROUND FLOOR OF CONVENTION CENTRE, 354 MAIN STREET WEST

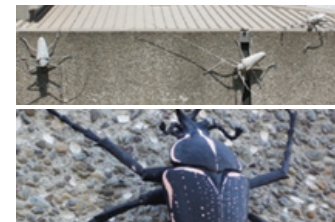
This copper relief sculpture was commissioned by the late Tony and Miriel Fisher of Palmerston North. The Fishers previously ran The Vista, an arts and crafts business in George Street. The Skunk was a steam locomotive that hauled flax from Foxton in the early days of the flax industry. It operated on the railway between Foxton and Wanganui from about 1876 until 1885. The railway ran through the centre of Palmerston North, alongside the site now occupied by the Convention Centre. The shunting yards and railway station were situated in the middle of the Square.



**16 PACIFIC MONARCH**  
*Paul Dibble, 1992*  
OUTSIDE TE MANAWA, 326 MAIN STREET WEST

This 4.4 metre-high bronze sculpture was commissioned by the Manawatu Art Gallery Society, using bequest funds from the estate of Palmerston North citizen Gertrude Raikes. According to the Palmerston North-based artist, Pacific Monarch is "a monument to all the people who have settled in Palmerston North and who have brought aspects of their culture with

them." The figure's headdress is intentionally ambiguous – it could be a ceremonial Pacific crown of leaves, or the headdress of the green men of Celtic Europe. The figure's blindfold represents the way people immigrate to a new country without knowing what they will find there or what the future may hold. The long voyage made by many settlers is represented by barnacles on the figure's stern-like thigh, and also by the globe balanced in one of the figure's hands. In the figure's other hand is a plumb-bob (a builder's tool for vertically lining up framing), demonstrating an intent to settle and make a home. But first efforts can be rough and ready, using whatever comes to hand, and so the figure is propped up like a fencepost by two spindly sticks.



**17 BATOCERA LONGHORNS AND GOLIATH**  
*Elizabeth Thomson, 1996*  
OUTSIDE ENTRANCE TO TE MANAWA, 326 MAIN STREET WEST

The giant beetles crawling over the walls of Te Manawa were commissioned by the Manawatu Art Gallery Society, using bequest funds from the estate of Gertrude Raikes. Made from painted bronze, the three Batocera Longhorns are modelled on a species found in Queensland, Australia, and the Goliath beetle is modelled on an African species. The artist chose these beetles, and their relative sizes, for their dramatic impact.



**18 TE MANAWA MUSEUM OF ART, SCIENCE AND HISTORY**  
326 MAIN STREET WEST

Te Manawa is a cultural museum of art, science and history. It is

the showcase and store-house of the region's nationally significant taonga, contemporary art, science and heritage collections. Art exhibitions at Te Manawa explore a diverse range of art genres featuring local and national artists.



**19 RANGITAANE KI TE WHENUA**  
*Reweti Arapere and Liz Grant, 2010*  
FOYER, TE MANAWA MUSEUM

The two central panels of this window mural depict the ancestors Whātonga (on the left) and his grandson Rangitaane. At their feet is the ancestral waka, Kurahaupō. The surrounding panels display geographical features and aspects of the natural world significant to the Rangitaane people. The stars throughout the design refer to the Rangitaane proverb, "Tini whetū ki te rangi, ko Rangitaane ki te whenua" – "Like the multitudes of stars in the sky, so too are Rangitaane on the land." The design is captured between inverted hoe or paddles, which represent ocean voyaging and making landfall.



**20 CJ MONRO**  
*Sonny Hawkins, 2011*  
OUTSIDE ENTRANCE TO THE NEW ZEALAND RUGBY MUSEUM, TE MANAWA, 326 MAIN STREET WEST

Charles John Monro (1851 – 1933) is credited with bringing the game of rugby to New Zealand. Monro came to Palmerston North in 1888, where he lived until his death in 1933. Shortly before the commencement of the 2011 Rugby World Cup, this bronze statue to Monro's memory was erected outside the New Zealand Rugby Museum. Commissioned by the Monro family, the sculpture was designed and cast by Manawatu resident, Sonny Hawkins.

**GEORGE, COLEMAN & CUBA STREET**



**21 BARISTA CAFÉ WALL MURAL**  
*Steve Sayer, from 2009*  
VIEW THROUGH THE FRONT WINDOW OF BARISTA, GEORGE STREET

A striking artwork by co-owner Steve Sayer can be seen through the front window of Barista cafe. An ongoing project for the artist, patrons are able to enjoy watching the work develop, and may even catch Sayer in the act of painting.



**22 CITYSCAPE**  
*Guy Ngan, 1980*  
CITY LIBRARY WALL (AT GEORGE STREET STEPS LOOK UP TO THE RIGHT)

Cityscape was originally made for the Eastern and Central Savings Bank for their Broadway Avenue premises. When the premises sold, at six metres long this piece was too large for the redeveloped interior. It was initially put into storage as an asset of the building owners, but the Waldegrave family subsequently donated the work to the Palmerston North Public Sculpture Trust for the City.



**23 ALL CREATURES GREAT**  
*Paul Dibble, 1996*  
BESDIE CITY LIBRARY

Commissioned by the Palmerston North City Council, the concept of All Creatures Great was drawn from a children's book which demonstrated the size of a whale as



THIS GUIDE WAS COMPILED BY BRONWYN ZIMMERMAN.

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Palmerston North City  
**creative**nz  
COMMUNITIES

DESTINATION  
MANAWATU

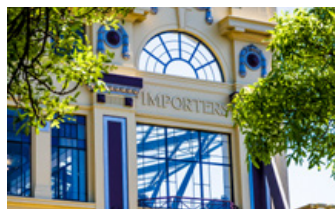
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Special thanks to local artist and art critic Fran Dibble for her kind review and contributions, and to Peter Shelton of The Building Solution Group for supplying many of the images.

equal to the height of 10 elephants. On one side, the whale rises on its tail from an atrium pond, while on the other side the elephants are stacked on top of each other. These two endangered species together support a lintel, on which rests an oversized arm holding a plumb-bob. The work is a comment by Dibble on the power mankind has over nature; the future of the world's largest land and sea mammals lies in our hands. In this way, the work combines notions of protection, preciousness and the precarious balance of nature.



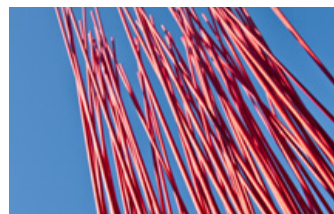
**24** CITY LIBRARY  
4 THE SQUARE (AT TOP OF  
GEORGE STREET STEPS)

The artworks on display at the Library include a series of drawings by John Bevan Ford, sculptures by Albert McCarthy and clocks and furniture designed by Greg Bloomfield. These and other artworks on display are profiled in the free brochure "Art and Architecture in the City Library", available at the City Library.



**25** NUMBERS  
Anton Parsons, 2007  
CORNER OF COLEMAN  
MALL AND THE SQUARE

Numbers was the first sculpture commissioned by the Palmerston North Public Sculpture Trust. It is a joyful, celebratory piece, comprised of a series of stainless steel cubes joined in a loop, to which random numbers in sheet bronze have been riveted on. The artist, Anton Parsons, grew up and went to school in Palmerston North.



**26** GIANTS AMONGST US  
Konstantin (Kon) Dimopoulos,  
2012  
INTERSECTIONS OF  
GEORGE & CUBA / CUBA  
& TAONU I STREETS

Commissioned by the Palmerston North Public Sculpture Trust, this sculpture comprises two clusters of upright fibreglass rods. The rods stand at eight metres high on one side of Cuba Street, and 6.5 metres on the other. The sculpture suggests two stands of trees; each rod representing a single tree in the forest, and collectively forming a mighty forest or a single great tree.

RANGITIKEI STREET



**27** UNTITLED  
David McLeod, 1983  
FRONT WALL AND FORECOURT,  
65 RANGITIKEI STREET

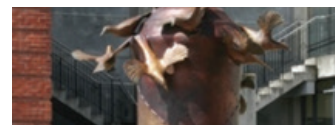
This two-piece sculpture tells the story of how the Whanganui and Rangitikei rivers were named by Maori high priest, Hau, as he chased his unfaithful wife across the west coast of the North Island. The wall sculpture represents a river flowing from source to mouth, with six bronze markers symbolising Hau's journey. The free-standing sculpture in the forecourt continues the river theme, with the river waters coursing. The wall sculpture is cast terrazzo in black Takaka marble chip and cement veneer. The forecourt work, also made from marble, was carved in 78 blocks that were then pinned and cemented together.

KING STREET



**28** PLANTER BOX MOSAICS  
Eric Brew, 1999  
ALONG THE LENGTH  
OF KING STREET

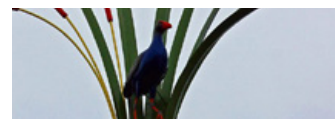
Palmerston North City Council commissioned a series of colourful mosaics on the King Street planter boxes as part of a project to enhance the City's vibrancy. The mosaics begin at the Rangitikei Street end with a "moon and tides" theme, and finish at the Princess Street end with a sun and wind ("elements") theme. A range of inspirations lie between, including hills, the skyline and children's footpath drawings.



**29** THE NECTAR EATERS  
Paul Dibble, 2003  
UCOL LAWN, CORNER KING  
STREET AND PRINCESS STREET

Owned by the Universal College of Learning (UCOL), this giant bronze flax-pounder is a memorial to the original swampland of the Manawatu. Dibble created the pounder in 2002, and in 2003 redesigned the work to include the native birds. Bellbirds, stitchbirds and tui swirl about the pounder, as if punch-drunk from fermented berries. Some have their flight lines tracked, marked in rough welded lines around the pounder. Meanwhile, two ancient huia (a now extinct species), sit still as ghosts at the high point of the handle.

BROADWAY AVENUE



**30** PUKEKO AND RAUPO  
Paul Beaurepaire and Steve  
Anderson, 1994  
ATOP COLUMNS NEAR CORNER  
OF PRINCESS ST & BROADWAY

Commissioned by the Palmerston North City Council, the pukeko standing atop the columns are made of bronze. The raupo (a wetland plant also known as bullrush) is made from hand-hammered steel. In awarding the commission, the Council's landscape architects consciously rejected traditional Victorian, Edwardian and art deco images, in favour of a unique design reflecting Palmerston North's history.



**31** WHO'S AFRAID  
Paul Dibble, 2011  
OUTSIDE THE REGENT THEATRE,  
63 BROADWAY AVENUE

Commissioned by the Palmerston North Public Sculpture Trust, this dramatic work is ideally suited to stand outside the Regent Theatre, the City's centre for performing arts. The sculpture comprises two contrasting pieces. The dancer, smooth and agile, stands at 3.5 metres tall. She boldly faces off against the challenging tuatara, undaunted in her performance by the tuatara's steely gaze.

THE SQUARE



**32** GHOST TOWER  
Louise Purvis, 2014  
EAST SIDE OF THE SQUARE

Commissioned by the Palmerston North Public Sculpture Trust, this 9.4 metre high sculpture is constructed from stainless steel. The base comprises a 3.5 metre high hollow stainless steel frame. Above this base is the skeleton of a small dwelling, able to be looked through from every side. The tower rising from the top of the roofline echoes the clock towers visible from The Square.



# ARTS TRAIL GUIDE

PALMERSTON NORTH CITY CENTRE

- i-SITE visitor information
- Public carpark
- Public toilets (also available at some venues)
- Indoor feature
- Private Gallery