

School of Fine Arts

Certificate to Master Level
Contemporary Arts Programmes

Master of Fine Arts



Artwork: Sarah Davis

The MFA programme prepares artists for a professional career working within a diverse field of contemporary art practices across local and international contexts.



Master degree
Level 9 • 240 credits



Duration
2 year



Location
Auckland Central



Delivery
Distance with some in-person seminars



Next intake
February

whitecliffe.ac.nz • 0800 800 300
admissions@whitecliffe.ac.nz

Prepares artists for a professional local or international career

Master of Fine Arts

The Master of Fine Arts is a full-time, two-year (year one at level 8, year two at level 9), low-residency programme enabling enrolled artists to live and work anywhere in New Zealand. Designed around four, week-long seminars per year, the programme is delivered by faculty and guests that are nationally and internationally respected artists, critics, writers, and curators. According to their interests and proposed direction of study, students are assigned two supervisors to support their studio practice as it develops from Semester to Semester in order to best support their direction and research throughout the programme

The interdisciplinary structure and philosophy support artists in understanding how art and artworks operate in the world, and through regular critique, supervisory guidance, seminar participation, and a focus on exhibition and publication practice, assists them to develop their individual approach to practice and research.

Graduates of this programme will be able to

- Critically analyse, evaluate and position a contemporary fine arts practice in national and international cultural contexts, demonstrating significant intellectual and creative independence.
- Communicate fine arts ideas in relevant contemporary cultural contexts through the dissemination of their work on multiple public platforms (via gallery/museum based and online exhibition, publication, artist talk, interview and text).
- Present to a professional industry standard, a significant body of studio work representative of an extensive and contextually informed studio-based inquiry.
- Critically analyse creative and theoretical research and inquiry in a range of modes and contexts (oral, written, visual).

Career opportunities

- Exhibiting Artist
- Curator
- Gallery Manager
- Secondary School
- Teacher
- Tertiary Teacher
- Arts Administrator
- Art Consultant
- Set Design and Construction
- Art Magazine Editor
- Art Project Manager