**Dr. Alysn Midgelow-Marsden**

**Artist, Tutor, Mentor**

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## inspirer : facilitator: energiser

## Alysn is a highly competent and widely experienced artist in sculpture and textiles, a published author of art and craft books, tutor, arts mentor and gallery director. Her skills have been proven for over 30 years of working in the creative industries. Her artistic profile extends internationally through her books and exhibitions. Alysn re-located from the UK to New Zealand in 2012.

**Recent and Current Work:**

**Artist in fine art and inter-disciplinary textiles and sculpture, tutor and motivational speaker**

* 1991 – Present:   
  Alysn’s fine art textile and sculptural work is shown and sold regularly at galleries, art festivals and shows in NZ and the UK, including both solo and group exhibitions. Working to commissions for individual clients includes wedding and special occasion clothing, commemorative panels, corporate environments, books etc. (See list of most recent below).

Alysn is a freelance tutor and speaker delivering workshops and presentations to professional artist groups, Universities and Colleges, embroiderers’ guilds, patchwork and quilters guilds, schools, colleges, Women’s Institute Headquarters, local authority art centres and private groups, many times, including being invited to be the ’Madeira celebrity lecturer’ at several Embroiderers’ Guild regional meetings.

**Mahurangi Artist’s Studio Trail (MAST) and Mahurangi Artist Network (MAN)**

* 2018 – current. Instigator and lead organiser of regional artist’s studio trail.

**Assessor for Creative Communities Scheme**

* 2019 – 2024. Assessing applications for the Creative Communities Scheme Funding.

**Executive Board Member for Creative Matakana**

* 2019 – 2024. Delivering an annual programme of creative workshops and events by leading New Zealand artists for a nationwide audience.

**Creative Industries Education Coordinator**

* 2016 – 2018: 0.5 post. Based at the Geoff Wilson Gallery, Northtec, NZ.   
  Curation of gallery, coordination of student and volunteer involvement.

**Gallery Founder and Director**

* 1999 – 2012: Direction and management of The Beetroot Tree Gallery for Contemporary Arts (Derbyshire, UK).

**Community Arts and Education**

* 2003 – 2012: Board Member and Artist with participatory art organization, startle. (UK)

Projects have included:

A series of participatory and collaborative works by leading artists including working with school children, undergraduate art students, professional artists and the public.

Interactive video, sound and dance installations.

* Annual arts festival in Draycott, Derbyshire (UK)

**Tertiary Education**

* 2003 -2004: Developed and delivered ‘Designer Books’ at South Nottinghamshire College for ‘Open College Network’. (UK)

**Private Tuition**

* 1985 – 1992: Delivery of specific science based subjects to individual learners in their homes to undergraduate level.

**Lecturer**

* 2009 – 2012: Presenting to groups and undergraduates. Professional approaches to galleries, owning and running a gallery space, pricing, undertaking commissions, marketing and making better work (UK)
* 1990 – 1992: Peoples College Nottingham, UK. Delivery of curriculum lectures for A-Level Biology and Biochemistry.
* 1988 – 1992: Loughborough University, UK. Delivery of lectures and practical classes for undergraduate science students.

**Key Professional Qualifications:**

* 2021 Wayfind Creative Professional Development (NZ)
* 2008 Introduction to Web Design: Intermediate Web Design, E-marketing & Persuasive Content, Photoshop for Graphic Design. (Axis Centre & DeMontfort University, UK)
* 2007 Drive Higher: Designing and implementing e-commerce solutions. (Axis Centre & DeMontfort University, UK)
* 2006 Focusing Creativity (Derbyshire Business Link, UK)
* 1998 ‘A Big Hand For’ Post Graduate Certificate in Arts Practice (Derby University, UK)
* 1996 Extended Embroidery Skills (City and Guilds)
* 1993 Biochemical Systematics and Genetic Variation in British Members of the Fish Family Cyprinidae’ (Ph.D.)(Loughborough University, UK)
* 1987 Biochemistry and Marine Biology. Joint Honours B.Sc.(Hons.) 2(1) (Bangor University, Wales)

**Recent Major Exhibitions:**

**2025**

* ‘The Beach.’ 3 artist show. From Out of the Blue Gallery, NZ (January)
* ‘Vastness’. Invitational exhibition. Timeless Textiles, AUS (January)

**2024**

* ‘Time’. Juried Exhibition, Curated by the Surface Design Association. From Out of the Blue Gallery, NZ (December)
* ‘Emerge’. Art by the Sea, NZ (November)
* ‘Estuary Arts and Ecology Award 2024’, Uxbridge Arts, Howick, NZ. Juried Exhibition. 3rd Place Award. ‘Mitigation at the Margins’ Film. (6 July – 31 Sept).
* ‘Spotlight on Sculpture’ Estuary Arts, Orewa, NZ (6 – 28 July).
* ‘Fluid Becoming …’ Three artist exhibition, NZ (January)
* ‘mARTakana’. Selected exhibition, NZ (January)
* The Festival of Quilts, UK (August)
* ‘Wings’. Invitational exhibition. Timeless Textiles Gallery, Australia. (September)

**2023**

* Knitting & Stitching Show, UK.
* ‘Rust and Stardust’. Solo exhibition. Timeless Textiles Gallery, Australia.
* ‘Being There, Being Now’. Solo exhibition. Art By the Sea Gallery, NZ.
* ‘Rust and Stardust’. Solo exhibition. Easel Gallery, NZ.

**2022**

* Auckland Climate Change Festival. Selected artist. NZ
* ‘Contemporary Fibre Art’. Selected exhibition. The CollaborationNZ, NZ.
* ‘Changing Threads’. Selected exhibition, NZ.

**2021**

* ‘Sampler’. Invited Exhibition. NZ
* ‘Ain’t The Archies’. Invited Exhibition. Timeless Textiles Gallery, Australia.
* Solo Exhibition. Little and Local Gallery, NZ.
* ‘Changing Threads’. Selected exhibition, NZ.

**2020**

* ‘AustraliaWide7’. Invitational touring exhibition. OzQuilt Network, Australia.
* ‘Fabricated Narratives’. Group exhibition. Art at Wharepuke Gallery, NZ

**2019**

* Mandurah Wearable Arts. Finalist. Australia.
* ‘Fabricated Narratives’. Group exhibition. Matakana, NZ

**2018**

* ‘Fabricated Narratives’. Coordinator and artist. Knitting and Stitching Show (London, Dublin, Harrogate, UK)
* ‘Broaching the Subject’. Timeless Textiles Gallery, Australia.

**2017**

* The Festival of Quilts, NEC, Birmingham, UK.
* ‘Sensational Stitches’ Living Threads, UK
* ‘Paper, Stitch, Metal’. Group Exhibition. Estuary Arts, NZ
* ‘In Dialogue’. Selected Exhibition. Whangarei Art Museum, NZ.

**2016**

* ‘Permutations’. Solo exhibition. Knitting and Stitching Show (London, Dublin, Harrogate, UK)
* ‘In Dialogue’. Selected Exhibition. Haikou and Guangdong, China

**2015**

* ‘Art Textiles of Aotearoa’ Curated and exhibited selection of leading NZ Textile Art Practitioners. Knitting and Stitching Show (London, Dublin, Harrogate, UK)
* ‘Self Portrait’. Selected Exhibition. Lysaght Watt Gallery, NZ.
* ‘Changing Threads’ Selected Exhibition, NZ
* ‘Change’ Selected Exhibition. Kaipara Coast Sculpture Gardens, NZ.

**2014**

* ‘Absence and Presence’ Solo Exhibition, NorthArt Gallery, NZ.
* Festival of Quilts, NEC, Birmingham, UK
* ‘Negative Spaces’ Solo Exhibition. Art Van Go Gallery, UK
* ‘This is ... Immaterial’. Selected Exhibition, Minerva Gallery, NZ
* ‘Changing Threads’ Selected Exhibition, NZ
* ‘Light Dancing’. Selected Exhibition. Harbourview Sculpture Trail, Auckland, NZ. (Large multi piece sculpture in steel cloth and perspex set into the lake).
* ‘Woven in the Landscape’ Selected Exhibition. Kaipara Coast Sculpture Gardens, NZ.

**Representation at Galleries:**

* 2024 -Ongoing: Art By The River Gallery, NZ.
* 2023 – Ongoing: Art By the Sea Gallery, NZ.
* 2022 – Ongoing: Helena Bay Gallery, NZ.
* 2021 – Ongoing: Omaha Bay Gallery, NZ
* 2018 – Ongoing: Lawnmower’s Son Gallery, NZ
* 2021 - 2022: Art Matakana, NZ
* 2019 – 2020: ArtForm Gallery. NZ
* 2018 – 2020: Kleur Gallery. NZ
* 1999 - 2013: The Beetroot Tree, UK

**Competition Awards:**

* 2024 Finalist, 3rd Place. Estuary and Ecology Art Award (NZ)
* 2022 Finalist ‘Changing Threads’ Nelson Arts Council Textile exhibition (NZ)
* 2019 Finalist Mandurah Wearable Art (Australia)
* 2018 Winner ‘Wall Brooches’, Newcastle (Australia)
* 2017/8 Finalist ‘Changing Threads’ Nelson Arts Council Textile exhibition (NZ)
* 2015 Winner ‘Bernina Award’ ‘Changing Threads’ (NZ)
* 2014 Finalist ‘Changing Threads’ Nelson Arts Council Textile exhibition (NZ)
* 1999 Winner National Embroidery Championship for Wearable Art (UK)
* 1999 Second Place National Embroidery Championship (UK)
* 1998 Winner National Embroidery Championship for Wearable Art (UK)

**Films:**

* 2019. Becoming (with Steve Balaam) https://youtu.be/cm5t9V4Caq4?si=NkgFdZ17JjVPFyMv
* 2018. Fabricated Narratives (with Ingrid Jellick)

https://youtu.be/wEW0SugM3T0?si=hqq7uBDDg0yqcwb4

* 2011. Alysn Midgelow-Marsden. Textile Artist (with Big Ant Video) https://youtu.be/JnAW9FnMkA4?si=t9xkw-4Wahg3yxDp

**Major Recent Commissions:**

Commissions have been undertaken for private clients for wall-based art and for special occasion clothing and for dance theatre.

**Authored Books:**

* 2014 ‘Stitch, Fibre, Metal and Mixed Media’ (Search Press)
* 2007 ‘this Lustr’ed cloth’ - a fibre artists workbook of metals (Artfully Bound)
* 2006 ‘The Continuous Thread of Revelation’ (Artfully Bound)
* 2003 ‘Between the sheets with Angelina – a workbook for fusible fibres’(Word4Word)

**Published Articles and Catalogues:**

* 2024: Fluid Becoming Exhibition Catalogue
* 2023: Interview for FibreArtsTakesTwo https://www.youtube.com/live/f4N5yJ3jpwo?si=kYxV8IL3fcdXWy6q
* 2023: Embellish magazine (Profile)
* 2020: Textile and Fibre Forum Magazine (Profile)
* 2019: Art Quilt Quarterly (Featured artwork)
* 2018 : ‘WOW Book 2’. Chapter. / ‘Fabricated Narratives’. Exhibition Catalogue. / Junction Magazine (Profile)
* 2015: The New Zealand Artist (Profile). / Art textiles from Aotearoa. Exhibition Catalogue
* 2004 – present:

Project and information articles in ‘Down Under Textiles’/ ‘Sewing World’ / ‘Stitch’ / ‘Paper, Cloth, Scissors’ / ‘Workbox’ / ‘Workshop on the Web’ / ‘Classic Stitches’ / ‘The Computer Textile Design Group’/ ’ NZ Artist’ / ‘Junction’.

* 2004 – 2005: Craftsman Magazine ‘Diary of a craftsman’ 12 monthly 2,000 word articles.

**Funding Awards:**

* 2023 Creative Stitch Project. Creative Communities Scheme (NZ$7,200.00)
* 2022 Creative Stitch Project. Creative Communities Scheme (NZ$6,300.00)
* 2017 Research Award. NorthTec. ‘In Dialogue’ International Exhibition (China/NZ) (NZ$18,000.00)
* 2016 Research Award. NorthTec. ‘Permutations’ International Exhibition (NZ$5,000)
* 2015 Boosted Fundraising for NZ Artists in UK exhibition. (NZ$2,000.00)
* 2008 Derbyshire Art Marketing Award Designing and Implementing E Commerce Solutions Training (approx. NZ$1,000.00)
* 2007 Derbyshire Business Link Award. Marketing Materials and Digital Projector

(approx. NZ$1,000.00)

* 2006 Arts Council England Development of Touring Exhibition and Exhibition Catalogue

(approx. NZ$10,000.00)

* 2004 Arts Council England ‘Tree Dressing’ Children’s Community Project Lead Artist (approx. NZ$10,000.00 approx.)