

Raising Boys

MEDIA RELEASE

Hawke's Bay Museum & Art Gallery

Raising Boys

Andy Kingston, Paul Maseyk, Ross Mitchell-Anyon, Richard Parker and Martin Poppelwell

1st August - 16th November 2008

Exhibition Opening: Friday 1st August at 5.30pm

Hawke's Bay has had a long and rich association with innovative New Zealand craft and design and been home to pioneering craft artists and innovators of contemporary object making. So it is with much pleasure that Hawke's Bay Museum and Art Gallery is able to feature a new exhibition which brings together some of the most challenging and cutting-edge contemporary ceramics being made in New Zealand – some never before exhibited in this region.

Raising Boys brings together three of New Zealand's leading contemporary potters with their close mentors and teachers. Andy Kingston, Paul Maseyk and Martin Poppelwell are three artists who challenge the perception of clay within New Zealand art. Their predecessors, Ross Mitchell-Anyon and Richard Parker, are key artists in the progression of New Zealand ceramics and important artists in their own right. The exhibition draws all five artists into a colourful family portrait – a picture of a tenacious, irreverent and dynamic group who are together changing the face of contemporary New Zealand ceramics.

Raising Boys will open to the public on Friday 1 August at 5.30pm. Some of the exhibiting artists will be in attendance at the opening.

A tour of the exhibition with artists and the curator of the exhibition will take place on Saturday 2nd August at 11am. Entry to the talk is free.

Raising Boys will be accompanied by a publication examining the connections between these five artists, their critical context and the historic precedents of ceramics in New Zealand education. The exhibition will also be supported by a Symposium held at HB MAG between the 17th and 19th October 2008, which will challenge its audience to think about the position of the contemporary craft/object artist in New Zealand. Full details about this event will be available from HB MAG.

The Raising Boys publication and Symposium are made possible through the generous support of Creative New Zealand.

Interviews and images can be arranged in advance of the exhibition opening.

For media or image enquiries please contact Pam Joyce, Marketing Team Leader on (06) 835 9245, or email pjoyce@hbmag.co.nz .

