

# whangarei art museum

te manawa toi

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Tena koutou katoa

The Whangarei Art Museum Trust, Director and Staff wish to offer their sincerest condolences to the whanau of Manos Nathan, who sadly passed away on Wednesday the 2<sup>nd</sup> of September. Nathan was an inspiring and gifted Maori artist, who was a mentor to many of Northland's established and emerging artists.

Manos Nathan, considered one of New Zealand's foremost clay artists, co-founded Nga Kaihanga Uku, the national Maori clayworkers' organisation and was also a member of Te Atinga, the Visual Arts committee of Toi Māori Aotearoa. He was also a strong supporter of the Hundertwasser Art Centre and sat on the Wairau Maori Arts Gallery Board as an advisor to that project. His background in woodcarving and sculpture led him to carve the meeting house at Matatina Marae, Waipoua Forest, located on his tribal lands.

Whangarei Art Museum has works in the collection by Manos Nathan, including a two-meter high fired ceramic pou, which was commissioned by the art museum with funding assistance from Te Waka Toi – Creative New Zealand Arts Council in 2002. *Kaitiaki*, an exceptional sculptural piece, promotes artistic and cultural life in the Whangarei district.

Nathan chose the concept of 'kaitiakitanga' (guardianship) as the theme of the art work and Kaitiaki now stands just inside the entrance of the Whangarei Art Museum, located at The Hub in Whangarei's Town Basin, to greet our visitors and protect all taonga within.

A funeral service will take place at Taita Marae, Maramanui, Northland at 11am on Monday the 7<sup>th</sup> of September.

Na

**Ruth Green-Cole | Director | Curator**

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