

WHITE CUBE – *black box*

Presenter - Richard Arlidge – currently Director of Tauranga Art Gallery (2003-2007) and formerly Director of ARATOI (1998-2002). The presentation will cover some of the lessons learned and observations along the way in the design of gallery spaces.

ARATOI

The Wairarapa museum of art and history opened in February 2002. The cost was \$2.4m (The Café was a separate cost). The major funder (and building owner) was the Masterton Trust Lands Trust (MTLT). www.aratoi.co.nz. Winner of a NZIA New Zealand Award 2002, Winner of a NZIA Local and Colour Awards 2002, Winner of 2002 Origin Timber Design Award for Aesthetic Excellence. **Architects** – Evzen Novack, Studio Pacific Architecture, Wellington. www.studiopacific.co.nz

Tauranga Art Gallery (TAG)

Is currently scheduled to open in October 2007.

Cost is \$5.9m plus land and building purchased in 1999 for \$1.7m. www.artgallery.org.nz

Architects – David Mitchell and Julie Stout, Mitchell and Stout Architects Ltd.

www.mitchellstoutarchitects.co.nz.

Tauranga is now NZ 5th largest city (and fastest growing) serving a population of 145,000 within 30 minutes drive. Tauranga has never had a public art gallery. The Tauranga Historic Village closed in 1999. A new Tauranga museum is currently being debated.

Architectural Selection

In the case of ARATOI the selection of the architect was undertaken by the Masterton Trust Lands Trust who held a limited competition by inviting 5 architectural practices to develop designs and models. The selection was design driven.

With TAG the former BNZ building was to be refurbished. 7 local and 6 national architects were invited to present an expression of interest focusing on company profiles and their past work and their experience in public art galleries. We were selecting an architect.

Issues

ARATOI – A capital funding cap was imposed by the MTLT which led to the removal of smoke alarms which then had to be retro fitted. How the Marae Atea was incorporated into the museum. How the church was integrated within the complex.

Tauranga Art Gallery – How to create a gallery that could be easily extended in the future when more capital funding is available. How to deliver power and data to all walls, ceiling, and floor surfaces. Converting an existing building results in given spaces that you may not design.

Tate Modern. www.tate.org.uk - Herzog & De Meuron's transformation of Giles Gilbert Scott's power station in London. Opened in 2000.

Christchurch Art Gallery, www.christchurchartgallery.org.nz. - David Cole, The Buchan Group Architects. Opened in 2003. Cost \$47.5m.

References

Reshaping Museum Space, Ed. Susan McLeod, Routledge 2005.

Building Tate Modern, Rowan Moore & Raymond Ryan, Tate 2000.

Power into Art, Karl Sabbagh, Tate 2001.

Twentieth Century Museums 1, Phaidon.

The Manual of Museum Exhibitions, Ed. Lord and Lord, Altamira Press, 2002.