

Faculty of Arts and Education
Summer Research Scholarships
2026/2027 Projects (Creative Arts)

Project code	ART004
Project title	3D Printing: Ceramic and Sustainable materials for Contemporary Art projects
Discipline	Creative Arts
Supervisor(s)	Sean Kerr
Contact details	s.kerr@auckland.ac.nz
Skills Needed	<p>The Summer Research Scholar will contribute to developing and documenting workflows for the WASP 3D ceramic printer and associated 3d modeling tool, such as Blender. Tasks will include testing sketch-to-3D pipelines, preparing files for printing, conducting material experiments (clay and alternative biomaterials), and documenting outcomes.</p> <p>Expected outputs include visual documentation, workflow guides, and prototype artefacts.</p> <p>Desired skills include:</p> <p>Basic experience with digital 3D tools (e.g. Blender, Rhino, or similar)</p> <p>Good documentation and organisational skills</p> <p>Ability to conduct independent experimentation and iterative testing</p> <p>Beneficial (but not required):</p> <p>Good understanding of contemporary art</p> <p>Experience with digital fabrication or 3D printing</p> <p>Interest in sustainable materials.</p>
Project description	<p>This project develops a practical workflow for integrating the WASP 3D ceramic printer into teaching and research at Elam School of Fine Arts.</p> <p>The research will involve developing and documenting a step-by-step workflow for the printer, experimenting with 3D modeling processes using Blender, and testing materials including clay and sustainable alternatives such as mycelium for 3d Printing. Outputs will include a set of prototype works, and a documented workflow/how to document for students and staff to use.</p> <p>The project supports emerging intersections between art, technology, and sustainability, enabling students to engage with advanced fabrication tools and environmentally responsive materials.</p> <p>This topic can take 1 Summer Research Scholar.</p>

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Project code	ART005
Project title	Music in Shakespeare
Discipline	Creative Arts
Supervisor(s)	Gregory Camp
Contact details	g.camp@auckland.ac.nz
Skills Needed	The Scholar should have experience with music on stage, either in a composing, performing, directing, or organising capacity. Some familiarity with Shakespeare is preferred. The Scholar should have some knowledge of research methodologies in creative practice, drama studies, and/or musicology.
Project description	
<p>The Summer Scholar will study how music can be used in Shakespearean performance. The Scholar will assist with the music for this summer's Drama Programme's production of Twelfth Night. This could involve composing, directing, performing, or organising; the applicant should describe the musical skills they can bring in their application. In addition, the Scholar will develop their own research topic on music and Shakespeare for their potential postgraduate studies in Music or Drama. This could be about how music was used on the 16th/17th-century stage or how music has been deployed in more recent performances of Shakespeare's plays. The project will be co-supervised by Gregory Camp (Music) and Barbara Taylor (English).</p> <p>This topic can take up to 2 Summer Research Scholars.</p>	

Project code	ART009
Project title	Experimental Performance, Performance Art, Live Art
Discipline	Creative Arts
Supervisor(s)	Mark Harvey
Contact details	m.harvey@auckland.ac.nz
Skills Needed	Materials, performance related costs, travel for research.
Project description	
<p>This project will be in creative practice-led/artistic research around any area related to experimental perspectives of performance, including any of the following: performance art, live art, choreography, moving image, live approaches, installation, site-situation, place-based approaches and social-based art methods. The research will be open-ended and emergent in nature, with the student designing their topic, research question and creative practice under guidance. It is open to a range of topics, including politics, gender, decolonisation, Indigenous and te ao Māori, but not limited to these as well. Students will be expected to make creative work in the form a portfolio of creative practice and a performance for a public exhibition or festival by the end of the summer.</p> <p>This topic can take up to 2 Summer Research Scholars.</p>	

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Project code	ART010
Project title	Multi-modal creation and writing as interwoven, intercultural, decolonial practices in artistic research and beyond.
Discipline	Creative Arts
Supervisor(s)	Professor Alys Longley
Contact details	a.longley@auckland.ac.nz
Skills Needed	Students do not need to have all of these skills but they could include the following: Independent creative practice/interest in experimental writing, experience with performance making, studio experience, Citation management, video editing, sound design, literature synthesi
Project description	
<p>The very question of what making and writing is, can be seen as being precarious, as growing numbers turn to AI for writing and design. This project involves working on an artistic research project that engages multi-modality such as dance and film, creative writing, design, digital documentation, or any combination of these. This project will connect with Professor Longley's work in Artistic Research Methodology. In particular, this project will involve research assistance on the project 'Multi-modal creation and writing as interwoven, intercultural, decolonial practices in artistic research and beyond'. The project exemplifies how artistic research can be a vehicle for culturally responsive creative scholarship and addresses a vital issue in contemporary scholarship – how to maintain creativity, criticality, and imagination in cultural expression and writing in the face of rapid technological and social change? It centralizes the imagination and creativity of artistic research engaging decolonizing methodologies oriented by Moana Nui-a-Kiwa and the Global South, focusing on forms of place-based expression and knowledge-exchange that work beyond the capture of large language models.</p> <p>This topic can take up to 2 Summer Research Scholars.</p>	

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Project code	ART015
Project title	Pleyel's 'London' Symphonies
Discipline	Creative Arts
Supervisor(s)	Allan Badley
Contact details	a.badley@auckland.ac.nz
Skills Needed	The SRS must have well-developed skills in using music notation software (preferably Sibelius or Finale) and ideally should have completed MUS 224 which has an important component on music editing. This is very important in this case since the SRS will be working with scans of primary source material.
Project description	
<p>To assist in the preparation of a scholarly edition of Ignaz Pleyel's Symphony in Bb (Benton 150A), one of three symphonies he composed in 1792 for the Professional Concert in London. Pleyel, one of the most celebrated composers in Europe, was engaged as the star attraction of the 1792 season which unknowingly placed him in direct competition with his former teacher Joseph Haydn who was appearing in the rival Salomon concerts. While Haydn's 'London' symphonies have long been considered canonical works, Pleyel's symphonies are unknown today yet they were very successful at the time and Haydn was clearly influenced by them in the works he composed for Salomon's 1794-1795 season. This project forms part of a larger piece of research devoted to Pleyel in London, his engagement with English musical life and the relationship between his works and those Haydn composed for London.</p> <p>This topic can take 1 Summer Research Scholar.</p>	

Project code	ART023
Project title	Full-Body Interaction with in a Virtual Reality Art Installation
Discipline	Creative Arts
Supervisor(s)	A/P Becca Weber
Contact details	b.weber@auckland.ac.nz
Skills Needed	Skills required: Interest in VR development. Experience with PyTorch and/or Unity is a plus.
Project description	
<p>This project explores the future of interacting in VR --- full-body interaction with AI agents within an immersive environment where users experience responsive audio-visual feedback based on real-time body tracking. We will work with Dance Movement Therapists, computer scientists, and designers to get design requirements for the existing software, which could be integrating AI agents into a Unity code and/or creating movement repositories, custom sound effects, and custom visual effects. The research goal is to build a VR installation that supports embodiment. Over the summer, we will work with Computer Science experts to iteratively develop the agents and interaction.</p> <p>This topic can take up to 2 Summer Research Scholars.</p>	

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Project code	ART034
Project title	New Zealand Opera/School of Creative Arts Mahitahi
Discipline	Creative Arts
Supervisor(s)	Gregory Camp
Contact details	g.camp@auckland.ac.nz
Skills Needed	The Summer Scholar should have a keen interest in arts organisation and administration. The Scholar should be adept at literature synthesis and qualitative methods of data analysis, and should have good interpersonal communication skills. An interest in opera is important.
Project description	
<p>New Zealand Opera and the School of Creative Arts are exploring potential partnerships. This research project will allow a Summer Scholar to help scope this relationship by working with NZ Opera to explore how a university-led research partnership could contribute meaningfully to arts impact evaluation in an Aotearoa context. This research project will focus on understanding and evaluating the impact of NZ Opera across several work streams. This could entail reviewing its current evaluation practices and reporting approaches; exploring the literature around arts management impact models relevant to performance, education, accessibility, and community engagement; consulting with relevant NZ Opera staff to identify priorities, constraints, and practical implementation needs; developing a draft measurement framework, including sample indicators, data collection approaches, and possible reporting templates; and identifying a pilot methodology that could be tested on one or more existing programmes.</p> <p>This topic can take 1 Summer Research Scholar.</p>	