### **Quarterly Newsletter Number 13**

### Winter 2018



#### Dear Friends,

Our next major fundraising event takes place on Saturday the 20<sup>th</sup> of October, upstairs at the Hornby Working Men's Club. This will be an enjoyable evening of great entertainment. Please see the attached poster.

There will be two Friends heritage tours on Sunday September 23rd, at 1.00pm and 2.30pm. These will be sponsored by NZIA (New Zealand Institute of Architects) as part of the Festival of Architecture 2018. (See https://www.nzia.co.nz/festival-of-architecture/overview) - NZIA will sponsor the entire tour for a \$200 donation to the Friends. Registration for the tour is free. Craig Fitzgerald from Warren and Mahoney, the Arts Centre architect, will jointly lead the tour that day with Ron Barrow.

The Rembrandt Remastered exhibition takes place in the Great Hall September 5th to October 3rd -

see https://www.artscentre.org.nz/events/rembrandt-remastered/

Be a star – see stars.artscentre.org.nz for details, and the attached brochure.

Graeme Wallis MNZM



Chair 0. Recently t20

The Friends' Executive visited West Lecture and the School of Art. Left to right: Lorraine Logan, Faye Parkhill, Nadja Grabner-Thornley, Graeme Wallis, Ron Barrow, Tim Hogan, Peter Morrison Annie Edmond, Lynne Lochhead.



#### The aims of the Friends of the Arts Centre:

- To support and promote the Arts Centre of Christchurch.
- \* To promote and encourage the use and enjoyment of the Arts Centre as an outstanding cultural centre for the benefit of the
  - people of Christchurch, New Zealand and internationally.
- \* To support and assist with programmes, activities and fundraising for the benefit of the Arts Centre in consultation with

## the Arts Centre Board and Management.

**Executive Committee:** 

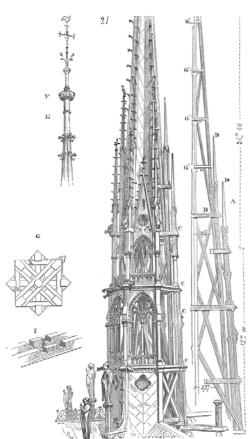
Ron Barrow (Co-opted for Tours), Danny Cai (Treasurer), Ronnie Davey, Annie Edmond (Co-opted for Tours), Tim Hogan, Lynne Lochhead (Secretary), Lorraine Logan QSM, Peter Morrison MNZM, Faye Parkhill, David Thornley, Nathan Wallis and Graeme Wallis MNZM (Chair).

### **Contact Details**

Our website can be viewed at: http://friendsoftheartscentreofchristchurch.weebly.com/ (The *Friends of the Arts Centre of Christchurch* is now a registered charity. (No. CC51240))

For further information or if you can assist us in any way, please contact the Friends at email: christchurchartscentrefriends@gmail.com

# The Pleasures of the Flêche



The Friends of the Arts Centre's support for the reconstruction of the flêche on Old Boys High School has helped to restore an important feature of the building designed by W. B. Armson in 1879. The term flêche comes from the French word for arrow, and reflects the sharp, upward- pointing form of this architectural element. Gothic Revival architects were particularly fond of this visually striking motif and it comes as no surprise that Benjamin Mountfort incorporated a flêche in his design for the east facade of the Canterbury Museum in 1976. The Museum's flêche was positioned on the roofline to the north of the main tower emphasising the building's position on the axis of Worcester Street as well as enhancing its relationship with Christ Church Cathedral at the eastern end of this important central city vista. The flêche on Armson's Boys High School thus provided a secondary accent in this sequence of vertical elements across the city's skyline. While Armson's flêche has now been recreated, that on the Canterbury Museum, which was dismantled because of its deteriorated condition in the 1950s, remains as only a memory. It is to be hoped that the example set by the Arts Centre will prompt the Museum to rebuild its flêche in due course.

Christchurch was not the only city where Gothic Revival flêches were sprouting upwards. In Paris, the French Gothic Revivalist, Viollet le Duc, assumed sole responsibility for the restoration of

Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris in 1857. One of the principal features that Viollet reconstructed was the fleche that marks the intersection of the nave, choir and transepts at roof level. The medieval flêche had survived until the eighteenth century but had been dismantled because it threatened to collapse through the roof of the cathedral. Viollet's reconstruction rises to a height of 93 metres and is one of the dominant features of Paris's most famous medieval church. Few visitors to Paris will realise that the flêche of Notre Dame is only slightly older than those of the original flêches of the Canterbury Museum and Old Boys High School. Viollet le Duc's reconstruction of the flêche of Notre Dame provides a worth precedent for the reconstructed flêche on Old Boys High.

If we think of the Victorian era as one of prudery and repression we should nevertheless remember that our Victorian forefathers were not immune to the pleasures of the flêche.

Ian Lochhead





These two photographs are from the Art History & Theory Visual Resources Collection, University of Canterbury.

# Rembrandt Remastered

A showcase of 57 stunning life-size reproductions of Rembrandt's paintings which have been digitally remastered to their original condition.

Date: Wed 5 September - Wed 3 October

Admission: Adults \$10, Under 13s \$5

Time: 10am – 5pm, Open 7 Days On Fridays the exhibition will be open until 9:00pm

For more information and ticket purchasing please visit:

artscentre.org.nz/ events/rembrandtremastered/

remastered/

## **University of Canterbury Concerts**

## SEPTEMBER 23

riends

DEC 201

**Musical Guerrilla Games.** Featuring Monteverdi's Madrigals of Love & War, University of Canterbury's Gamelan Ensemble and John Zorn's Cobra. A variety of musical responses to life's big issues featuring stunning dynamics and a huge range of different instruments!

### Friday Lunchtime Concerts during term

artscentre.org.nz

BRANDT

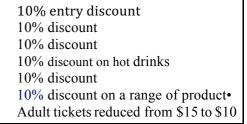
This popular series is back – a great opportunity to hear School of Music staff and students perform repertoire that includes jazz, classical, musical theatre, pop and more.

Why not arrive early and grab something to eat from the Arts Centre's many artisan food outlets.

## **Membership Cards**

You are reminded to make use of your membership card. The "Friends of the Arts Centre Membership Card" offers members a growing number of discounts on products and services in and about the Arts Centre. Any discounts will be advertised in our Quarterly Newsletter and on our website

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Membership	•	Rutherford's Den
	•	Zen Sushi and Dumplings
	•	Curator's Deli
	•	Bunsen Café
	•	Soul Jewellery
	•	Fudge Cottage
8	•	<b>Concerts for Christchurch</b>









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The Friends of the Arts Centre of Christchurch is a registered charity. (No. CC51240)					