

# HandShake



**Pah Homestead  
Auckland**

**15 December 2015  
to 14 February 2016**





## History of HandShake2

The participants' first event together was a Jewelcamp weekend in April 2014. This weekend allowed mentees to get to know each other and to see each other as another resource to be developed and drawn on throughout the program.

The first HandShake2 exhibition was held at the public gallery, Toi Pōneke in Wellington (November 2014). The size of the space offered the handshakers a great opportunity to explore new installation options with their work.

The second Jewelcamp and Masterclass was held in February 2015 and was coordinated and led by Benjamin Lignel who supported the mentees with developing ideas, extracting the difference between conceptual intent and material outcome, processes for the production of products versus projects and questioning assumptions about the format of exhibiting art objects.

The third HS2 exhibition was a stand out show in Sydney at Stanley Street Gallery during the Sydney JMGA Conference "Edges Borders Gaps" (10-12th July 2015).

The fourth HS2 exhibition in September 2015 took place at AVID – a well established, high calibre Wellington gallery, stocking craft and art objects. This exhibition offered the gallery goes the opportunity to see the mentors exhibiting their own work alongside that of their mentees.

**The HANDSHAKE2 project is a 2 year progressive mentoring programme for selected contemporary jewellery artists. It offers several national and international exhibitions, professional development and the opportunity to expand and grow each maker's practice.**

This group of jewellery artists will showcase exciting new work at Pah Homestead. It will be their fifth and final exhibition and represents the culmination of the two year intensive making programme. Each artist has recorded their development and progress of work and ideas on a blog [handshake2.com](http://handshake2.com). It's a fascinating read for other makers as well as those who want to learn more about jewellery.

In the four years since its conception, the HANDSHAKE programme has built a large reputation for excellence and inclusion has been sought by well-known and emerging jewellers from all over New Zealand. The participants are selected through an open call out and the selection panel consisted of internationally renowned experts from diverse art practices.

"It is a fine-tuning process and we have to ask if a mentorship would further the artist's practice, whether they have the drive to take risks and experiment, and to become a mentee, but also if the chosen mentor has the potential to progress their candidate. This project relies on the developing relationship and the concentrated focus of each mentee in tandem with the generosity and knowledge of the participating mentors."

The innovative programme is based on the old apprentice system but in reverse, where the mentor works for the mentee with digital media as the vehicle for communication. The mentee has regular feedback sessions with their chosen hero-artist through a virtual workshop window using Skype, blogs, and emails as well as the old-fashioned post to connect. Some also travel overseas to meet their mentors face to face.

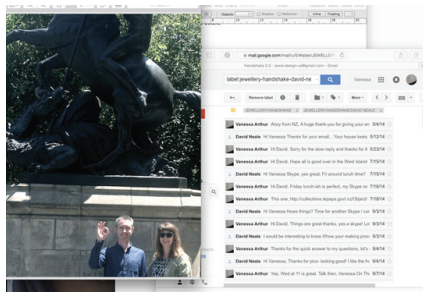
In 2014 a fresh group of New Zealand contemporary jewellers began with their chosen hero in the second iteration of the Handshake (HS) mentoring and exhibition program – Handshake 2.

These 11 Handshake artists are: Amelia Pascoe, Karren Dale, Kathryn Yeats, Kelly McDonald, Lisa Higgins, Raewyn Walsh, Renee Bevan, Sarah Walker-Holt, Tineke Jansen, Julia Middleton, Vanessa Arthur and are accordingly mentored by Ruudt Peters (NL), Gemma Draper (Spain), Ben Pearce (NZ), Kirsten Haydon (Au), Cal Lane (Ca), Henriette Schuster (Germany), Harrell Fletcher (US), Helen Britton (Germany), Ela Bauer (NL), Terhi Tolvanen (Finland), David Neale (Au).

## Vanessa Arthur

– mentored by David Neale

An excavation of the everyday  
and the un-monumental.



Collection of trays, 2015

Concrete, copper, aluminium, 925 silver, fine silver, thermo set paint

## Renee Bevan – mentored by Harrell Fletcher



## Kathryn Yeats – mentored by Ben Pearce

Interior, paused, plush, window,  
observed, waiting, moment.



*Plush*, 2015, brooch  
Matai, paint, sterling silver, graphite, shellac



Top right: *Home*, 2015, pendant  
Matai, sterling silver, brass, ink, shellac, hemp cord



At left: *Absent Presence*, 2014  
*The Rubber Band Project*, 2015  
*Premonition #1*, 2014

"I want to make work that is alive".



**Karren Dale** – mentored by  
Gemma Draper

The development of form and  
composition is driven by the  
continual exploration of materiality  
and the subtle colour combination  
thereof.

*Untitled*, 2015, object  
Copper, found materials, silver 925

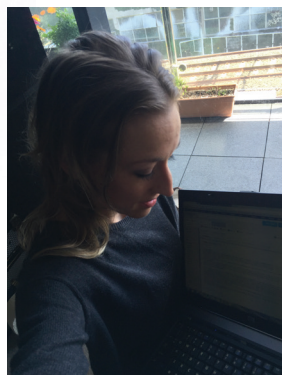


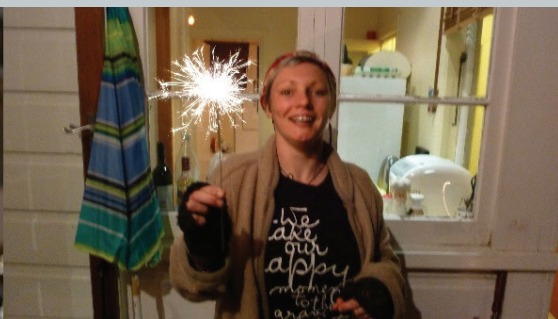
**Lisa Higgins** – mentored by Cal Lane



*One of Seven (rectangle)*, 2015  
Cinefoil

United by the fragments of our past.





## Sarah Walker-Holt

– mentored by Helen Britten

How can form equate to material  
or material equate to form?



From: Helen Britton  
Subject: Skype session?  
To: Me <swalkerholt@tra.co.nz>  
Dear Sarah,  
Hope all is well with you.  
Let me know if you are ready for a skype session - if not  
I return from Japan in a few weeks.  
I have a package of stuff I am working on for you and will  
look forward to your news  
Kind regards  
Helen  
Helen Britton



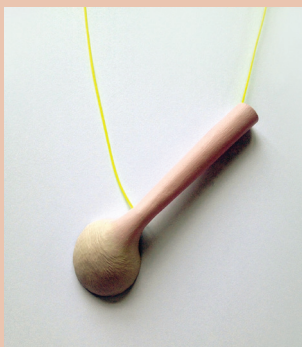
*Untitled [1], 2015, necklace*  
Kauri, Brass, laminate, paint

## Raewyn Walsh – mentored by Henriette Schuster

I work intuitively, hammering on metal until a form emerges. I look for that moment when the inanimate becomes animate.



*Golden poo*, 2015, brooch  
Fine silver, autopaint



*Flesh Device*, 2015, pendant  
Copper, paint, cord



Henriette

Raewyn



## Kelly McDonald

– mentored by Kirsten Hayden

*To grok the Holey dollar and dump*, 2015  
Installation  
Steel, 24t gold, sterling silver, ceramic, brass,  
rubber, greywacke

Kelly focuses her making around the exploration of materials and their previous human interventions, often as a counterpoint to mass production, built in obsolescence and 3-D printers.





**Amelia Pascoe** – mentored By Ruudt Peters

*"Don't make beautiful things" he says.  
"Be less rational" he says. "Embrace chaos"  
he says. Okay.*



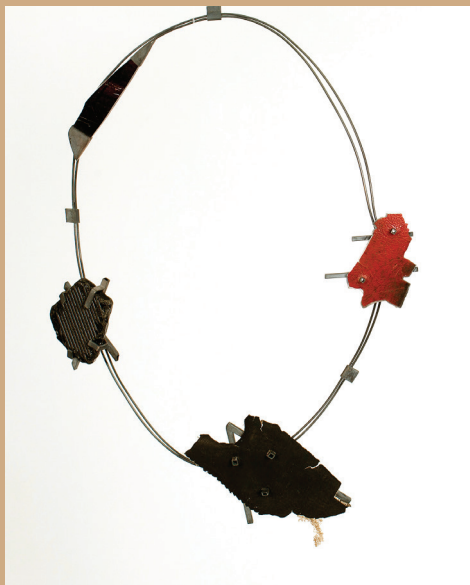
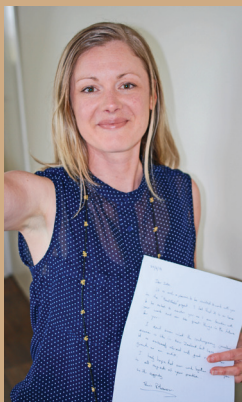
Tread softly, 2015, brooch  
Inner soles from discarded ballet shoes,  
sterling silver, brass



## Julia Middleton

– mentored by Terhi Tolvanen

*"Gravity warning....  
space junk reminder"*



'X A H', 2015, neckpiece

Oxidised sterling silver, vinyl, glass, iron powder, enamel paint

## Tineke Jansen

– mentored by Ela Bauer

*'Maybe I'll be the one to make you  
forget all about your ambition, and  
you'll become truly a woman.'*

– Margaret Mayo, *Trapped*.



*Dark Desiring* (Pin Cushion), 2015, bracelet  
From the series *Pillow Talk*



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For more information: <http://handshake2.com>  
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