

Creative Technologies

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'Whitireia felt like a real community, I knew it was the right place for me.'

Lisale



Design



School Teacher

Lisale studied design at Whitireia and is currently working as a full-time teacher at Porirua College.

A former professional football player in the UK during his OE, Lisale came back to New Zealand to study and create a portfolio that would get him into Weta Digital. He knew the best place to learn skills like storyboarding would be Whitireia.

Lisale started the design programme and met his tutor, Brenda, during his third year at Whitireia. Brenda was just coming out of the industry and wanted to get back into teaching so she brought all of her industry experience to her students. At this point, Lisale didn't have the motivation to finish the programme because of his family and work commitments, but Brenda reignited his enthusiasm and passion for design, which is why he ended up signing on for the Graduate Diploma.

After Lisale graduated, Brenda encouraged him to look into a teaching career instead of film and entertainment. Brenda told him that New Zealand needed more Polynesian male teachers, and she saw something in Lisale that she knew would make him an excellent teacher. Lisale trusted Brenda completely, and knew she wouldn't steer him wrong,

so he went back to school to study teaching.

As a teacher, he's able to teach his design skills to his students and bring traditional arts values into the digital space. Seeing his students achieve humbles him on a daily basis – they are the best part of his day because he's helping change the narrative of the most at-risk youth in New Zealand, and he couldn't be more proud of that. As for that Weta dream, he's still got it and believes that someday he'll end up there, with his name in the credits of a blockbuster film.

To read Lisale's full story, follow the QR code below.



Senior tutors at Whitireia and WelTec exhibit Te Ao Māori artworks at Te Auaha to share traditional kōrero

Senior creative tutors at Whitireia and WelTec, Gareth McGhie and Darren Ward, have collaborated to exhibit carved artworks at the exhibition space at Te Auaha on Dixon Street in Central Wellington.

The exhibition, Ngā waiata o a tātou taonga, has been three years in the making and was due to show earlier in the year but was postponed due to COVID settings.

Gareth's works examine Te pakanga o ngā manu (The battle of the birds), a Māori legend that described a mighty battle that once took place inside the forest when the sea birds came to steal the fish and eels from forest lakes. Hearing of the fierce invaders, all the land birds gather forces and challenge the invaders. Gareth's pieces are rendered in wheua (bone), rakau (wood), and niho paraoa (whale teeth) and utilize both traditional and contemporary forms and pattern work. Further information on Te pakanga o ngā manu is below.

Darren Ward's work focuses on taonga puoro (musical instruments) carved in both wheua (bone) and rakau (wood) with references to Tane Mahuta (God of the forest).


Gareth has taught across the suite of Creative Technologies programmes at Whitireia and WelTec since 2010. His art practice centres on contemporary Māori carving and adornment. The Kaupapa of this work is settled firmly within the concepts of Te Ao Māori and Whakapapa in particular. His work is exhibited regularly both in NZ and internationally.


Darren's research expertise is in Māori art and design and 3D methodologies and processes. He utilizes his knowledge of engineering to apply hard materials and processes along with emerging technologies into his teaching and creative practice.


Ngā waiata o a tātou taonga runs to 28 November 2022 at Te Auaha Gallery, 65 Dixon Street, Wellington.


"This exhibition is an opportunity to create works that support the continuation of significant Māori narratives in a contemporary sense," says Gareth. "We invite our audiences to learn and reshare the stories we are describing through the artworks."

Graduate Diploma in Creativity (Digital Media)

 Level 7

 1 year, full-time

 \$7,912 (indicative for 2024 intake)

 \$25,000* (indicative for 2024 intake)

Take your creative skills one step further by engaging in independent, cultural and collaborative projects. Enhance your portfolio and skills for the creative workplace or further and higher education. Learn from industry experts alongside like-minded individuals.

What you will learn

The aim of this programme is to build your expertise in the creative technology discipline, developing your creativity and innovation, critical thinking and problem solving, collaboration and communication, for a career in creative technology occupations.

Graduates will be able to:

- Demonstrate advanced technical proficiency, artistry and understanding of creative technologies.
- Use research and problem-solving skills, critical thinking and imagination when creating and developing innovative ideas, products, processes or presentations.
- Demonstrate awareness of social and cultural diversity and tikanga Māori, and respond appropriately in their creative practice.
- Apply collaborative, entrepreneurial skills to contribute to a creative development project, within the discipline or in a multi-disciplinary team.
- Demonstrate responsible, professional, ethical and sustainable business practice in community and/or commercial environments.

More detail about this qualification

Trimester one (or 2 for mid-year entry) courses

The following courses are part of the Level 7, PR5013 (Whitireia) / HV4710 (WelTec) Graduate Diploma

CR7004 Major Projects (compulsory), 60 credits, 34 weeks

CR7002 Contexts and Practice (compulsory), 15 credits, 17 weeks

Applied Technologies

Trimester two (or 1 for mid-year entry) courses

The following courses are part of the Level 7, PR5013 (Whitireia) / HV4710 (WelTec) Graduate Diploma

CR7004 Major Projects begins/continues (compulsory), 60 credits, 17 weeks

CR7001 Creative Enterprise (compulsory), 15 credits, 17 weeks

DM7010 Image Making 5, 15 credits, 17 weeks

Or, choose an elective, 15 credits, 17 weeks

Career options

Opportunities within the creative industries include employment in public organisations, private companies, creative enterprises, portfolio careers, self-employment, roles in funding agencies, teaching and private tutoring (further training required for school teaching).

Entry requirements

Bachelor degree in a creative discipline OR Ability to demonstrate equivalent practical experience, professional or educational experience appropriate to the Graduate Diploma's major discipline.

If a prior degree was in a different creative discipline from the major offered in the Graduate Diploma, evidence of ability based on portfolio and/or interview is required.

Portfolio evidence and/or interview is also required to demonstrate equivalent practical experience, professional or educational experience.

International

IELTS 6.0 with no band score lower than 5.5 (or equivalent) and academic requirements.

Find your country's [equivalent academic entry](#)

Disclaimer: The information contained in this document is correct at the time of print. Whitireia and WelTec | Te Pūkenga reserves the right to cancel or postpone any of the programmes, and shall not be liable for any claim other than the proportion of programme fees that the cancelled portion bears. Some programmes may be dependent upon formal approval from NZQA (New Zealand Qualifications Authority), TEC (Tertiary Education Commission) funding allocation, and the number of enrolments. As part of the NZQA targeted review of all Level 1-6 New Zealand qualifications, there may still be changes to some programmes starting in 2024. Fees, programmes, entry and selection criteria, and dates, are subject to change. Please check the relevant programme pages at whitireiaweltec.ac.nz for up-to-date information and full entry regulations before applying to enrol. Information regarding English language requirements is available on each course page at whitireiaweltec.ac.nz.

[requirements here](#)

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