

Telling climate change stories through the arts

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James Renwick
Victoria University of Wellington

Sarah Meads & Carla van Zon
Track Zero Trust

“What is
possible
in art
becomes
thinkable
in life”

Brian Eno

“

Art, by its nature, is political, social and spiritual because it speaks about human values, emotions and thoughts that are deeply held – in fact it speaks about the essence of life. And right now, that life is threatened by the climate crisis. Artistic expression can contribute to knowledge and innovation, make science more accessible and reconnect us with nature. The arts can successfully challenge incumbent values and ideas and be a catalyst for change - helping us to shape a future we all want!”

Carla van Zon ONZM
Former Artistic Director for both the
New Zealand Festival and Auckland Arts Festival
and Track Zero Board Trustee

Arts + Climate
Innovation Roadshow

Art / Climate?

Arts + Climate Innovation, is a series of presentations and discussions about climate change and how the arts can be a powerful change agent to inspire climate action.

We worked with arts practitioners (musicians, dancers, painters, sculptors,...) to engage the public in conversation at venues all over New Zealand – Aotearoa.

Different communities had different concerns and forms of expression. A common theme is the *local*, what does global change mean for my family, my neighbourhood? And the importance of tangata whenua, *indigenous knowledge* and cultures.

The public are receptive to science put in plain language. Artistic expression is a powerful way to encourage conversations and inspire change.

Current Project:

What if
climate
change
was
purple?

Track Zero aims to inspire New Zealanders working with the power of the arts, to create a resilient, carbon neutral society that's fair for all of us.

Art makes us *feel*, connecting on an emotional level, in ways that direct communication of science does not. Around 80% of New Zealanders engage in some way with the arts, a much larger audience than those who take an active interest in science.

Quantification of outputs:

785

people participated in 11 Roadshow events. 7 out of 11 events booked out (free registration via Eventbrite)

5/40

5 expert scientists and 40 local prominent artists

17

channels of media coverage

Manawatu Standard
<http://bit.ly/2ms4tz>
Otago Daily Times
<http://bit.ly/2kx73n4>

9628

views of five short event videos recorded

Nelson event
<http://bit.ly/2k3LCax>
Whangarei event
<http://bit.ly/2mtXas4>



117,420

combined Facebook reach

Creating Resources

Two climate science education resources. Live presentations by Prof. James Renwick 'Climate Change Science 101' and by Prof. Tim Naish, 'Sea Level Rise and Climate Change Science 101'. 617 views and used in a polytechnic design course.

Resource videos
<http://bit.ly/2m6Fmmq>

Two art and climate science education videos. Live presentations by Artist, Nic Moon, and Social Scientist Dr Charlotte Sunde from the Cawthron Institute.

Resource videos
<http://bit.ly/2m6Fmmq>



New collaborations between artists and scientists to co-create climate change art works that inspire action. Initial workshop November 2019, collaborative work sponsored through 2020.



www.trackzero.nz
email info@trackzero.nz



James Renwick
email james.renwick@vuw.ac.nz



@trackzeronz