

# TWO LOCAL ARTISTS

## BRING INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE AND INFLUENCE

*Peter Augustin and his partner Peter Felix Muller settled in Whitianga in May 2021. Prior to that they had lived on the Kapiti Coast and developed a one-hectare property at Peka Peka over a thirteen-year period. "We were looking for a downsize, a place in the sun, easy access to shops and our love of the beaches. We knew about the Mercury Bay Art Escape, and that Coromandel had a lot of amazingly creative people tucked away in many locations, so we thought we could add to the creative and cultural input of the Coromandel and Whitianga with a flare of a European and international touch. Whitianga with lovely people, community and the many national and international visitors made this village a great location. Art in our community establishes a shared identity and sense of belonging among diverse groups".*



Peter Augustin and Peter Felix Muller

### PETER AUGUSTIN

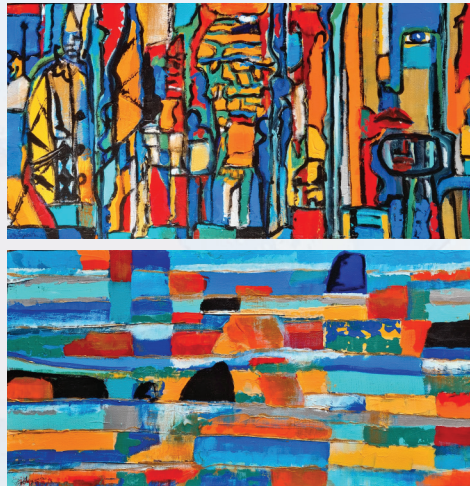
Peter Augustin encourages people to participate by interaction with arts people about their creativity and to benefit from their knowledge and passion.

"A lot of my inspiration comes from music, including historical portrayals in opera. My colours reflect the music I listen to and hopefully stimulate viewers imagination and trigger some emotion."

Peter's other influences include nature and the sea.

Prior to coming to New Zealand in 2004, Peter Augustin lived most of his life in Switzerland, where he painted and organized or participated in exhibitions. Peter's art was well known in Zurich, represented by galleries and involved in the local art expo. He has exhibited and was awarded in many parts of Europe including Switzerland, Italy, Slovenia, Austria, Holland and Russia.

Over the thirteen years living on the Kapiti Coast, Peter was part of the Kapiti Coast Arts



Trail, and his studio and property showcased several other artists. Peter Augustin is now part of the Mercury Bay Art Escape, held over two weekends in early March. Since moving to Whitianga, he has joined other art groups, Xpress Artists a printmaking group, and joined art societies in Whitianga, Thames and



Waikato. Supporting art groups is important to him to share ideas, knowledge and support other artists.

Peter paints and sells his art at his home-based Studio/Gallery in Whitianga. He paints most days if not in the garden, so visitors are always welcome.

### PETER FELIX MULLER

Peter Felix Muller is a New Zealander, born to Swiss parents who settled in Nelson in the early 1950's. In the mid 70's he worked in a silversmithing workshop run by a former art teacher, Ray Mitchell. Later he attended a Summer School run by Nelson's famous Silversmiths, Jens Hansen and Gavin Hitchings. "I was torn between making jewellery or working in photography".

Peter Felix moved to Wellington in 1978 to study photography and spent forty years as a partner in a large photographic and digital printing business. From 2000 the business specialized in Museum display production, a key supplier for Te Papa and others nationwide including Waitangi.

Peter Felix still takes pictures, using black



and white film, scanned and often colorized before digitally printing. His work is landscape and architectural or abstract images from these.

Since moving to Whitianga, Peter Felix has renewed his interest in jewellery making,

specifically silver rings. "It's a bit late to call it a career change".

Most of his designs are unique pieces and are designed around the stone. Up until now he has bought stones locally or internationally, but local rock, Coromandel carnelian and agate, and of course New Zealand greenstone, have inspired him to cut and polish his own for unique locally inspired designs with Scandinavian and German influences. "Creating rings is a good outlet for my creativity on a spontaneous random frequency".

Peter Felix Muller's jewellery and photography is available at Studio/Gallery Peter Augustin in Whitianga.