

## **Featured Member**

March 16, 2017



Marion Gordon-Flower, BMA, Dip. T, MAAT (Clinical) Hons, AThR is registered with the Australian and New Zealand Arts Therapy Association (ANZATA) and is an international member of the AATA. She holds a Masters of Arts in Arts Therapy (Clinical) degree from Whitecliffe College of Arts and Design in Auckland, New Zealand and has been practicing in the health field in Auckland for eight years, working with clients who have physical disabilities. She has held several leadership positions in international art therapy organizations and is committed to person-centered, client-led approaches, which are inclusive of multicultural perspectives.

Marion's AATA membership allows her "to stay up to date with new developments and current international issues relevant to art therapy." She notes that "New Zealand is a small nation of people with innovative attitudes; however, we are relatively isolated geographically. Through *Art Therapy: Journal of American Art Therapy*, I have discovered others with similar philosophies and orientations in practice, which has served to strengthen my own." As a published author and contributor, she also uses the journal to inform her practice, assist in the development of assessment processes, and enhance her professional writing.

When describing the effectiveness of art therapy, she reinforces the concept of an "Art Therapy Continuum (Hogan, S. 2009)" as particularly useful for her work with people with physical disabilities because it allows for "multiple points of entry and foci." She continues, "Through this



continuum, the boundaries between art therapy and fine art can overlap to create social dialogue and proactively promote societal changes."

"Tribute to Phoenix of Christchurch: Post Conference Response" by Marion Gordon-Flower. 2016. Terracotta clay, acrylic paints, varnish, wood, copper, glue, concrete base.

Artist Statement: "The recent ANZATA/CTAA Symposium in Christchurch 'Artful Transitions' united us in a city in recovery of vibrant creative energy and post-earthquake rawness. Upon return to my home in Auckland, I created this tributary monument."

