

## Gail Stent

**Artist Statement:** I am an underwater and fine art photographer from North Shore, Auckland. I have been photographing for many years, pursuing the “art of photography” rather than conventional image taking.

I exhibit my work in the Auckland festival of photography each year, as well as in other local exhibitions. I also enjoy entering competitions and have been successful both nationally and internationally - mainly in the artistic side of photography. I use a lot of my photographs in AudioVisuals and have won National and International awards for my AV work too.

My love for photography extends to me sharing my knowledge in the form of teaching. I teach photography at Auckland Zoo and also for New Zealand Photography tours, teaching Macro Photography as well as Lightroom and Photoshop.

You can see some of my work on Instagram **@gailstent** and **@gailstent\_photography**, or on my website: **[www.gailstentphotography.com](http://www.gailstentphotography.com)**.



GAIL STENT  
*Contemplation*

## Judy Stokes

**Bio:** Judy is a Muriwai based photographer and a founding member of the Muriwai Arts Open Studios collective. She has received awards for her Impressionistic images, her abstract images, her landscape images and her black and white images. Her images have been recognised at artshows throughout New Zealand and in International competitions. In 2014 her image "Waterman" was chosen as one of the top 11 artworks at the Christchurch Artshow, and in 2017 she won the Taranaki National Art Award with the her image "Storm Out at Sea" She has exhibited numerous time in the NZ ART show in Wellington as well as at the Nelson Art Expo. In 2017 she published her first book "Moments in Muriwai."

Judy loves to share her skills with others- she is a tutor with NZPhotography tours as well as an accredited PSNZ judge. She believes art has a very worthwhile place in our world-and gets immense pleasure from helping other's to get joy and satisfaction from being creative.

For more of Judy's work go to [judystokesphotography.com](http://judystokesphotography.com)



JUDY STOKES  
*Putting on a brave face*

Artist Statement: My photography is essentially all about intuition rather than intellect. I work at disconnecting my thought processes and using my camera purely instinctively and very freely. I use Intentional Camera Movement for my images- capturing my emotional response to people and places rather than accurate depictions of events. This allows me to enjoy the unexpected, to find happiness in the “mistakes” and to just let creativity happen by itself. I then have the same approach when I later process my images- seeking to follow where the creative process takes me rather than lead it- this often ends in exciting creative adventures into unknown territory.

Working within the Out There Collective pushes me out of my comfort zone in a good way- This time I decided to explore my reactions to IN THE CITY and OUT THE CITY and do hope you enjoy the outcome.

## John Botton

**Bio:** I am a self taught photographer, fine art print maker and visual story teller. My passion for photography started at a young age with my first encounter of the power of photographic images in story telling through the work of Edward Steichen's "The Family of Man". I would spend hours studying the images that told a story about the diversity of our world. That was in the sixties and many things have changed, but I still return to that publication frequently. In my work I strive to make sense of the visual chaos we are immersed in.



JOHN BOTTON  
*Graves #1*

**Semiotics:** In this seemingly eclectic assembly of images, I pay homage to the work of De Saussure who first examined how we use symbols to construct and communicate complex ideas in a simplistic way. Today, we live in a chaotic world where we are bombarded by these messages on a daily basis which number in their thousands. I have chosen to isolate just a fraction of these symbols that I encounter on my daily walk to my studio, in the form of a circle. When taken out of context and juxtaposed with other similar symbols, it becomes clear that communication is

not as simple as there being a single signifier attached to a single signified. Each signifier can have multiple meanings so that beneath the surface level, we can have layer upon layer of different meanings.