



21 October 2020

Tēnā koe,

Re: Official Information Act (OIA) Request – purchases for collections

I am writing in response to your email dated 14 October 2020 in which you requested the following information:

- *How much has the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa spent on purchases for its collections over the last 12 months – and for the previous 12 months?*
- *The five most expensive items purchased by the museum for its collection over the last five years.*
- *How much is allocated for spending on adding to its collection for the next financial year.*

Spend on collection acquisition is disclosed each year in Te Papa's Annual Report. In the last two financial years the following was spent on acquisitions for the collections:

2018/19: \$2.496 million

2019/20: \$3.174 million

Te Papa receives funding through Vote: Arts Culture and Heritage to acquire items for the collections. The funding provided for each financial year is \$3 million. Regarding spend, there is a timing difference due to the specific nature of some acquisitions. Acquisition expenditure matches funding over a longer time horizon.

The allocated funding for 2020/21 is \$3 million.

The five most expensive items purchased by the museum in the last five years are:

'Portable Space' (Working Title), an installation for the Toi Art threshold gallery by Michael Parekowhai;

Four works by contemporary New Zealand artist Simon Denny from his 2015 Venice Biennale exhibition, 'Secret Power';

Waterfall in Dusky Bay with Maori canoe by William Hodges;

The Aviatrix by Rita Angus;

Marjorie Marshall by Rita Angus.

Te Papa's Annual Report is available to the public at <https://www.tepapa.govt.nz/about/what-we-do/annual-reports-and-key-documents>. The 2019/20 Annual Report is currently in production and will be published before the end of the calendar year.

If you are not satisfied with this response you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request with us please contact either Frances Lawrence or Zoë Genet, at OIA@tepapa.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'FL'.

Frances Lawrence
Senior Advisor Planning and Performance

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Zoë Genet'.

Zoë Genet
Principal Legal Counsel