



## **Claudelands Site History**

A heritage site in relation to both Claudelands and the Jubilee Bush (Te Papanui) which is of particular importance to Tanga te Whenua. Te Papanui (A bird snarers seat or large flat area of land) was a renowned native bird forest hunting ground.

One of few last remaining stands of Kaihikatea trees in Hamilton. Kahikatea, Miro, Tawa attracted native birds which were caught using nets and more commonly Tao — long spears used to stab birds in the tree tops. Bird hunters often fell from trees to their deaths.

Ngati Wairere and Ngati Koura became tangata te whenua in the early 1600's.

The coloured sections on the front of the Events Centre represent the native birds of the area and the long poles on diagonals the Tao or spears.

The sculptural heartbeat becomes a spiritual connection between those early peoples and their lives on this site and todays communities who continue to use the park and the events centre.

## Oh Seung Yul — Multimedia Visual Artist

Born in Korea.

Represented by Starkwhite in Auckland In 2004 he won The New Zealand Painting and Printmaking Award here in Hamilton for his painting It's ultra moisture and protein rich formulation smoothes.

Judge Anna Bibby said;

"It's comic-book doodle style is certainly offhand – you might even call it punk – but it has attitude. When I saw the work I thought here's someone to watch." First public artwork 2010 – Globglob – 9 eggshapes installed in Teed St, Newmarket commissioned by the Newmarket Business Association.

Has exhibited at Te Papa, Melbourne Art Fair. Second recipient of Harriet Friedlander Residency. Supported by the Arts Foundation, the Harriet Friedlander Residency sends an artist to New York for as long as \$80,000 will last them. Seung Yul took up the residency in August 2011.

## Artist statement for Te Pumanawa o te Whenua ~ Beat Connection

The form of this work is taken from a heart beat graph. The idea is to present a visualization from our inner body — from the heart. It comes from my thinking about the purpose of the Claudelands Centre and the activities of sports, concert, convention etc that will take place there — the excitement and emotions that are experienced with our heart and body. It may also describe the life of the site and what has gone before, together with the current heartbeat of the building. In this way I see the building as its own living identity that interacts with those who use the facilities and visit. In this same way the sculpture is intended to reach out to visitors as it will sit-able, slide-able — visually inviting people to connect with it. Oh Seung Yul