

# Vivid abstracts, a convincing Scrooge and adventures in colourful Samoa

*The technique learned without a purpose is a formula which when used, knocks the life out of any ideas to which it is applied.*  
**Robert Henri**

## Abstract Mixed Media Paintings by Shannon Gleeson, Paihia Library

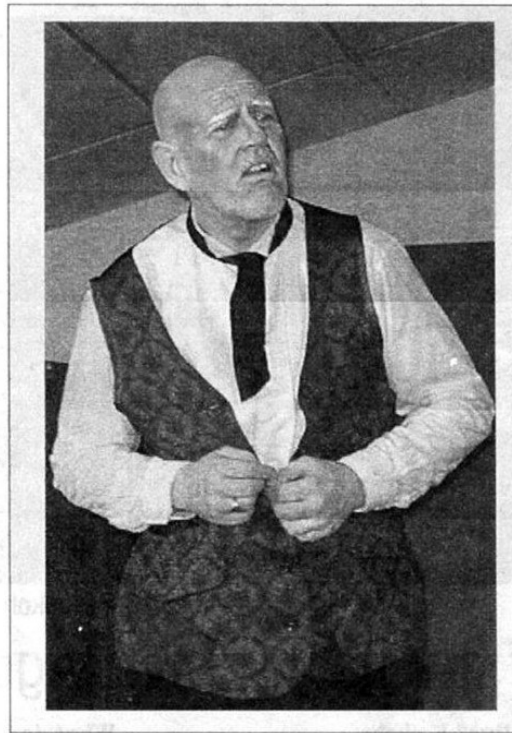
Shannon has produced a series of vivid abstracts with effective use of an innovative texture technique but is in danger of becoming a prisoner through overuse.

Her bold colour is powerful and in some cases a bit overwhelming, especially the large areas of vibrant red. I did prefer the more subdued colour palette of Plus Five, a diptych, more refined and easier on the eye.

In contrast were a series of works titled Cerebellum. These paintings showed a far more intellectual approach, with good colour, shape and line co-ordination, aptly interpreting the brain's ability to regulate complex voluntary movement.

## A Christmas Carol by the Kerikeri Players at the Kerikeri Club, Kerikeri

A polished performance by Kerikeri Players with Mike Adams as one of the best



A polished performance by Kerikeri Players with Mike Adams ( above) as one of the best Scrooges I've seen.

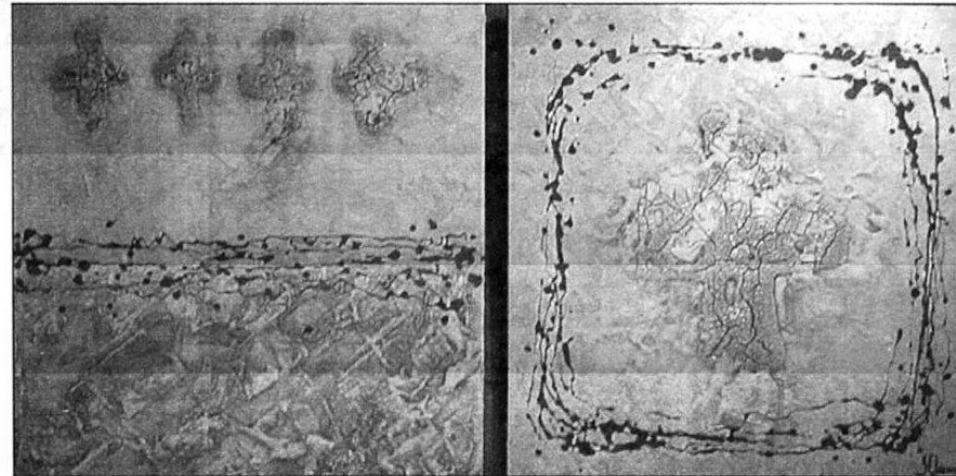
Scrooges I've seen.

All the characters were convincing in their roles. The scene I found most entertaining (as did the rest of the audience) was the flogging off of the 'deceased'

some of the characters did not need a costume to look the part! Sound effects were used to good effect in order to create the right ambience and great use of minimal stage props.

## About the Arts

with Mike Nettmann



Plus Five, a diptych by Shannon Gleeson.

Scrooge's clothing and bed linen, well acted by Josh Kemp, Debbie Myers, Shirley Ayers and Colin Brown.

Praise to wardrobe for the 'Dickensian' costumes, although

Thanks to the quick prompting from narrator Katie Montgomerie, one scene could have become very embarrassing when one of the actors forgot his lines. This happens in most live shows and is seemingly inevitable.

Congratulations to director Russell Harris, you can hold your head up high!

To the Kerikeri Club: No air-conditioning, not even a fan!

The heat during this performance was almost unbearable and very uncomfortable!

## Samoa by Sophie Garland at Kina Kitchen, Kerikeri

Sophie is an Elam graduate and famous in the Bay of Islands for her Indian Dream Machine exhibited at Puketona Junction and lit at night during December 1997. This is Sophie's first exhibition in Kerikeri with works portraying images of people, flora and fauna she discovered during her recent adventures in Samoa, and some of the waves she encountered.

To all my readers, I wish you a very happy, rewarding 2006.