

Napier Girls' High School

Student art project 2009 - 125 year School Reunion

Project outline

Linda Bruce – project co-ordinator and designer

The student art project to celebrate the 125 year School Reunion was to make, glaze, glue and grout ceramic tiles over clusters of concrete forms to be grouped around the central school courtyard - these forms used for students to sit on, lie on, and lean against during break periods in the school day.

The intention is for these forms to soften the rigid angular architecture of much of the school, reflect contemporary society, and express the bright, bubbly, infectious liveliness of the young women who pass through the school.

Readymade concrete forms were sourced, each of these forms altered in some way to individualise the form and complement the selected tile design.

The artwork of New Zealand women artists was chosen for development of the design of the surface tiles. Rosalie Gascoigne's works *Birdsong* and *All that Jazz* were used for the first two forms. Emily Karaka's work *Ka Awatea* was used for the bridge form as its' bright imagery and rainbow message of hope fitted with the school's second term Women's Watch' project.