

Putiputi, the flower in contemporary New Zealand art

Curated national exhibition

Hastings City Art Gallery

July-September 2010

Linda Bruce

Blossom Queens I-V

My memory of Blossom Parades in Hastings in the 1960's is of tiara wearing Blossom Queens wearing long white gloves, waving to the crowds gathered to watch the passing procession of floats and fantasy.

I have had a collection of glove stretchers for years, gathered from junk shops waiting for the right project to come along to use them for a body of work. The *Putiputi, the flower in contemporary New Zealand art* exhibition is the perfect fit, the glove stretchers a base for tiaras of glove waving, stamen adorned blooms.