



chrysalis seed trust



*Station 13 - Jesus Dies, Arthur Amon (self portrait), terracotta, 640 x 900 x 200mm. Mark Pierson installation (see pg. 4).*

## Art and Lucre

If artists want their work seen there are plenty of opportunities, but when it comes to making a profit it's never been harder. Compared with ten years ago, there are more galleries, exhibitions, information and support groups for visual artists, than ever before. Competition for funding is fierce, says Kate Spencer, co-director of Fuse, a service for artists and professionals seeking advice and support to combine art and business.

There are, however, openings for the business-minded artist and, in terms of financial support, the **enterprise allowance** and **artists' wage** through Winz are the most significant. The enterprise allowance helps eligible unemployed job seekers wanting to start their own business. It is an allowance to help an artist with his/her cash flow for up to a year while working to get their business off the ground. It is a start up allowance, not a loan. To get the allowance, you need to have been enrolled with Winz for at least six months. Winz staff determine the exact amount with you, depending on how long you've been enrolled and the cash flow needs of your business. You will be required to submit a business plan. The artists' wage is for those who are on the unemployment benefit and is the same amount as a travel wage, which is around \$84 a month.

Kate Spencer says **Creative NZ** does have funding for emerging artists, however the criteria is strict. The project has to be of national benefit - one which will make a difference to New Zealand's art scene. **Pub charities** and **The Community Trust** are unlikely to give funding directly to individuals, preferring projects for groups such as exhibitions and courses. **The Creative Communities Scheme** is a Creative New Zealand fund for community-based projects and is administered by local authorities (city or district councils). Its purpose is to provide support for the arts. Most grants range from \$500 to \$5000. Groups and individuals can apply but the project must benefit the community in some way.

**Creation** is a new Christchurch support network specifically for young artists. Located at 105 Worcester St, behind the Cathedral, they operate the **Metro Exhibition Space**.

For more information on available funding see the database at **Internal Affairs** in NZ House, 96 Hereford Street Christchurch. There's also a site in the Christchurch Public Library computer system called **Fundview**. Both are free.

**Harriet Jackson**

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[www.artists.co.nz/chseed](http://www.artists.co.nz/chseed)