

# Otago poetry on Krakow walls

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The poetry of Otago alumni writers is shining on Krakow city walls, as part of the UNESCO Cities of Literature Multipoetry Project. Read on to learn more about the poets, and view more images of the poetry beaming in to the heart of Krakow.

The eight alumni poets are:

- **Emma Neale**  
Emma is a former Burns Fellow at Otago. She currently teaches Creative Writing in the English Department, and her latest book of poetry *Tender Machines* has recently been published by University of Otago Press.
- **Hone Tuwhare**  
New Zealand's most distinguished Māori poet, and a former Burns Fellow at Otago. Hone Tuwhare is the people's poet. He was loved and cherished by New Zealanders from all walks of life. A picture of Hone's poem in Krakow is featured below.
- **David Eggleton**  
David is editor of pre-eminent NZ literary journal *Landfall*, published by University of Otago Press. *Landfall* is New Zealand's foremost and longest-running arts and literary journal, showcasing new fiction and poetry, as well as biographical and critical essays, and cultural commentary. He recently won the 2015 Janet Frame Literary Trust Award for Poetry. A picture of David's poem in Krakow is featured below.
- **Janet Frame**  
Janet Frame is New Zealand's most distinguished writer. Among her numerous honours, Frame is a Member of the Order of New Zealand, a Nominee for the Nobel Prize in Literature and an Honorary Foreign Member of the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters. She was among ten of New Zealand's greatest living artists named as Arts Foundation of New Zealand Icon Artists in 2003.
- **James K Baxter**  
Poet, dramatist, literary critic, social commentator, James K. Baxter was one of New Zealand's finest poets and most controversial figures. He was often at odds with a society unable to face its disturbing reflection in his work.
- **Brian Turner**  
Brian Turner is a poet, essayist, biographer and editor. As one of New Zealand's most significant writers on landscape, environmentalism and sport, Turner brings a fresh perspective to nature poetry.

- **Charles Brasch**

Charles was pre-eminent in the development of arts in New Zealand. He was a poet, patron and collector, donating his vast collection to Hocken Collections, and being one of the forces setting up the Burns Fellowship. Charles was the founding editor of *Landfall*, New Zealand's foremost and longest-running arts and literary journal.

- **Sue Wootton**

Sue Wootton was the 2008 Robert Burns fellow. She has written four books of collected poetry - *Hourglass* (2005), *Magnetic South* (2008), *By Birdlight* (2011) and *Out of Shape* (2014). All books are critically acclaimed.

Another Dunedin poet featured in Krakow is Vincent O'Sullivan. Vincent has long been recognised as one of New Zealand's significant literary figures, with extensive publications as a poet, short story writer, novelist, biographer, playwright, and editor.

Poetry is selected from the ten UNESCO Cities of Literature. They are Melbourne, Iowa City, Dublin, Reykjavik, Norwich, Krakow, Dunedin, Heidelberg, Granada and Prague.

**Check out the Dunedin City of Literature website here.**

**View Krakow City of Literature website here.**



Hone Tuwhare's *Rain*

This wistfully beautiful poem also features on the Otago campus, inside the foyer of the Richardson Building - formerly known to some of you as the Hocken Building. Next time you visit campus, have a look at this impressive wall-sized reproduction of the poem, to your right as you enter the main doors of the Richardson Building.



David Eggleton's *Birds*

*All photos are courtesy of Krakow UNESCO City of Literature and the Poemat Foundation.*