

Media Release

Art celebrated in Bus Interchange

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The second and final stage of Christchurch's new Bus Interchange that opened today is not just about buses, it also celebrates local art and culture.

The Christchurch Central Development Unit, which has led the development of the \$53 million facility, has worked with local Māori artists who have produced impressive works for both inside and outside the facility.

The artworks are based on a narrative of Ngāi Tūhaitara/Tūāhuriri migration into Te Waipounamu (South Island).

"It provides an insight into the use of constellations by travellers and the claiming of landscapes in Kā Pākihi-whakatekata-a-Waitaha (Canterbury Plains)," says Matapopore project lead Arapata Reuben.

"We have been presented with an amazing opportunity to share our histories and traditions that connect our whānau to this land. To see those stories that our Tūpuna passed down through the generations now embedded within the Interchange is truly awe-inspiring."

Christchurch Central Development Unit Director Baden Ewart says the artworks add an extra dimension to the facility for the people of Christchurch and visitors.

"I hope that as people wait for their buses, or grab a bite to eat at one of the retail outlets coming soon, they will also enjoy some of this fine work that is around and above them," Mr Ewart says.

The second stage of the Bus Interchange includes an extension of the airport-style passenger lounge, more bus bays and a secure bicycle lock-up area for cyclists.