

© Véronique Cornille 2008



**Véronique Cornille** is a leading social documentary, cultural and natural heritage photographer who celebrates the extra-ordinary in the ordinary, with emphasis on colour and light. She acknowledges her father Maurits who taught her to think outside the square, her mother Ghislaine who taught her to find beauty in simple things, her twins Stéphane and Zénobie who are true friends and artists, her ancestors from whom she inherits her Flemish heritage, and Māori whose culture she shared as a child and with whom she works closely. It is through these influences that the mana of other cultural heritages is celebrated within her work.

Her turangawaewae are farms in two countries: at Port Waikato New Zealand, "Ohutu" the site of the old family villa and a few kilometres away "Flandria" the farm of her youth; as well as the ancestral farms in Flanders Belgium, "Roode Poort" at St Joris to where her mother's family returned after it was flooded to stop the German advance during WWI, and "Kwinta" in Veurne. The limestone bluffs of "Kwinta" at Port Waikato, from which the "Flandria" block was subdivided, appear in the movie Lord of the Rings.

Véronique lives in Nelson. Her photographic books include "**Nelson Alive**" 2001 and "**The Outside Table**" 2005 (Suter Art Gallery). She is currently finishing "**The New Zealand Book**", commissioned by Glenn Schaeffer, some photos of which are previewed

- 2011 **Two photographs** chosen for exhibition in the **French Senate, Palais du Luxembourg, Paris**
- 2011 Invited speaker **Auckland Festival of Photography**
- 2011 Preview **exhibition "The New Zealand Book"** Café Affair, Nelson
- 2010 Sale of photo of **Julian Dashper** at **Webbs Fine Art Auction**, Auckland
- 2010 **Finalist New Zealand Geographic Photographer of the Year**, the large photograph **exhibited** near the **departure gate Auckland International Airport**
- 2009 **Nelson Arts Festival – speaker at Pecha Kucha**
- 2009 Sale of "**Dining Table of Mr & Mrs Tupai, Mangere 2008**" **Suter Art Gallery for Samoan Tsunami Relief Fund**
- 2009 Sale of two photos of **Hone Tuwhare** at **Webbs Fine Art Auction**, Auckland
- 2008 Photograph chosen for exhibition in the **French Senate, Palais du Luxembourg, Paris**
- 2008 Anzac Day "**Kiwis in Flanders**" Exhibition (from collection of the same name) Nelson Library
- 2007 "**Points of View**" (from **The Paris Collection**) **World of Wearable Art Museum**, Nelson
- 2006 Appointed by the **Minister of Conservation** to the **Nelson/Marlborough Conservation Board**
- 2006 & 2007 continued photographing "**The Paris Collection**"
- 2007 Photography continued in Flanders, Belgium "**Kiwis in Flanders**"
- 2006 Photography in Flanders, Belgium "**Kiwis in Flanders**"
- 2005 "**Kiwis in Flanders**" **conceived, and the brief written**. The project is photographing all 4633 graves & memorials of NZ soldiers killed in WWI Flanders, Belgium, to be made available to NZ school children, free-of-charge on line to encourage young researchers
- 2005 "**Concrete and Clay**" Exhibition, Story of Wollaston Estates Winery & Vineyard, Mahana NZ
- 2005 "**The New Zealand Book**" - photography commenced
- 2005 **Kowhaiwai** course Nelson Marlborough Institute of Technology
- 2005 Full-time **Te Reo Māori language** course NMIT
- 2004 "**mahia ngā mahi kei tamariki ana**" – (make the most of your time while you are young) 4 x 1 metre collage mural **permanent collection Broadgreen Intermediate School**, Nelson NZ
- 2003 Recipient of **PADET grant for work with 28 Māori Battalion**
- 2003 **Video History workshop @ New Zealand Film School**
- 2003 "**The New Zealand Collection**" **exhibition** National Bank, Nelson NZ
- 2003 "**In the Dog House**" **exhibition Suter Art Gallery**, Nelson NZ
- 1995 **National Finalist New Zealand Tourism Awards**
- 1995 **Winner Commerce Nelson Emerging Business Award & \$7,000 worth of prizes**
- 1980's **Marketing & Sales Management Motor Vehicle Industry (General Motors)**