McCahon House Museum & Colin McCahon's centenary August 2019 – May 2020



The situation

- The unexploited potential of McCahon House as a unique visitor experience
- The current state of the interpretive displays
- Necessary maintenance to the House and Residency
- The centenary opportunity



The research

Paris: Musee Bourdelle, Musee Zadkine, Musee Moreau, Musee Yves St Laurent

South of France: E1027, Corbusier's Cabanon, Musee Cocteau, Villa Euphrussi de Rothschild, Matisse Chapel, Maeght Foundation, Picasso Antibes

Amsterdam: Anne Frank House, Castrum Peregrini – House of Giselle, Van Gogh Museum, Rembrandt Museum

England: Kettle's Yard (Cambridge), Emery Walker House (London), Monk's House and Charleston (Lewes),

Barbara Hepworth House and Studio, Leach Pottery Studio and Tate St Ives (Cornwall).





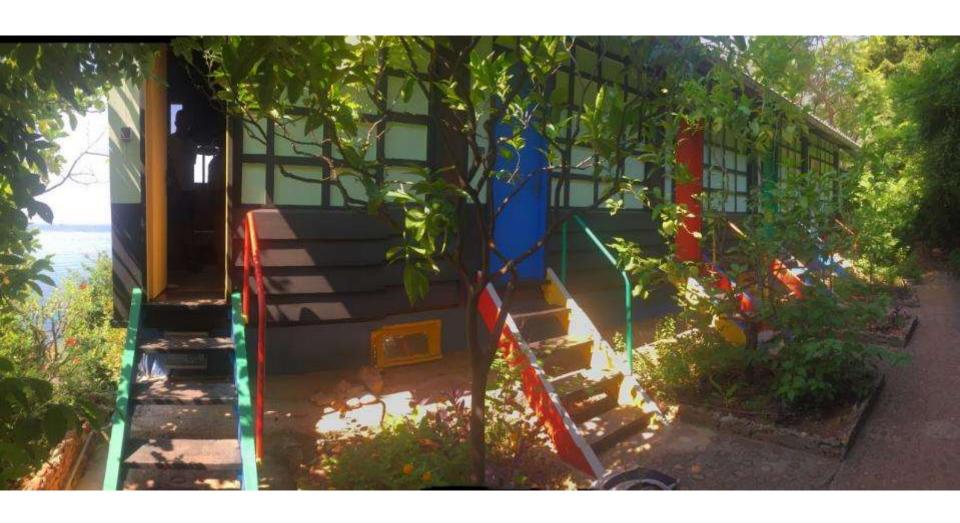




















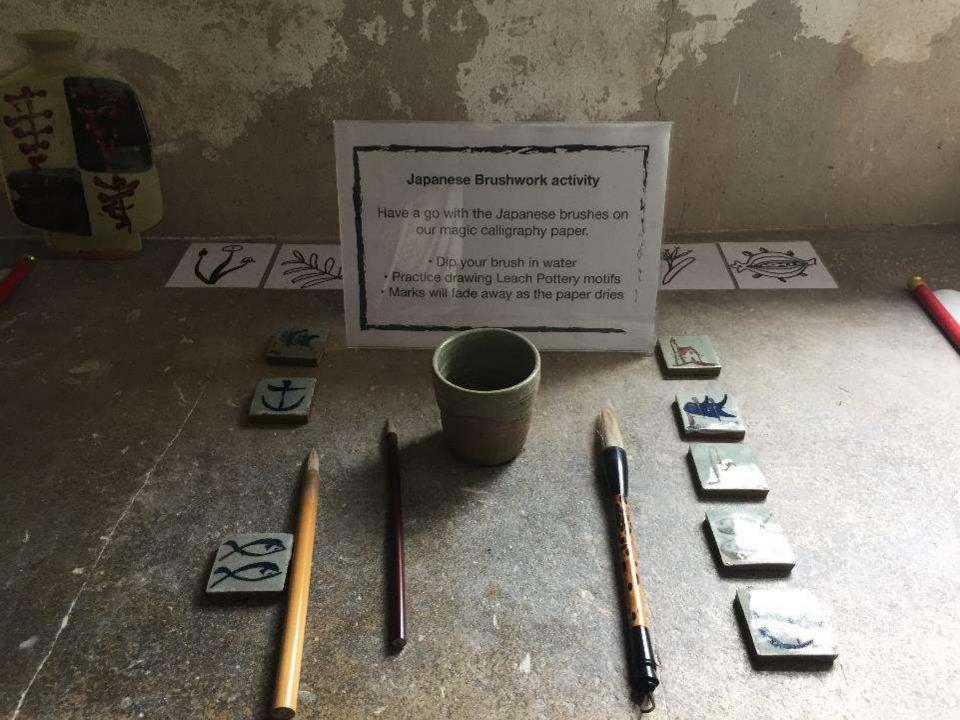


The private garden at Musse Delacroix, where visitors are invited to sit in the garden and read a book.























Insights + Learnings

- Managed visitor experiences: had to book prior, small groups and guided tour
- The power of a good guide (a storyteller)
- Feeling like the artist has momentarily stepped out (as opposed to left the building)
- People love seeing studios where the work was made
- Engaging ways of experiencing the house and the work
- Expanding the visitor experience walking tours,
 education activities for families
- The visitor experience very much in keeping with how the artist lived
- Multi-lingual



Improvements to McCahon House

- Move to an online booking system
- Formalise our guided tours. Start in the garage/studio.
- Expand the visitor experience to include walking tours of the landscape
 McCahon painted French Bay and Towards Auckland
- Include the Kauri glade at McCahon House as an important part of our story
- Create "McCahon House Family Education" experiences
- Promote McCahon House as a unique visitor experience to locals and tourists alike.
- Explore ways of making transport to McCahon House easier.
- Complete new website upgrade by August 2019
- Complete exterior and interior upgrades to House Museum and Artist's Residency by August 2019
- Complete interpretive display upgrades and launch expanded visitor experiences by August 2019.



Ask yourself?

If the artist walked back into the House Museum would he or she recognize it as theirs?

