



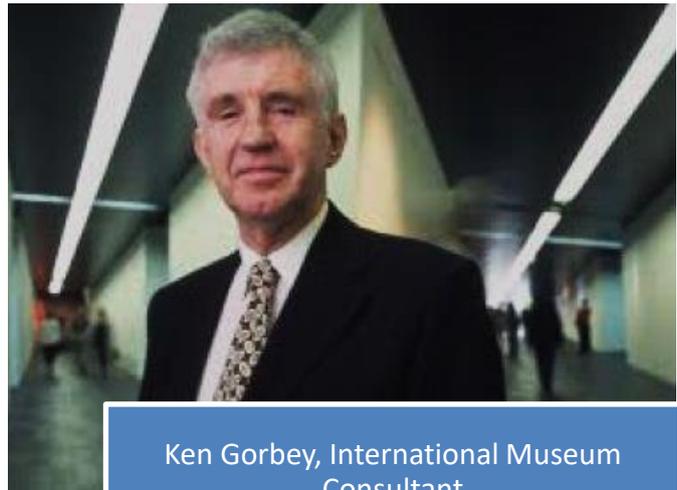
A Happy New Year to all. Our first speaker event for 2021 will surely be of interest to you.

SAVE THE DATE: WEDNESDAY, 10 FEBRUARY

Museums: are they the vanity projects of an intellectual elite?

Drawing on over a half-century of involvement in cultural institutions and tourism developments, Gorbey will talk to the accusation of noted Indian essayist Pankaj Mishra.

“Much of what Mishra says rings true – museums can be markers of cultural conservatism, seemingly worlds removed from Black Lives Matter and climate change activism,” he says. “But worldwide they are changing, for good – and evil.”



Ken Gorbey, International Museum Consultant

Gorbey will discuss these fundamental changes with examples from Te Papa, the Jewish Museum Berlin and other projects he has worked on in New Zealand, Russia and Australia. He will also suggest a future based around a new model of museum.

About the speaker: Director of the Waikato Museum from 1970 to 1983, Gorbey had many different roles in the establishment of Te Papa from 1985 to 1999. From 1999 to 2002, he was key to the opening of the Jewish Museum in Berlin.

Today his work includes performing arts centres, urban renewal, historic sites and precincts, an arboretum, and cultural tourism attractions, as well as assisting the creation of new, and the re-engineering of existing, galleries and museums. These projects range from small community-based to large multi-million dollar developments in Russia, Germany, Australia, the United States, and Mexico as well as New Zealand. A number of projects involve working with Iwi and Hapū authorities.

His memoir “Te Papa to Berlin” was published in 2020 by Otago University Press.

Date and Time: Wednesday, 10 February 2021 at 8.00 pm. Tea and coffee from 7.30 pm

Venue: The Copthorne Hotel and Resort, 246 High Street South, Solway, Masterton

All are welcome – Non-members: \$5.00 door charge

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