



# WOW arrives offering close-up look

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Three Christchurch artists have had their works chosen to be part of the World of WearableArts' (WOW) Off the Wall exhibition.

Christchurch Central resident Wendy Burton, whose 2006 creation *Blow Me* is in the exhibition's South Pacific Inspired section, said she was excited about the opening in Christchurch.

Burton has designed 14 works for the show since 1997, but she took the last two years off because of travel and the earthquakes.

*Hands Off* by Opawa artist Mark Crocker and Redcliffs artist Mary Grant Roxburgh's *Into Thin Air* are also

featured.

The exhibition, which took 18 months to plan, opened in Christchurch at the Canterbury Museum last night, displaying 30 garments chosen by WOW founder Suzie Moncrieff and Weta Workshop's Sir Richard Taylor.

"The Off the Wall exhibition is an exciting step, building on the success of the annual WOW award show," Moncrieff said.

"We wanted to take the show out to regional New Zealand and show it to people who may not normally have the opportunity to see it.

"In the two-hour awards show, you can't see [the

garments] this close."

Off the Wall will run at the museum till March 18 next year. It will tour New Zealand for two years.

WOW has been running since 1987.

This year's award show in Wellington was attended by *The Hobbit* director Sir Peter Jackson and actors Sir Stephen Fry and Orlando Bloom.

Next year, 110 of the best creations will be exhibited in Hong Kong as part of the 40th Hong Kong Arts Festival.

It will be WOW's first big international exhibition.



**Homemade:** *Blow Me*, by Christchurch's Wendy Burton and Patrick Duffy, and *Into Thin Air*, by Marie Gant Roxburgh, also of Christchurch.

Photos: FAI



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The best: Some past outstanding entries in the wearable arts awards - like *Lady of the Wood* by American David Walker - are on display at Canterbury Museum