



on their seventh wedding anniversary, only five months after Kelland returned from Mexico.

Devastated, Kelland set her butterfly photographs aside until late last year, when art collector Dame Jenny Gibbs convinced her to mount them in the foyer of the Wynyard Quarter apartment building where the two women are neighbours.

“For a long time, it was far too raw,” says Kelland. “Jenny encouraged me to release the butterflies, literally.

It was a very emotional moment.”

This theme of this year’s Auckland Festival of Photography, *Sustain/Tautiinei*, resonated deeply with Kelland, who was moved to tears by both the resilience of the monarch butterfly and a fragility that mirrors our own. “I love to immerse people in the joy of nature and all its magnificent creatures, but we also need to be so much more conscious of the devastating damage to our environment,” she says.

“For a while there, I couldn’t even look at the devastation, because I like to have hope. To me, producing these images gives people hope, because the beauty is still there.”

● *The Sacred Journey: A Flight for Life* is on at Little Rosie in Parnell from May 15-June 15, as part of the Auckland Festival of Photography. For the full programme, go to [photographyfestival.org.nz](http://photographyfestival.org.nz)

More festival exhibits: **Healthy Poison**, by Karl Mancini and Roskill, by drone photographer Petra Leary.



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