



Title: “Remembering Colin McCahon”

Short Description: Green hills of Tūmai

Photographer: Tim Heath

Where and when: Tūmai, November, 2021

Sustainability: Our painters show us who we are, where we live and what we live for. Colin McCahon (1919-1987) was one of few New Zealand painters to gain international and national acclaim. His paintings also made some New Zealander’s uncomfortable, sometimes even angry (he received hate mail), presumably because his art in some way challenged people’s perceptions of themselves and their place. Photography can be valuable for the same reason. It helps us see things afresh. And we are richer for it.

There is a Chinese saying – “The last thing to see the water is the fish” - The Ecosystems Photography team is inviting us to see our familiar land, plants and animals, and each other in a different light. In this way we can imagine a more sustainable future.

Paintings and photographs often gain a power to move us by simplification and distillation of the image. Many of Colin McCahon’s paintings featured simplified compositions of rounded hills from north Otago where he grew up. This one is at Tūmai, near the mouth of Te Hikapupu (Pleasant River) Estuary.

It was covered in forest until converted to farmland in the last quarter of the 19th century.

Photographer's notes: iPhone 6+

Exposure: 1/3200s, f/2.2, 4.15 mm, ISO 32

Digital specs: 2,448 x 2,448 (6MP)

Key words: Tim Heath, Aotearoa, New Zealand, Ecosystems Photography, Sustainability.

Price: \$100 donation. Visit www.ecosystemsp photography/sales for details & to order, or to get a quote if you want a high-quality print.

Donation: The price is made up entirely by a \$100 donation to a sustainability organisation or project of your choice, or otherwise for the *East Otago Catchment Group* <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1547310312019600>.

We recommend that the donation goes to *East Otago Catchment Group* because they work in a community-led, collaborative bottom-up way to improve land and water care. Catchment groups draw town and country people together and find practical solutions based on local knowledge and energy. The East Otago Catchment Group is a particularly appropriate choice for donations for this photograph because the landscapes being sustained are the ones that nurtured and inspired Colin McCahon.

Image Ref: TH#011 (please use this reference in all orders and correspondence).

Tim Heath

9 December 2021