



Ans Westra

A life in photography

PAUL MOON



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A WOMAN DRIVEN TO PHOTOGRAPH

The photographer Ans Westra, who died in 2023, took hundreds of thousands of images over her long career. Together, those images constitute what is arguably a photo album of Aotearoa.

Her dedication and determination sometimes came at a cost but she was focussed and driven, overcoming a difficult childhood in the Netherlands and later adult relationships to forge her own path.

Warm, engaging and sympathetic, this richly illustrated biography interrogates her remarkable, and at times controversial, practice and a life that always put photography first.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Dr Paul Moon ONZM is professor of history at Auckland University of Technology's Te Ara Poutama, the Faculty of Māori Development, where he has taught since 1993. He is the prolific author of many books, including biographies of William Hobson, Robert FitzRoy, and the Ngāpuhi rangatira Hone Heke and Hone Heke Ngapua. He is a Fellow of both the Royal Historical Society at University College London and of the Royal Society of Arts.

SALES POINTS

- The first biography of a major New Zealand cultural figure
- 84 images from across Ans Westra's career

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