



# A Millennium of Lost Birds

Over the past 1000 years New Zealand has lost some 43 species of native birds, from giant moa to tiny bush wren. The 32 birds to the left of the waterfall were lost in Maori times; those to the right since European settlement, but the painting takes no account of the widespread decline in numbers of many more species, now threatened, rare or endangered, following land clearance and drainage. Artist Ronald Cometti painted this picture as a warning against further losses in the next millennium. (See Conservation Briefs page 12).

