

NELSON ARTS FESTIVAL

30 YEARS

24 OCTOBER – 3 NOVEMBER 2024

[NELSONARTSFESTIVAL.NZ](https://nelsonartsfestival.nz)

CURATORIAL STATEMENT

The waters are swirling in 2024. Big waves are beginning to break, and we're in the impact zone.

Democracy, the environment and reality are on trial, edging on frailty. Once secure routes are blocked and cycles fraying. We retreat into our own. With more than 70 countries facing some form of election this year and over 2 billion people heading to the polls – 2024 is set to step us further into liquid.

When we are in the trough, we reach for language, for connection to and empathy with others, and for mind-opening and awe-inspiring experiences, to help us ride out.

From the depths, we stand with artists and their work at the ihu, the prow of the waka – in the best position to first see the horizon, the way to break through (or work with) the curling crises.

Nose into the wind, we seek perceived order amidst chaotic sets, moments of collectiveness in our deglobalising fleet, deep breaths to settle us into fluidity, flexibility, and curiosity in the face of crashing polarisation.

And as we crest and look back, we see 30 years of incredible artists, conversations, challenges and Festival whānau paddling with us. With artists leading in front and this force propelling us, we know we can sing/dance/make change, ideas moving like the water beneath our feet.

Many boats in one ocean, looking to many stars in one sky.

**Ko te pae tawhiti whāia kia tata,
ko te pae tata whakamaua kia tina.**

Seek out distant horizons and cherish those you attain.

2024, our 30th Nelson Arts Festival.

A Festival (and a fleet) carving a path through the cresting wave.

[Lydia] Zanetti

Te Kaihautū Artistic Director

PIKI MAI, KAKE MAI!

This year marks the 30th Nelson Arts Festival — a real milestone for the popular event and our community. I invite you to celebrate alongside the Nelson Festivals Trust and team, funders, partners and, of course, the artists from the region, across the country and beyond. Ours is the longest-running annual arts festival in Aotearoa, and Council is proud to be the core funder of this 11-day programme. I look forward to the outstanding theatre, dance, music, literature and visual arts events and hope to see many of you at the Mask Carnivale on 1 November — a fantastic way to welcome spring. Come and join us for the 2024 Festival and enjoy our city at its best.

Hon Dr Nick Smith, Mayor of Nelson | Te Koromatua o Whakatū

NGĀ MIHI, THANK YOU!

NELSON FESTIVALS TRUST BOARD:

Ali Boswijk (Chair) | **Luke Acland** | **Cynthia Greep** |
Johny O'Donnell (Te Rarawa, Te Aupōuri) | **Sarah Yarrow**

Pic Picot
Festival Patron

TEAM:

[Lydia] Zanetti (they/them/ia) **Ruth Roebuck** (she/her/ia)
Artistic Director General Manager

Annie Pokel (she/her/ia)
Head of Marketing, Community & Partnerships

Rose McGrannachan (she/her/ia)
Head of Operations

Kerry Sunderland (she/her/ia)
Pukapuka Talks Programme Manager

JR Richardson (he/him/ia) | **VenueTech**
Technical & Production Manager | Head of Sound

Antony Hodgson (he/him/ia)
Head of Projection | Deputy Technical & Production Manager

Wendy Clease (she/her/ia)
Head of Lighting

Lydia Hannah Thomas (she/her/ia)
Programme Coordinator

Natalie Gilberd (she/her/ia)
Marketing Coordinator

Maria Anderson (she/her/ia)
Audience Experience Coordinator | Access Coordinator

Emily Sanson (she/her/ia)
Tamariki & Rangatahi Programme Coordinator

Sam Cole (he/him/ia)
Mask Carnivale Project Manager

Rosie Pidd (she/her/ia)
Mask Carnivale Coordinator

A HUGE, WARM, HEARTFELT THANK YOU TO:

Our whānau and friends, supporting us through the wild festival times, past, present and future. The Nelson Arts Festival whānau including Annabel, Sophie, Charlie, Amanda, Axel, Michaela, Padma, Jacquetta, Rose, Shanine, and all our incredible volunteers — here's to the next 30 years of festival goodness!

THANK YOU to colleagues and mates at other festivals and arts organisations around Aotearoa and beyond. Martin, Stu & the Nelson City Council team; Eliane & the team at Theatre Royal; James, Kim & the NCMA team; Julie, Kyla, Will & the team at Suter Art Gallery; Lloyd, Janja & Heidi at Arts Council Nelson/Refinery ArtSpace; Keegan at Kirby Lane; Pete & Glenn at RockQuest; Tess, Olive & Ru at Brook Waimārama Sanctuary; Norma, Jenny & Steve at Victory Community Centre; Paul & the Victory Boxing team; Kymberly & Nick at Kismet; Ang & the team at Tāwhiri; Meg Williams; Marnie Karmelita; Cassandra, Adrienne, Paul and the team at Creative NZ, celebrating the beautiful spark and generous spirit that was Cathryn; John, David & the PatronBase team; Tony & the Downing team; Anna & Ramisha at MNT; Anne at Make/Shift Spaces; Tanya & the Cultural Conversations community; Debbie, Vic & Nelson Youth Council; Olivia & Nicole at NMIT; Rebecca, Rita & the NRDA team; Brent & Felicity; Donna Chapman & Jane Fisher; Bill & Mary Page; Colin Bass; Platform Interpreting New Zealand; Arts Access Aotearoa; Audio Described New Zealand; Fresh Eyes; and our furry sanity-savers Solnit, Pixie, Annie & Rosie, Jagger, Bella & other packmates.

Our committed and engaged community, and of course, all the incredible artists and their support humans sharing their mahi with us and who make this Festival what it is. We see you.

Georgia Nicholls (she/her/ia)
Producer Intern Toi Māori Aotearoa

Michelle Lafferty (she/her/ia) | Elephant Publicity
Publicist

Small but mighty team from around Aotearoa
Festival Technical Team & Crew

	WED 23 PRE-FEST	THU 24 OPENING NIGHT	FRI 25	SAT 26 LONG WEEKEND	SUN 27 LONG WEEKEND	MON 28 LONG WEEKEND
THROUGHOUT FESTIVAL	WAKA OF DREAMS: PUNANGA POHEWA – LISSY + RUDI ROBINSON-COLE WITH HOLLIE TAWHIAO Thurs 24: 5-8pm (opening) Fri, Tue-Thurs: 10am-5pm Sat-Mon: 10am-4pm Refinery Artspace (until 23 Nov – regular gallery opening hours post-festival)					
PUKAPUKA TALKS At Suter Theatre unless specified		MYTHS, MAGIC, FANTASY & TIME TRAVEL Te Noninga Kumu Motueka Public Library	MYTHS, MAGIC, FANTASY & TIME TRAVEL Elma Turner Library HOUSING FOR ALL 12.30pm (60min) OTHERHOOD: CHILDLESS, CHILDFREE AND CHILD ADJACENT 5.30pm (60min)	EVOKING THE DIASPORA 10.30am (60min) MYTHOLOGY & MYSTICAL REALISM 1pm (60min) TENACIOUS WĀHINE 3.30pm (60min)	BLOODY MINDED 10.30am (60min) FLY HERE, FLY THERE, MY BIRD 1pm (60min) ENVIRONMENTAL ADVOCATES 3.30pm (60min)	LITTLE GREEK TAVERNA LONG LUNCH 12pm (240min) The Boat Shed Cafe AFTER DARK III: SIX-LEGGED GHOST HUNT 8pm (90min) Brook Waimārama Sanctuary
GREAT OUTDOORS		TUNE UP 5pm (180min) Kirby Lane			SCULPT NATURE Judging + prize giving Brook Waimārama Sanctuary	SOUNDS OF THE SANCTUARY – NZ STRING QUARTET 12pm + 4pm (80min) Brook Waimārama Sanctuary
IN YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD		ABBY HOWELLS – LA SOUPCO 8pm (55min) The Boathouse			VICTORY POETRY SLAM II Workshop: 12.30pm (120min) Victory Community Centre Performance: 5pm (75min) Victory Boxing	
TE TAI-O-AORERE TASMAN	ESTHER SWIFT 8pm (90min + interval) Mussel Inn					
SUTER THEATRE	SLIP – REBECCA JENSEN with AVIVA ENDEAN 6.30pm (50min)	SLIP – REBECCA JENSEN with AVIVA ENDEAN 8pm (50min)				PEOPLE + WATER SERIES: TUHAYMANI'CHI PAL WANIQA 3.30pm (20min) KO AU TE AWA, KO TE AWA KO AU 4pm (86min) GAZA SURF CLUB 6:30pm (90min)
NCMA		NCMA LUNCHTIME CONCERTS: ROSEMARY GALTON + MARIA KOLEFF 12.30pm (50min)	ESTHER SWIFT 7pm (90min + interval)			
THEATRE ROYAL		BE LIKE BILLY? – RUTENE SPOONER 6.30pm (70min)	BE LIKE BILLY? – RUTENE SPOONER 6.30pm (70min)	COURTNEY DAWSON – DREAMS ARE FREE 8pm (50min)		
DEVILLE MUSIC HUB Doors 8pm Support Act 8.30pm Main Act 9.30pm		SHEPHERDS REIGN	THABANI GAPARA	RHOMBUS		
CULTURAL CONVERSATIONS		MAKE ART NOT WAR – RANA HAMIDA				
THROUGHOUT FESTIVAL Exhibitions + installations		MYTHS & LEGENDS – SAM DUCKOR-JONES Lee Woodman Studio + Nelson Airport Terminal				WHISPERS IN THE STREETS Whakatū City Centre
		SCULPT NATURE Brook Waimārama Sanctuary (opens 18 Oct – judging and prize giving on Sunday 27 Oct)				
		MANU TUTUTUTE – CHARLES + JANINE WILLIAMS Atelier Studio Gallery				
		HINEUKURANGI + STOP MAKING SENSE: SURREALIST LEGACIES IN THE CHARTWELL COLLECTION The Suter Art Gallery Te Aratoi o Whakatū				

TUE 29	WED 30	THU 31	FRI 1	SAT 2 CLOSING WEEKEND	SUN 3 CLOSING WEEKEND
WAKA OF DREAMS: PUNANGA POHEWA – LISSY + RUDI ROBINSON-COLE WITH HOLLIE TAWHIAO Thurs 24: 5-8pm (opening) Fri, Tue-Thurs: 10am-5pm Sat-Mon: 10am-4pm Refinery Artspace (until 23 Nov – regular gallery opening hours post-festival)					
NOW YOU KNOW HER NAME 1pm (60min) Pūtangitangi Greenmeadows Centre	PLOTTING HISTORICAL FICTION WORKSHOP 1pm (120min) Elma Turner Library				
UNSETTLED 6pm (60min) Te Noninga Kumu Motueka Public Library	COCKTAILS & COOKING TALES 5.30pm (60min) Kismet				
			MASK CARNIVALE 5pm-10pm Whakatū City Centre		
ELDRITCH ECHOES: A CINEMATIC SOUNDSCAPE – MISLED CONVOY Installation: 5pm (60min) 18A Project Space	ELDRITCH ECHOES: A CINEMATIC SOUNDSCAPE – MISLED CONVOY Installation: 5pm (60min) 18A Project Space	ELDRITCH ECHOES: A CINEMATIC SOUNDSCAPE – MISLED CONVOY Performance: 9pm (90min) 18A Project Space RHYS MATHEWSON – 10TH RODEO 8pm (75min) The Boathouse		SLOW ART DAY 10am-4pm participating galleries BY WHAKATŪ RESIDENCY SHARING 2pm (45min) Refinery ArtSpace	
<i>See Pukapuka Talks above</i>	RHYS MATHEWSON – 10TH RODEO 7.30pm (75min) Te Noninga Kumu Motueka Public Library				NEILSON SINGS NELSON – TAMI NEILSON 2pm, doors at 12pm (90min) Neudorf Vineyards
SUITCASE SHOW – TRICK OF THE LIGHT 8pm (55min)	SUITCASE SHOW – TRICK OF THE LIGHT 8pm (55min)			MOON – BARNIE DUNCAN + ALISTAIR DEVERICK 10am (45min)	MOON – BARNIE DUNCAN + ALISTAIR DEVERICK 10am (45min)
MURIWAI – ARIANA TIKAO + BOB BICKERTON 7pm (90min)	COUCH STORIES 7pm (90min)	NCMA LUNCHTIME CONCERTS: YA-TING LIOU 12.30pm (50min)	THE YOUNG VIRTUOSI – YEYEONG JENNY JIN + JEONGHWAN KIM 7.30pm (80min)		
AIGA – TOUCH COMPASS 6.30pm (65min)		PRIMA FACIE – BY SUZIE MILLER 6.30pm (100min)	PRIMA FACIE – BY SUZIE MILLER 8pm (100min)	STOP MAKING SENSE – TALKING HEADS 4pm (88min) THE BUTTERFLY WHO FLEW INTO THE RAVE – OLI MATHIESEN with LUCY LYNCH + SHARVON MORTIMER 8pm (70min)	WOW STORIES: ON CREATIVITY, TENACITY AND DREAMS 5pm (90min)
HAZ + MILOUX			WERO (CHALLENGE)		
MAKE ART NOT WAR – RANA HAMIDA					
MYTHS & LEGENDS – SAM DUCKOR-JONES Lee Woodman Studio + Nelson Airport Terminal					
WHISPERS IN THE STREETS Whakatū City Centre					
MANU TUTETUTE – CHARLES + JANINE WILLIAMS Atelier Studio Gallery					
HINEUKURANGI + STOP MAKING SENSE: SURREALIST LEGACIES IN THE CHARTWELL COLLECTION The Suter Art Gallery Te Aratoi o Whakatū					

BOOKING & ACCESSIBILITY INFORMATION

PAY WHAT YOU CAN TICKETING CONTINUES

We're thrilled to be able to offer Pay What You Can (PWYC) for almost all of our ticketed events again this year. Ticket prices continue to pose a barrier for some and PWYC makes the Festival more financially accessible for more of our community.

When you buy a ticket for most Nelson Arts Festival events this year, there are five price tiers to choose from: Tiers 1 and 2 are lower, Tier 3 is our recommended/traditional ticket price, and Tiers 4 and 5 are higher, enabling those who can to 'pay it forward' to support others.

PWYC is supported by:



Please note: **The Young Virtuosi** and **NCMA Lunchtime Concerts** are ticketed independently, and so are not PWYC.

Please consider a donation of \$5-\$20 for **Cultural Conversations** events to support their artists and the **Make Art Not War** project.

BOOKING ONLINE

You can book tickets for all our events on our website www.nelsonartsfestival.nz – via the **Book Now** button on each event page.

BOOKING IN PERSON

Swing by our friendly Box Offices if you prefer to book in person:

Theatre Royal

78 Rutherford Street | 12PM – 4PM weekdays
Phone: 03 548 3840 (Select 1)

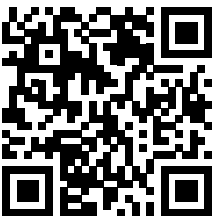
Nelson Centre of Musical Arts (NCMA)

48 Nile Street | 10AM – 4PM weekdays

QUESTIONS ABOUT BOOKINGS?

Visit: nelsonartsfestival.nz/information

Email: boxoffice@theatreroyalnelson.co.nz



Scan to book online, and for more information about our events, venues, accessibility and content warnings.

A NOTE ABOUT TIME

All our events start on time – except for unforeseen circumstances. Please note that for safety reasons, some events may have a lock-out, which means that late-comers cannot be admitted. **Sounds of the Sanctuary** at the Brook Waimārama Sanctuary is a 15min walk from the Sanctuary entrance – please make sure to arrive ahead of the start time.

LOOKING OUT FOR EACH OTHER

Nelson Arts Festival is committed to providing accessibility for our community and a safe space for all.

We aim to provide as much information as possible about accessing our Festival – from booking your tickets and content warnings, to health & safety and how to get to our venues.

Every event listing includes information about accessibility and content transparency; and where needed, an alert symbol to indicate content warnings. For full details, visit: nelsonartsfestival.nz/information

HEALTH & SAFETY: The Festival team, artists and audiences are required to comply with the latest Government health advice at the time of the event. We are committed to the safety and wellbeing of our community first and foremost and encourage mask wearing indoors where possible.

If an artist can no longer travel or perform, events may be postponed or cancelled. We will offer exchanges or refunds to our ticket holders in this instance.

SAFE SPACE: We have zero tolerance for discriminatory and bullying behaviours, neither online nor in-person.

ACCESSIBILITY PROGRAMME

It is our intention as an organisation to provide greater access to the Festival for all of our community.

Our venues, except for Atelier Studio|Gallery, are wheelchair accessible and welcome service dogs. We have accessibility symbols in our event listings to help you navigate the programme. Our website has extended information on:

- venue access
- service dogs
- companion seats

as well as more info on our events that are:

- highly visual
- without major language barriers
- NZ Sign Language interpreted
- audio-based, and/or, audio-described.

ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT ACCESSIBILITY?

Visit: nelsonartsfestival.nz/information

Email: access@nelsonartsfestival.nz

Text too small? A large print version of this print programme is also available for download on our website.

OUR FESTIVAL WHĀNAU OF PARTNERS

It truly takes a village. Like a flock of birds, our community comes together every year to create the way forward for our Festival. From the joyful Pīwakawaka to the mighty Moa, our partners all play a part in making the Nelson Arts Festival possible.

CORE FUNDER



MAJOR FUNDERS



MOA PARTNERS



KĀREAREA PARTNERS



GRANTS



Lottery Grants Board | Network Tasman Trust | Mainland Foundation | Sargood Bequest | Tasman Creative Communities Scheme | Top of the South Community Foundation

KEA PARTNERS



KERERŪ PARTNERS



TŪI PARTNERS



PĪWAKAWAKA FESTIVAL SUPPORTERS

Community Art Works | Finline Architecture | Kismet | NRDA | NZ Society of Authors Top of the South branch | NZ Brochures & Distribution | Proper Crisps | Speedy Signs Nelson

KEEN TO JOIN THE WHĀNAU? SCAN TO GET IN TOUCH





GLOSSARY


30 YEARS


AWE-INSPIRING AF

CATEGORY / GENRE

 Circus/Cabaret


 Comedy


 Dance


 Family Friendly


 Film


 Music


 Ngā Toi Māori

 Pasifika


 Theatre


 Visual Arts


 Writers + Kōrero


 Aotearoa Premiere


CONTENT & ACCESSIBILITY


 Audio Based


 Audio Described


 Captioned Performance

 Hearing Assistive
Technology Available


 Highly Visual

 Low/No Language Barrier

 NZSL Interpreted

 Trigger Warning

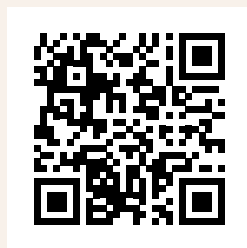
AGE RECOMMENDATIONS

 ALL  14+  16+  18+

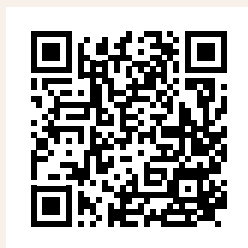
SCAN FOR MORE INFORMATION



Content & accessibility
information



View all events



View Pukapuka
Talks

THROUGHOUT FESTIVAL

WAKA OF DREAMS: PUNANGA POHEWA



LISSY + RUDI ROBINSON-COLE
WITH HOLLIE TAWHIAO

Crochet extraordinaires **Lissy and Rudi Robinson-Cole** are among THE most exciting contemporary visual artists in Aotearoa right now with their ngā toi celebrating cultural heritage through captivating storytelling and artistic innovation. We are immensely proud to host the debut of their new large-scale project, in collaboration with friend and multi-disciplinary artist **Hollie Tawhiao**: the **Waka Of Dreams**, symbolising journey and aspiration, emerging at the Refinery. Experience a vibrant fusion of Māori art and contemporary craft, with works never before shown in Te Waipounamu.

REFINERY ARTSPACE | 24 OCT – 23 NOV |
GALLERY OPENING HOURS | FREE



Supported by:



Image: Hōhua Kurene

WORKSHOPS WITH ARTISTS



Keen to get right amongst the arts action and grow your skills under the guidance of our amazing Festival artists? We hear you! This year, we'll be offering some small group workshops for keen Whakatū folx – please see our website for details and to book your spot!

VARIOUS | THROUGHOUT FESTIVAL | PWYC

HINEUKURANGI + STOP MAKING SENSE: SURREALIST LEGACIES IN THE CHARTWELL COLLECTION



Two amazing shows present a feast for our eyes: Curated by **Carla Ruka**, a group exhibition of exceptional Māori clay makers celebrates the realm of Hineukurangi, while contemporary works from the **Chartwell Collection** explore the legacy of surrealism in Aotearoa.

THE SUTER ART GALLERY TE ARATOI O WHAKATŪ |
THROUGHOUT FESTIVAL | OPEN DAILY 9.30AM – 4.30PM | FREE

Image: Paul Hartigan, *Against the Grain*, 1980 (detail).

MAKE ART NOT WAR

RANA HAMIDA



Image: mothermother

A participatory art installation to create paper cranes for all people who have lost their lives during the current crisis in Palestine. Origami cranes are the Japanese art form *Senbazuru*, a traditional belief that by folding 1,000 origami cranes, one's wish would come true. Join the conversation about hope and healing during challenging times. With thanks to mothermother.

CULTURAL CONVERSATIONS | THROUGHOUT FESTIVAL |
GALLERY OPENING HOURS | FREE, DONATIONS WELCOME

SLOW ART DAY



Good art is good for you, and that's why we're prescribing you a day dedicated to browsing, looking and listening. **Slow Art Day** returns with a slow-paced but jam-packed programme of artist talks and beautiful exhibitions all over town – find all participating galleries and the day's schedule on our website.

PARTICIPATING GALLERIES | SAT 2 NOV | 10AM – 4PM | FREE

MYTHS & LEGENDS

SAM DUCKOR-JONES



Image: Sam Duckor-Jones

Via ceramics, papier maché, textiles, poetry, pen and ink, **Sam Duckor-Jones** builds communities, casting a fluorescent pink lens across the fears and triumphs of an aspirationally shimmering live-alone gay in 21st century Aotearoa. Here in Whakatū, a couple of his lads, **Myths & Legends**, will be chilling in the spotlight.

LEE WOODMAN STUDIO + NELSON AIRPORT |
THROUGHOUT FESTIVAL | FREE

WHISPERS IN THE STREETS



The whispers return to our city's bollards! Led by artist and tutor **Klaasz Breukel**, Level 5 & 6 NMIT Digital Art & Design students share their reflections on how the arts can carve a path forward through the cresting waves of a fast-changing world.



WHAKATŪ CITY CENTRE | 27 OCT – 3 NOV | FREE

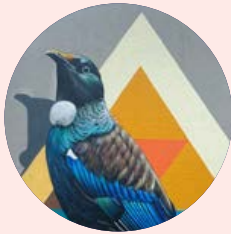
Supported by: Phantom Billstickers & Fuji Xerox

MANU TUTETUTE



CHARLES + JANINE WILLIAMS

Renowned around the world for their visual storytelling in public spaces, urban artists **Charles and Janine Williams** explore the intricacies of identity vs cultural misconceptions in this exhibition of mixed media works – a must-see celebration of ngā toi Māori!



ATELIER STUDIO|GALLERY | THROUGHOUT FESTIVAL |
GALLERY OPENING HOURS | FREE

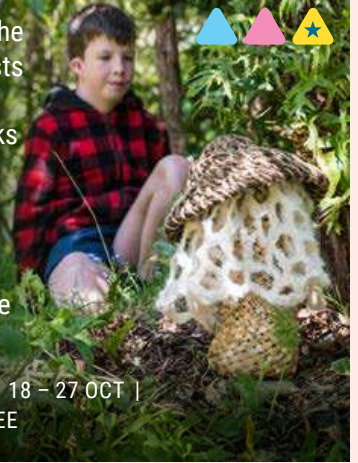
Image: Charles + Janine Williams

SCULPT NATURE



Immerse yourself in nature at the Sanctuary and witness six artists from around Aotearoa create sustainable, ephemeral artworks using only natural materials. A week-long eco-sculpture symposium to learn about conservation with artist talks and workshops, plus artist prize giving on Sunday 27 October.

BROOK WAIMĀRAMA SANCTUARY | 18 – 27 OCT |
SANCTUARY OPENING HOURS | FREE



DEVILLE MUSIC HUB

DOORS OPEN 8PM | SUPPORT ACT 8.30PM | MAIN ACT 9.30PM
18+ (UNLESS WITH GUARDIAN)

Featuring true icons of Aotearoa music and the most exciting new talent, the Deville dancefloor is ready for you, music lovers! Come hang with mates and Festival artists – this is the place to be Thursday to Saturday.

Supported by:  **BlueBerry**
Technology on your terms

SHEPHERDS REIGN



THURS 24 OCT | PWYC

Rhythms of the Pacific recreated on thundering toms and traditional pātē paired with huge live performance, **Shepherds Reign** bring their fierce Polynesian pride to our opening night. With over 2 million views on YouTube, their majestic metal epicness meets Sāmoan culture is captured in songs like *Le Manu* and *Aiga*. Shepherds Reign are a rare presence who demand the world stage.



THABANI GAPARA



FRI 25 OCT | PWYC

Join acclaimed saxophonist **Thabani Gapara** and his band in a vibrant celebration of his new album *Dzindza* (ancestry) which blends traditional African rhythms with contemporary jazz sounds. From original Afro Jazz compositions to reimagined familiar classics, these flamboyant and infectious rhythms will get your feet stomping.



RHOMBUS



SAT 26 OCT | PWYC

Iconic Te Whanganui-a-Tara collective **Rhombus** are true masters of their unique, distinctively South Pacific sound – spiced with funk, soul, reggae and electronic dub wobbly bass. From 2002 album *Bass Player* to 2024's *Remixes and Archives Volume 2*, the return of Rhombus with **Lisa Tomlins & TK Paradza** is not to be missed.



HAZ + MILOUX



THURS 31 OCT | PWYC

The perfect pairing of two boldly creative artists is found in veteran producer **Haz Beats (Home Brew)** and soul-heavy vocalist **Miloux**. Imagine a striking fusion of jazz, soul and hip hop topped with soaring vocals, and you know why they won the Aotearoa Music Award for Best RnB act in 2020 – expect to be completely enraptured!



WERO (CHALLENGE)



SAT 2 NOV | PWYC

An Indigenous club night curated for and with BIPOC and LGBTQIA+ folx – those who have challenged societal norms, tested boundaries and pushed the Aotearoa electronic scene forward. Highlighting folx who ran so we could walk, our closing event brings mana, energy and belonging to the fore. Featuring **Mr Meaty Boy, Swmcap, Sheboy** and **Lakeboon**.



SLIP



REBECCA JENSEN WITH AVIVA ENDEAN

A medieval figure eyeballs the audience, snacking on Doritos to the soundtrack of crunched celery. Live Foley art, cinematic sound and dance meet (un) reality in Naarm-based dancer/choreographer **Rebecca Jensen** and sound artist **Aviva Endean's** ode to the complexity of our current world.

SUTER THEATRE | WED 23 OCT, 6.30PM
+ THURS 24 OCT, 8PM | 50 MIN | PWYC

Supported by:

cooper∞savage

Image: Gregory Lorenzutti



TUNE UP



Kicking off with a boogie: **Tune Up** transforms Kirby Lane into an outdoor music hub with an amazing line up of rangatahi musicians – all programmed by our young folx, with tautoko from RockQuest. Come celebrate the future of Aotearoa music right here in Whakatū!



KIRBY LANE | THURS 24 OCT | 5PM | 180 MIN | FREE

Supported by:



BE LIKE BILLY?



RUTENE SPOONER

After wowing us in *Thoroughly Modern Māui*, award-winning **Rutene Spooner** returns to celebrate showband legacy, idolise the greatest Māori showman and tussle with the future of Māori in entertainment. Featuring the flashiest southern showband, **The Tekira Mutton Birds**, **Be Like Billy?** is everything but an impersonation show. Can you be like Billy without being the butt of the joke?

THEATRE ROYAL |
THURS 24 + FRI 25 OCT |
6.30PM | 70 MIN | PWYC

Supported by:

Downing



COURTNEY DAWSON



DREAMS ARE FREE

From broke solo mum to award-winning comedian and TV star (*Celebrity Treasure Island*, *Paddy Gower Has Issues*) in five years – is this a dream?

Join **Courtney Dawson** for a hilarious wakeup call filled with warm, anecdotal humour and banger punch lines.

THEATRE ROYAL | SAT 26 OCT | 8PM | 50 MIN | PWYC

Supported by:



VICTORY POETRY SLAM II

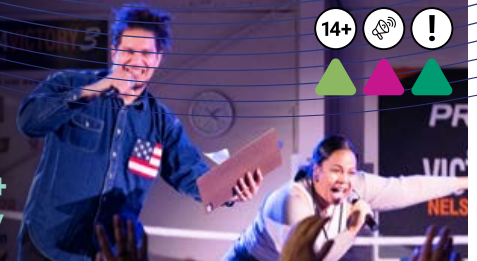


SHELDON RUA + TALIA STANLEY

These folx were so amazing in 2023, we had to bring them back! Join acclaimed artists **Sheldon Rua** and **Talia Stanley** for a workshop and/or exclusive live performance from the Victory Boxing ring – bring a poem or just come to listen.

WORKSHOP: VICTORY COMMUNITY CENTRE | SUN 27 OCT | 12.30PM | 120 MIN | KOHA

PERFORMANCE: VICTORY BOXING | SUN 27 OCT | 5PM | 75 MIN | PWYC



SOUNDS OF THE SANCTUARY



NEW ZEALAND STRING QUARTET

We invite nature lovers and music aficionados alike to immerse themselves in a magical fusion of music and the natural world at the Sanctuary. **New Zealand String Quartet** presents an unforgettable experience that evokes the beauty of nature and birdsong.

BROOK WAIMĀRAMA SANCTUARY | MON 28 OCT | 12PM + 4PM | 80 MIN | PWYC

Supported by:



PEOPLE + WATER SERIES



Flowing out of our curatorial statement, we dive deeper into the space between tangata (people) and wai (water) with a mini documentary film festival featuring 2024 DocEdge sell-out **Ko au te Awa, ko te Awa ko au – I Am The River, The River Is Me**, poignant short-film **Tuhaymani'chi pal waniqa (the water flows always)** and acclaimed 2016 hit **Gaza Surf Club**. Come ride the waves with us!

SUTER THEATRE | MON 28 OCT | 3.30PM (20 MIN), 4PM (86 MIN), 6:30PM (90 MIN) | PWYC

ESTHER SWIFT



Likened to Kate Bush, Anna Meredith and Björk, **Esther Swift** explores ritual, connection, isolation, and the natural world with pedal harp and voice, spanning genres from classical chamber to Scottish folk music. Prolific, bold, innovative – all the way from Scotland for this special performance.



MUSSEL INN | WED 23 OCT | 8PM | 90 MIN + INTERVAL | TICKETED
NCMA | FRI 25 OCT | 7PM | 90 MIN + INTERVAL | PWYC

Supported by: VenueTech

ABBY HOWELLS



LA SOUPCO

Aged 11, **Abby** wrote a romance set in the Navy in the wake of World War II. Now 33, she returns to this tale of love, loss, nautical trauma and deeply undiagnosed Autism in her hilarious Billy T Award winning comedy show.



THE BOATHOUSE | THURS 24 OCT | 8PM | 55 MIN | PWYC

Supported by: Tides Hotel

ELDRITCH ECHOES: A CINEMATIC SOUNDSCAPE



MISLED CONVOY

Piezo transducers wired to locally found objects, augmented electronica and real-time projection of ghostly hints of underlying sound coalesce in a series of sculptural instruments. From the creators of *Piki Mai*, see a new multimedia work develop across two days or join for the final performance.



INSTALLATION OPEN: 18A | TUES 29 + WED 30 | 5PM | 60 MIN | KOHA
PERFORMANCE: 18A | THURS 31 OCT | 9PM | 90 MIN | PWYC

SUITCASE SHOW



TRICK OF THE LIGHT

A traveller arrives at a border with a stack of battered suitcases. From them, whole worlds emerge... Renowned for inventive staging, **Trick of the Light** guide us through dark comedic tales told via lo-fi shadow play, dancing hands and a 70s stereo.

SUTER THEATRE | TUES 29 + WED 30 OCT | 8PM | 55 MIN | PWYC



Supported by: Cutting Edge

MURIWAI



ARIANA TIKAO + BOB BICKERTON

Award-winning musicians and collaborators **Ariana Tikao** and **Bob Bickerton** have joined forces to create **Muriwai**. A confluence of two rivers, their music merges Māori and Celtic musical traditions through Celtic harp, vocals, and taonga puoro.



NCMA | TUES 29 OCT | 7PM | 90 MIN | PWYC

Supported by: Avoca Web Design

COUCH STORIES



True stories told live without pictures or notes: **Couch Stories** returns with the much-loved couch and all new stories. This year, we're thrilled to host the 20th edition of this popular event, with tales centred around the theme: Time.



NCMA | WED 30 OCT | 7PM | 90 MIN | PWYC

GLOSSARY

CATEGORY / GENRE

- Circus/Cabaret
- Ngā Toi Māori
- Comedy
- Pasifika
- Dance
- Theatre
- Family Friendly
- Visual Arts
- Film
- Writers + Kōrero
- Music
- Aotearoa Premiere

CONTENT & ACCESSIBILITY

- Audio Based
- Highly Visual
- Audio Described
- Low/No Language Barrier
- Captioned Performance
- NZSL Interpreted
- Hearing Assistive Technology Available
- Content Warning

AGE RECOMMENDATIONS

- ALL
- 14+
- 16+
- 18+

Presented by: **NelsonMail**



MASK CARNIVALE

What better way to celebrate 30 years of Nelson Arts Festivals than with this all-time favourite – please join us for the street party of the year, Whakatū! The 2024 theme is all about joyful celebration, growth and transformation, as symbolised by the number 30. And oof, we have much to enjoy: the parade, pop-up performances, a whole zone curated by the amazing folk at **Pasefika Arts and Culture Collective (PACC)**, a stellar music line-up and delicious kai from our food vendors. We can't wait to see you there! See our website for details and to register for the parade.

WHAKATŪ CITY CENTRE | FRI 1 NOV | 5 – 10PM | FREE



AIGA

TOUCH COMPASS



An exploration of identity, desire, family, and of being disabled and Pasifika, **AIGA** (Sāmoan for family/whānau) is ground-breaking theatre told through the lens of Pacific Toa award-winner **Lusi Faiva**. AIGA captures Lusi's life from 1960s Sāmoa to the warrior they are today – performed by an ensemble of women, non-binary, disabled, non-disabled, Pasifika and Māori creatives.

THEATRE ROYAL | TUES 29 OCT | 6.30PM | 65 MIN | PWYC



Supported by:



RHYS MATHEWSON

10TH RODEO



After five years of sobriety, in January 2024 **Rhys Mathewson** (*7 Days*) started to relapse. A "...sharp, smart, vulnerable, and surprisingly moving work of comedy" about mistakes, addiction, compassion and how to live. Unflinchingly honest and side-splittingly funny.

TE NONINGA KUMU MOTUEKA PUBLIC LIBRARY | WED 30 OCT | 7.30PM
THE BOATHOUSE | THURS 31 OCT | 8PM | 75 MIN | PWYC

Supported by: Orbit World Travel

MOON

BARNIE DUNCAN + ALISTAIR DEVERICK



A clown dressed as Napoleon lands on the moon. Bubbles go everywhere. Intergalactic sounds emanate from a spaceman. What on earth is happening on this moon? These new dads have made a show that their kids would like. Bring yours, especially if they're 7 years and under!



SUTER THEATRE | SAT 2 + SUN 3 NOV | 10AM | 45 MIN | PWYC

Supported by: More FM

STOP MAKING SENSE

TALKING HEADS



Experience the greatest concert film of all time like never before: directed by renowned filmmaker **Jonathan Demme**, **Stop Making Sense** was shot over three nights at Hollywood's Pantages Theatre in December 1983 and features **Talking Heads'** most memorable songs. Dance floor tickets available!

THEATRE ROYAL | SAT 2 NOV | 4PM | 88 MIN | PWYC

THE BUTTERFLY WHO FLEW INTO THE RAVE

OLI MATHIESEN WITH LUCY LYNCH + SHARVON MORTIMER



A three-day rave condensed into an award-winning art performance: three dancers, non-stop, endurance, club culture. A spectacle of the human body as victim to music, passion and our endless desire to achieve more. Prepare to be (literally) moved. Dance floor tickets available!



THEATRE ROYAL | SAT 2 NOV | 8PM | 70 MIN | PWYC

NCMA LUNCHTIME CONCERTS



On 24 October, soprano **Rosemary Galton** and pianist **Maria Koleff** present German lieder and English art song, exploring love and the beauty of nature. Renowned around the world as soloist and chamber musician, Taiwanese-born pianist **Ya-Ting Liou** enchants on 31 October.

NCMA | THURS 24 + 31 OCT | 12.30PM | 50 MIN | TICKETED

THE YOUNG VIRTUOSI



YEYEONG JENNY JIN + JEONGHWAN KIM

South Korean-born **Yeyeong Jenny Jin** has won many awards, including the 2023 Michael Hill International Violin Competition. 2023 Sydney International Piano Competition winner, **Jeonghwan Kim** joins Jenny as part of a 10-centre tour for an evening of mesmerising sonata. Presented in association with the Michael Hill International Violin Competition.



NCMA | FRI 1 NOV | 7.30PM | 80 MIN | TICKETED

PRIMA FACIE BY SUZIE MILLER



Tessa is a criminal defence lawyer at the top of her game: defending, cross-examining, playing to win. But when the tables turn, she finds herself at the mercy of this system. After West End and Broadway seasons, don't miss this exceptional Aotearoa production during its national tour. Presented by Kavanah Productions and BRAVE Theatre.

THEATRE ROYAL | THURS 31 OCT, 6.30PM + FRI 1 NOV, 8PM | 100 MIN | PWYC

Supported by: Rout Milner Fitchett

BY WHAKATŪ RESIDENCY SHARING



We're proud to again gift a paid residency to an artist from Te Taihū, to progress their mahi or trial new ideas. Come find out what they've been exploring and experience some incredible ideas growing in our community!

REFINERY ARTSPACE | SAT 2 NOV | 2PM | 45 MIN | KQHA

WOW STORIES: ON CREATIVITY, TENACITY AND DREAMS



As part of our 30th birthday celebration, we're thrilled to go back to where the Festival started: alongside WOW!

Join **World of WearableArt** Founder **Dame Suzie Moncrieff**, Show Director **Malia Johnston** and award-winning designer **Gill Saunders** for an entertaining evening of memories to see the festival off in style.



THEATRE ROYAL | SUN 3 NOV | 5PM | 90 MIN | PWYC

NEILSON SINGS NELSON



TAMI NEILSON

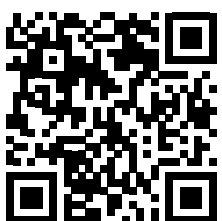
The incredible, award-winning **Tami Neilson** performs a collection of her favourites from **Willie Nelson's** Songbook, while sharing stories of working with the man himself. "Neilson sings the hell out of Nelson. Tami's the real deal and does my songs a great honour." – Willie Nelson



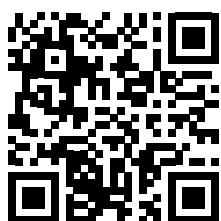
NEUDORF VINEYARDS | SUN 3 NOV | 2PM (DOORS 12PM) | 90 MIN | PWYC

Supported by: Neudorf Vineyards

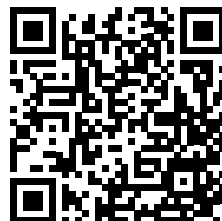
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Content & accessibility information



View all events



View Pukapuka Talks

30 YEARS
AWE-INSPIRING AF

Presented by:



PUKAPUKA TALKS

All pukapuka will be for sale through our Festival bookstore **Paper Plus Nelson**, both at their shop and at the festival bookstore at all Pukapuka Talks sessions – your opportunity to meet the authors and get your books signed!

MYTHS, MAGIC, FANTASY & TIME TRAVEL



TE NONINGA KUMU MOTUEKA PUBLIC LIBRARY | THURS 24 OCT | SCHOOL BOOKING

ELMA TURNER LIBRARY | FRI 25 OCT | SCHOOL BOOKING



Our 2024 Schools Programme features three stellar storytellers – **Lauren Keenan**, **Rachael King**, and **Claire Mabey** – who share their spellbinding tales (think 'writers are rock stars' vibe) and support tamariki to create their own.

HOUSING FOR ALL



SUTER THEATRE | FRI 25 OCT | 12.30PM | 60 MIN | PWYC

From accessible housing design to the tiny house movement, and everything in between, what happens when people step outside the box in housing design and development? Join architect and housing advocate **Jade Kake**, disability rights advocate, essayist and poet **Henrietta Bollinger** and local visionary **Miriana Stephens** in conversation with **Min Hall**.

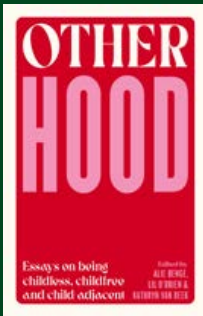


OTHERHOOD: CHILDLESS, CHILDFREE & CHILD ADJACENT



SUTER THEATRE | FRI 25 OCT | 5.30PM | 60 MIN | PWYC

In Aotearoa the number of people who will never have children is growing. **Kathryn van Beek**, one of the *Otherhood* anthology's three co-editors, is joined by contributors **Iona Winter**, **Henrietta Bollinger** and **Lily Duval** for a more inclusive conversation about what makes a fulfilling life.



Supported by: Chia Sisters

EVOKING THE DIASPORA



SUTER THEATRE | SAT 26 OCT | 10.30AM | 60 MIN | PWYC

Multi-generational migrant stories are finding compelling new ways of being told in the capable, creative hands of two of the best debut novelists in Aotearoa, **Jade Kake** and **Saraid de Silva**. Both explore belonging and the legacy of intergenerational trauma while mastering a unique way of sharing the diasporic experience. Chaired by **Nathan Joe**.



ENVIRONMENTAL ADVOCATES



SUTER THEATRE | SUN 27 OCT | 3.30PM | 60 MIN | PWYC

Conservation advocates **Mike Joy** and **Dave Hansford** both know what it's like to raise their voices, especially when others disregard, or don't agree, with scientific evidence. They discuss the role storytelling must play in triumphing over commercial and political agendas. Chaired by **Debs Martin**.

Supported by: Sally Gepp KC

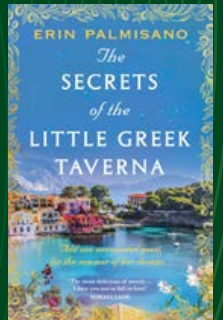


LITTLE GREEK TAVERNA LONG LUNCH



THE BOAT SHED CAFE | MON 28 OCT | 12PM | 240 MIN | PWYC

Be transported from the Boat Shed Cafe to the Greek island of Naxos in this special opportunity to savour some of the dishes featured in what has been described as the "most delicious of novels", *The Secrets of the Little Greek Taverna*, featuring Whakatū Nelson's very own bestselling author and restaurateur **Erin Palmisano**. Chaired by **Nicola Galloway**.

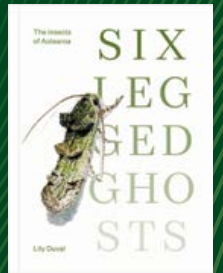


AFTER DARK III: SIX-LEGGED GHOST HUNT



BROOK WAIMĀRAMA SANCTUARY | MON 28 OCT | 8PM | 90 MIN | PWYC

Join RNZ's Critter of the Week researcher, illustrator, and author **Lily Duval** for a twilight romp through Brook Waimārama Sanctuary to learn more about our insect world – particularly the vital role 'six-legged ghosts' play – and how you can care for these creatures and their habitats.

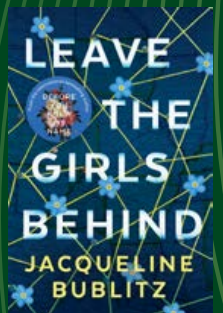


NOW YOU KNOW HER NAME



PŪTANGITANGI GREENMEADOWS CENTRE | TUES 29 OCT | 1PM | 60 MIN | PWYC

In a world first, on the day the global sales embargo ends, hear **Jacqueline Bublitz** talk about her new novel, *Leave the Girls Behind*, the dazzling follow-up to her 2022 Ngaio Marsh Award-winning debut novel, *Before You Knew My Name*. Chaired by **Susie Ferguson**.



MYTHOLOGY & MYSTICAL REALISM

SUTER THEATRE | SAT 26 OCT | 1PM | 60 MIN | PWYC

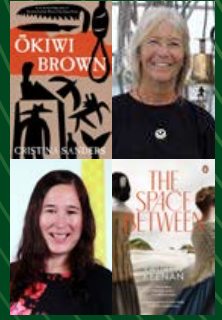
Rachael King and **Lee Murray** both evoke ancient mythological creatures from distant shores in their latest novels: *The Grimmelings* and *Fox Spirit on a Distant Cloud*. In this session they will explore how myth not only maketh mystical realism but also elucidates key contemporary challenges. Chaired by **Claire Mabey**.



UNSETTLED

TE NONINGA KUMU MOTUEKA PUBLIC LIBRARY | TUES 29 OCT | 6PM | 60 MIN | PWYC

Cristina Sanders and **Lauren Keenan** are two pre-eminent writers of historical fiction in Aotearoa. Journey back in time with them to experience life through the eyes of those who history books have, to date, largely neglected. Chaired by **Sylvan Thomson**.



TENACIOUS WĀHINE

SUTER THEATRE | SAT 26 OCT | 3.30PM | 60 MIN | PWYC

In her very first festival appearance following the publication of *Kataraina*, **Becky Manawatu** discusses the highly anticipated sequel to her bestselling debut novel, *Auē*, alongside friend and fellow kaituhi Māori **Talia Marshall**. Talia's essay collection, *Whaea Blue*, is one of this year's most anticipated non-fiction pukapuka. Chaired by **Nuki Takao**.

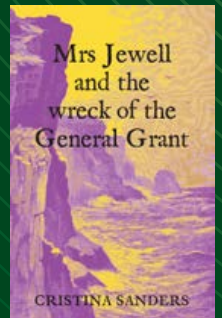


Supported by: Tohu Wines

PLOTTING HISTORICAL FICTION WORKSHOP

ELMA TURNER LIBRARY | WED 30 OCT | 1PM | 120 MIN | PWYC

Cristina Sanders, author of *Mrs Jewell and the wreck of the General Grant* (shortlisted for the Jann Medlicott Acorn Prize for Fiction in 2023) and her latest novel *Okiwi Brown*, leads this workshop on how to outline a historical fiction story and make a start on writing it.



BLOODY MINDED

SUTER THEATRE | SUN 27 OCT | 10.30AM | 60 MIN | PWYC

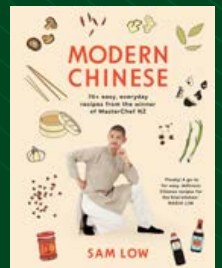
RNZ presenter **Susie Ferguson** recounts her years as a war correspondent while battling endometriosis and discusses her breathtaking memoir on tenacity and self-belief, which shines a light on a health system that isn't made for us and proves the importance of being loud with our truths. Chaired by **Naomi Arnold**.



COCKTAILS & COOKING TALES

KISMET | WED 30 OCT | 5.30PM | 60 MIN | PWYC

MasterChef NZ 2022 winner **Sam Low** will discuss his bestselling cookbook, *Modern Chinese*, during this cooking demo and kōrero with his friend, celebrated poet and playwright **Nathan Joe**. Enjoy Kismet's special matching cocktail/mocktail suggestions followed by a chance to taste Sam's concoction.



FLY HERE, FLY THERE, MY BIRD

PATRICIA GRACE

SUTER THEATRE | SUN 27 OCT | 1PM | 60 MIN | PWYC

Patricia Grace's first book, *Waiariki*, was released in 1975, making her the first wāhine Māori to have a short story collection published. This year, her eighth short story collection, the astonishing *Bird Child and Other Stories*, has made its way into the hearts and imaginations of her readers, weaving together mythology and contemporary Māori life. Join us to celebrate Patricia's remarkable writing life of over almost 50 years. In this intimate kōrero with **Becky Manawatu**, she will discuss her latest book, her approach to writing, and how she has collaborated with her talented whānau.



LISSY + RUDI ROBINSON-COLE WITH HOLLIE TAWHIAO
REBECCA JENSEN WITH AVIVA ENDEAN • CARLA RUKA

CHARLES + JANINE WILLIAMS • RANA HAMIDA • SAM DUCKOR-JONES
SCULPT NATURE • TUNE UP • WHISPERS IN THE STREETS • RACHAEL KING • CLAIRE MABEY
LAUREN KEENAN • ABBY HOWELLS • ROSEMARY GALTON + MARIA KOLEFF • RUTENE SPOONER

SHEPHERDS REIGN • MIRIANA STEPHENS • MIN HALL • JADE KAKE • HENRIETTA BOLLINGER • KATHRYN VAN BEEK
IONA WINTER • LILY DUVAL • ESTHER SWIFT • THABANI GAPARA • NATHAN JOE • SARAID DE SILVA • LEE MURRAY
NUKI TAKAO • BECKY MANAWATU • TALIA MARSHALL • COURTNEY DAWSON • RHOMBUS • SHELDON RUA + TALIA STANLEY
NAOMI ARNOLD • SUSIE FERGUSON • PATRICIA GRACE • DEBS MARTIN • MIKE JOY • DAVE HANSFORD • NEW ZEALAND STRING QUARTET

NICOLA GALLOWAY • ERIN PALMISANO • PETR LOM • PHILIP GNADT + MICKEY YAMINE • MISLED CONVOY • JACQUELINE BUBLITZ • CRISTINA SANDERS
SYLVAN THOMSON • ARIANA TIKAO + BOB BICKERTON • TOUCH COMPASS • RHYS MATHEWSON • SAM LOW • TRICK OF THE LIGHT • COUCH STORIES
YA-TING LIU • SUZIE MILLER • KAVANAH PRODUCTIONS + BRAVE THEATRE • HAZ + MILOUX • MASK CARNIVALE • PASEFIKA ARTS AND CULTURE COLLECTIVE (PACC)

YEYEONG JENNY JIN + JEONGHWAN KIM • SLOW ART DAY • BY WHAKATŪ RESIDENCY ARTIST • BARNIE DUNCAN + ALISTAIR DEVERICK • TALKING HEADS
OLI MATHIESEN WITH LUCY LYNCH + SHARVON MORTIMER • MR MEATY BOY • SWIMCAP • DOUG BROOKS • NILS COWAN + GINA MILANOVICH
DAME SUZIE MONCRIEFF • MALIA JOHNSTON • GILL SAUNDERS