**Tauranga Arts Festival**

**19 – 29 October 2023**

**Programme**

Tauparapara Otauranga Moana

Pāpaki tū ana ngā tai ki Mauao

I whakanukunukuhia,

I whakanekenekehia,

I whiua reretia e Hotu a Wahinerua ki te wai,

ki tai wīwī, ki tai wāwā, ki tai papaki ōnepu

Ki te whai ao, ki te ao mārama,

Tīhei mauriora.

**Nau mai, haere mai**

The thirteenth biennial Tauranga Arts Festival is here and we are delighted to bring to your doorstep ten days and nights of the best performances you’ll see all year. We are thrilled to be back following a difficult few years, and we look forward to seeing all our community coming together to experience what the Festival has to offer.

Festivals are engines of emotion and belonging, and so this year we offer you a roadmap to happiness. There’s a bit of provocation and more than a bit of pleasure. From street dance battles to interactive space adventures, there really is something for everyone.

Under this kaupapa, we are putting the artists of Aotearoa front and centre, undertaking necessary conversations with vital voices. This festival is all about connection, how we move forward, how we live together.

None of this would be possible without the generous contributions of our funders, sponsors and patrons. We are extremely grateful for this support which enables us to continue to bring festival magic to Tauranga Moana. We thank our amazing Board, who voluntarily offer their governance skills to us, and our operations team, venues and volunteers who join forces to bring it all together, platforming and celebrating Aotearoa’s artistic heroes.

We can’t wait to see you this October.

Arohanui,
Your Festival Team

**The Haka Party Incident**

by **Katie Wolfe**

Genre: Theatre

When: Thursday 19 October at 7.30pm

or Friday 20 October at 7.30pm (Audio Described)

Duration: 105 minutes

Where: Addison Theatre, Baycourt Community and Arts Centre

Admission: $20 - $59

Content: Strong language, suitable for ages 13+

Bookings: <https://premier.ticketek.co.nz/shows/Show.aspx?sh=TRGHAKA23>

The last New Zealand war took place in Auckland in 1979. It lasted three minutes.

The Haka Party Incidentresurrects the eventful day when a group of University of Auckland engineering students rehearsing their annual tradition of a mock haka were confronted by the activist group, He Taua.

The incident sent ripples through the nation and changed race relations in New Zealand forever.

Crafted by award-winning film-maker and theatre director Katie Wolfe, Ngāti Mutunga, Ngāti Toa, this is verbatim theatre that innovatively combines documentary and kapa haka to thrilling effect.

Provocative, resonant and unforgettable, The Haka Party Incidentis a not-to-be-missed theatrical event.

“An innovative, brilliant piece of theatre all New Zealanders need to see”
NZ Herald

The Haka Party Incident was originally commissioned and presented by Auckland Theatre Company. The original season was co-presented by Auckland Arts Festival.

Presented by arrangement with Playmarket

Proudly supported by Baycourt Community and Arts Centre

**Upu**

Curated by **Grace Iwashita-Taylor**

Directed by **Fasitua Amosa**

Presented by **PANNZ**

Genre: Theatre

When: Wednesday 25 October at 6.30pm

Duration: 70 minutes

Where: Addison Theatre, Baycourt Community and Arts Centre

Admission: $20 - $54

Content: Strong language, adult themes, suitable for ages 15+

Bookings: <https://premier.ticketek.co.nz/shows/Show.aspx?sh=TRGUPU23>

The power of Māori and Pasifika literature come roaring to theatrical life.

The world of Oceania is not small. From the energetic volcanoes of O’ahu to the southern reaches of Aotearoa, she is borderless and vast – and growing bigger by the day. After decades of dismissal and disconnection, her children are closer than ever. It’s time for a reunion.

Upu means word. Upu gives the stage to some of Oceania’s most electrifying poets: artists like Maualaivao Albert Wendt, Selina Tusitala Marsh, Briar Grace-Smith, Karlo Mila, Hone Tūwhare, Sia Figiel, Ben Brown – they all have a home here.

In Upu, borders disappear and the theatre becomes a sea of islands. Be transported across an ocean to hear the voices dealing with colonisation, family, climate change, love, sex, religion, power and tourists.

“This show is pure oratory and storytelling at its finest”

Theatrescenes

Proudly supported by Baycourt Community and Arts Centre

**Stories About My Body**

Written and performed by **Morgana O’Reilly**

Genre: Theatre

When: Tuesday 24 October at 6.30pm

or Wednesday 25 October at 8pm

Duration: 60 minutes

Where: X Space, Baycourt Community and Arts Centre

and Thursday 26 October at 7pm

Duration: 60 minutes

Where: Waihi Beach Surf Club

Admission: $34 - $39

Content: Natural birth imagery, suitable for ages 16+

Bookings: <https://premier.ticketek.co.nz/shows/Show.aspx?sh=TRGBODY23>

Tales of selling my toes in NYC, diary entries from ’98, boobs, birth and trying to like my chins.

My body is made of 78 organs, 206 bones and 32 teeth. It’s covered in 8.8kg of skin and has spawned two whole human bodies.

Storytelling meets stand-up meets spoken word. Let me tell you stories about my body. After sold-out seasons in Auckland, Taranaki, Wellington and Melbourne, it’s Tauranga’s turn for this glorious fistpump for body positivity. Warning: there will be nudity… and you will love it.

“Hilarity to humanity, and back again”

Theatrescenes

Supported by Kathryn Lellman Barrister

**Tea with Terrorists**

Written and performed by **Sameena Zehra**

Presented by **The Magnificent Weirdos**

Genre: Theatre

When: Friday 27 October at 6.30pm

or Saturday 28 October at 6.30pm

Duration: 75 minutes

Where: X Space, Baycourt Community and Arts Centre

Relaxed Performance

When: Saturday 28 October at 4pm

Duration: 75 minutes

Where: X Space, Baycourt Community and Arts Centre

Admission: $30 - $35

Content: Strong language, gunshots

Bookings: <https://premier.ticketek.co.nz/shows/Show.aspx?sh=TRGTEA23>

A rollercoaster ride of dark comedy and delicious storytelling.

Arguing with mullahs, being an atheist in a religious, liberal family, wandering outside the green zone in war-torn Kabul, being stalked by a sheep in Coniston, and having tea with some terrorists in Kashmir.

Journey with Sameena to find out why fear is redundant, joy is essential, and terrorists can be a real hoot.

All shows are accessible to Blind and Low Vision audiences.

“All the warmth, energy and enthusiasm of a full house at the Apollo … Fluency, intensity and vivacity”

The Age, Melbourne

Supported By Asia New Zealand Foundation

**Relaxed Performance Information**

On Saturday 28 October at 4pm, Tauranga Arts Festival will host a dedicated relaxed performance for this production.

You can find out more information about accessibility here: <https://www.taurangafestival.co.nz/access>

You can book tickets for this performance here:

<https://premier.ticketek.co.nz/shows/Show.aspx?sh=TRGTEARP23>

Although all patrons are welcome to attend, there will be some adjustments to the show and the seating configuration in order to prioritise the entertainment of our patrons who prefer a relaxed performance.

**The Savage Coloniser Show**

Written by **Tusiata Avia**

Directed by **Anapela Polata’ivao**

Produced by **Victor Rodger**

Genre: Theatre

When: Saturday 28 October at 8pm

Duration: 70 minutes

Where: Addison Theatre, Baycourt Community and Arts Centre

Admission: $20 - $54

Content: Strong language, adult themes, suitable for ages 14+

Bookings: <https://premier.ticketek.co.nz/shows/Show.aspx?sh=TRGSAVAG23>

Fierce, furious and fabulously unforgiving, this is a theatrical blockbuster from the team behind the internationally acclaimed Wild Dogs Under My Skirt.

A Samoan woman explains how to be in a room full of white people. A group of dusky maidens imagine committing acts of violence against James Cook. A voluptuous Pasifika powerhouse refuses to be shamed into silence by the surgeon who casually attacks her for her size.

New Zealand-Samoan poet Tusiata Avia became the first female Pasifika poet to win the Ockham Book Award for Poetry in 2021 with her clear-eyed examination of colonisation and the continually thorny subject of race in Aotearoa. Aligned with the visionary direction of Anapela Polata’ivao, expect a pulse-quickening encounter with words and images you won’t easily forget.

A sold-out smash hit at this year’s Auckland Arts Festival. Don’t miss it.

“Honest, disruptive and empowering”

Theatrescenes

“A production of unparalleled excellence”

The Spinoff

Originally commissioned by Auckland Arts Festival

**Mission Control: Mars**

Created by **Hackman**

Genre: Theatre and Family

When: Friday 20 October at 4pm, 5pm or 6pm

Saturday 21 October, every hour on the hour from 10am to 5pm

Sunday 22 October, every hour on the hour from 10am to 5pm

Duration: 45 minutes

Where: X Space, Baycourt Community and Arts Centre

Admission: $15 - $25 with Family Passes Available

Content: Flashing lights, high-stress situations, suitable for ages 7+

Bookings: <https://premier.ticketek.co.nz/shows/Show.aspx?sh=TRGMARS23>

Blast off to Mars on a thrilling interactive space adventure that puts you right in the middle of the story.

Join the action as a skilled engineer on an international space station in the year 2034. In charge of your own digital console, you’ll be guided by the Mission Commander as you maintain the Habitat and get ready for the launch of the Rocket. When a solar flare endangers your community, it’ll be up to you and your fellow players to save the day.

This immersive experience by Hackman, creators of the acclaimed Destination Mars and Apollo 13, combines live performance with the power of video game engine technology. Working in teams you’ll engage in co-operative games, tackle challenging tasks and solve digital puzzles.

This is a high stakes mission, perfect for intrepid kids aged 7+ and grownups seeking an out-of-this-world escape. Prepare for an unforgettable journey to the red planet!

Supported by Taylor Bros Transport

**Moon**

Created by **Barnie Duncan and Alistair Deverick**

Genre: Theatre and Family

When: Saturday 28 October at 11am or 2pm

Sunday 29 October at 11am or 2pm

Duration: 45 minutes

Where: Cargo Shed, 5 Dive Crescent, Tauranga

Admission: $10 - $15

Content: Best suited for children under 7

Bookings: <https://premier.ticketek.co.nz/shows/Show.aspx?sh=TRGMOON23>

A clown dressed as Napoleon lands on the moon and bubbles go everywhere. Intergalactic sounds fill the atmosphere… emanating from a spaceman. What on earth is going to happen on the moon?

New dads Barnie Duncan and Alistair Deverick have joined forces to make a show their kids and their kid’s pals would like. Because everyone should enjoy comedy. And live music. And the moon.

Supported by Biggles at the Mount

Moon was developed with the support of the New Zealand Comedy Trust

**Jenny Mitchell and the Mitchell Twins**

Genre: Music

When: Thursday 19 October at 7pm

Duration: 110 minutes

Where: Carrus Crystal Palace, Southern Waterfront

Admission: $40 - $45

Bookings: <https://premier.ticketek.co.nz/shows/Show.aspx?sh=TRGMITCH23>

Jenny Mitchell is an award-winning folk and alt-country sensation, writing songs wrapped in wisdom and wit. Her music defies easy categorisation, but if you’re a fan of genre-defying artists like Emmylou Harris and Kasey Chambers, this is a deep and emotional dive, just for you.

With songs inspired by new love, change, loss and her discovery of Lucille Ball, audiences can expect a warm journey of storytelling – coloured by renditions of the songs that filled Jenny’s childhood home. Just as her songs speak to the family ties that bind, so too do members of her band, with her twin sisters, Maegan and Nicola Mitchell, joining her to reinforce the adage – there are no harmonies like sibling harmonies.

“An artist who knows exactly who she is and feels no need to give way”

Stuff

Supported by The Patrons Fund

**Theia x Te Kaahu**

**Girl in a Savage World**

Genre: Music

When: Friday 20 October at 8pm

Duration: 70 minutes

Where: Carrus Crystal Palace, Southern Waterfront

Admission: $40 - $45

Bookings: <https://premier.ticketek.co.nz/shows/Show.aspx?sh=TRGTHEIA23>

Winner of the 2023 Taite Prize for Best Independent Debut and a three-time nominee at the NZ Music Awards, Theia has earned accolades from Rolling Stone and Billboard. She is at the forefront of a new generation of wāhine toa in music, determined to push boundaries.

Fresh from touring the US and Canada, celebrated singer and songwriter Theia presents this special performance of reimagined songs from her critically acclaimed alt-pop catalogue alongside dreamy waiata from her award-winning reo Māori project, Te Kaahu.

Theia’s lyricism in English is often raw and challenging, while Te Kaahu explores cultural identity, the environment and spirituality. Although seemingly worlds apart, at the heart of both projects is a songwriter and storyteller with great depth. Girl in a Savage World brings both musical identities together for the first time in a potent and thought-provoking live show, reinforcing the power that music has in bridging difference. Expect soaring heights and devastating depths.

“One of the most exciting voices in pop to emerge from New Zealand in the last five years”

Billboard Magazine

Supported by Flame

**Battle Chorus**

Created by **Tuatara Collective**

Genre: Music

When: Saturday 21 October

Duration: 60 minutes

Where: Addison Theatre, Baycourt Community and Arts Centre

Admission: $30

Bookings: <https://premier.ticketek.co.nz/shows/Show.aspx?sh=TRGBATTL23>

Two choirs go to war.

Battle Chorus is a social sing-along experience that brings people together for an unforgettable night of iconic melodies and sweet harmonies.

Under the guidance of Aotearoa musical heavyweights Jason Te Mete and Rutene Spooner, audiences form two teams, learn some choruses and then battle it out, singing every anthem in the Kiwiana songbook, leaping from Herbs to The Exponents.

No singing experience is necessary, simply a love of music and coming together with others in collective harmony. A little bit of friendly rivalry doesn’t hurt though.

So, grab a drink on us, learn a harmony or two and join forces to see which choir can take out the Battle Chorus title. Who will belt out the winning song of the night?

Supported by Mediaworks

**Tama Waipara**

**Te Katoa**

Genre: Music

When: Wednesday 25 October at 8pm

Duration: 90 minutes

Where: Carrus Crystal Palace, Southern Waterfront

Admission: $40 - $45

Bookings: <https://premier.ticketek.co.nz/shows/Show.aspx?sh=TRGTAMA23>

Journey into the mind of one of New Zealand’s finest musical talents with this celebration of new waiata.

Tama Waipara is known for his powerful voice and eclectic style, his Facebook page describes him as Alt-Soul-Indie-Māori. His album Fill Up the Silence won the 2014 NZ Music Award for Best Roots Album.

Presenting an eclectic array of kaupapa-based, reo Māori-enriched, kāinga-informed musical sophistication with longtime New York-based co-writer and producer Aaron Nevezie, Te Katoa features collaborations with composers Maisey Rika, Taharakau Stewart, Teina Moetara, Tweedie Waititi and Petera Hakiwai.

At once lush, meditative, rhythmic and irreverent, it’s a stirring expression of lived experience and inherited narratives; waiata that are formed from exploration of whakapapa and legacy.

“Sophisticated songs and soaring vocals”

Time Out, New York

Supported by Legacy Trust

**Gráda**

Genre: Music

When: Thursday 26 October at 6.30pm

Duration: 110 minutes

Where: Carrus Crystal Palace, Southern Waterfront

Admission: $45 - $50

Bookings: <https://premier.ticketek.co.nz/shows/Show.aspx?sh=TRGGRADA23>

A highlight on the traditional Irish music scene from 2001 to 2011, Gráda are reuniting in 2023 to storm the stages of Ireland and Aotearoa.

Over the course of a decade, Gráda received a raft of awards that propelled them into the elite circle of Irish supergroups. They toured the world, performing in more than 1000 cities across 30 countries.

Their sound is rooted in trad, while drawing influences from folk, jazz, world music and Americana. The band’s live shows exude energy, with an improvisation element that has made them unique within the trad music world. Their repertoire is seeded with original songs and instrumentals that have captured the imaginations of audiences all around the world.

“Gráda is to Irish music what Arcade Fire is to indie – informal, prodigious and full of spirit”

The Washington Post

Supported by BDO and Culture Ireland

**Mansfield: In Her Own Words (Unplugged)**

Genre: Music

When: Friday 27 October at 8pm

Duration: 60 minutes

Where: Carrus Crystal Palace, Southern Waterfront

Admission: $45 - $50

Bookings: <https://premier.ticketek.co.nz/shows/Show.aspx?sh=TRGMANSF23>

Katherine Mansfield was a writer who redefined literature with her experimental style. Her short stories, letters and journal entries have been translated into more than 25 languages and her life and words still inspire people around the world today.

Mansfield: In Her Own Words celebrates her profound legacy, but in musical form. Selected poems are set to contemporary music composed and performed by several of our leading songwriters and recording artists including Anna Coddington, Julia Deans, Lawrence Arabia, Mel Parsons, Lorina Harding, Charlotte Yates and French for Rabbits. Each song is linked by a curated selection of Katherine Mansfield’s letters, narrated by Michèle A’Court.

Supported by Acorn Foundation

**He’s a Rebel**

**The Up-Doos**

Genre: Music

When: Saturday 28 October at 8pm

Duration: 90 minutes

Where: Carrus Crystal Palace, Southern Waterfront

Admission: $40 - $45

Bookings: <https://premier.ticketek.co.nz/shows/Show.aspx?sh=TRGREBEL23>

Join The Up-Doos for an evening of questionable dating choices and romantic misadventures with Mr Wrong.

He’s a Rebel celebrates the girl groups of the 1960s and their iconic songs about the bad boys we hate to love, featuring a repertoire of hits including Leader of the Pack, Please Mr Postman and My Boyfriend’s Back.

With big hair and bigger harmonies, The Up-Doos breathe new life into vintage classics. Sugar-sweet love songs, odes to beautiful bad boys and full-on girl power anthems. Performed in true cabaret style this hilarious evening of entertaining music (and gorgeous outfits!) is sure to leave audiences grinning and grooving.

Supported by Uno Magazine

**Finn Andrews and NZTrio**

Genre: Music

When: Sunday 29 October at 6pm

Duration: 70 minutes

Where: X Space, Baycourt Community and Arts Centre

Admission: $45 - $52

Bookings: <https://premier.ticketek.co.nz/shows/Show.aspx?sh=TRGFINN23>

Kiwi singer/songwriter Finn Andrews, of The Veils, joins the lush sounds of violin, cello and piano from NZTrio’s Amalia Hall, Ashley Brown and Somi Kim to perform songs from Finn’s first solo album One Piece at a Time.

They’ve been described as “a match made in heaven” (The 13th Floor), and these exquisitely touching songs will draw you in and warm your soul as you listen to the combined talents of these accomplished musicians.

An intimate evening of music-making featuring songs from both The Veils and Finn's solo back catalogue, including as yet unreleased new material, masterfully arranged by composer Victoria Kelly for Finn and NZTrio.

Supported by Arvida

Presented by Tauranga Arts Festival, NZTrio and Banished Music

Developed in partnership with Auckland Live

Musical arrangements supported by Nicholas Tarling Charitable Trust

**Abby Howells**

**La Soupco**

Genre: Comedy

When: Saturday 21 October at 6pm

Duration: 60 minutes

Where: Carrus Crystal Palace, Southern Waterfront

Admission: $25 - $34

Bookings: <https://premier.ticketek.co.nz/shows/Show.aspx?sh=TRGABBY23>

A screenplay written by Abby Howells when she was eleven years old, La Soupco is a nautical romance, set in the wake of World War II. No historical research, verification or corroboration was undertaken. For the first time ever, this screenplay will be brought to life, onstage, as it was written.

Comedian Abby Howells took out this year’s prestigious Billy T Award with this exuberant take on love, nautical trauma and buying Impulse for your mum. Buckle up for an adventure.

“Joyful and authentic … As hilarious as it is transfixing”

Stuff

Supported by Holland Beckett Law

**Kura Forrester**

**Here If You Need**

Genre: Comedy

When: Saturday 21 October at 7.30pm

Duration: 60 minutes

Where: Carrus Crystal Palace, Southern Waterfront

Admission: $25 - $34

Bookings: <https://premier.ticketek.co.nz/shows/Show.aspx?sh=TRGKURA23>

From Taskmaster to her turn as Shortland Street receptionist Desi, Kura Forrester is the queen of guaranteed crack-ups.

She’s here to tell it like it is. Platonic love, puppies and how to find great ways to be there for yourself. This little symphony of self-care will leap from buying a house to being okay with giving off Aunty vibes.

Oh, and netball. There will also be netball. And malls, Kura likes malls too.

“Delightful … It’s worth getting your admin friend to sort your tickets asap”

The Spinoff

Supported by Bayleys

**Justine Smith**

**Actually, I’m a Cat Person**

Genre: Comedy

When: Saturday 21 October at 9pm

Duration: 60 minutes

Where: Carrus Crystal Palace, Southern Waterfront

Admission: $25 - $34

Bookings: <https://premier.ticketek.co.nz/shows/Show.aspx?sh=TRGJUSTI23>

Well, it’s been decided, and according to Justine, cats have won. Now that’s out of the way, we can concentrate on Justine and her brand-new show which blew audiences away at the recent New Zealand International Comedy Festival.

With a killer eyeroll and a well-placed expletive, Justine is never far from a punch line or a wild gag. Much-loved from her stints on 7 Days, Taskmaster and The Project, Justine will rock out the stories, the metaphors, the whole scenario.

Leave the kids (and cats and dogs) at home. Make a night of it. Revel in the always-hilarious Justine Smith. Expect altercations at Disneyland.

“A cocktail of frank, caustic wit and quirkiness”

Theatreview

Supported by Holland Beckett Law

**Wilson Dixon**

**Put the Gun Down, Jethro**

Genre: Comedy

When: Thursday 26 October at 8.30pm

Duration: 60 minutes

Where: Addison Theatre, Baycourt Community and Arts Centre

Admission: $44 - $49

Bookings: <https://premier.ticketek.co.nz/shows/Show.aspx?sh=TRGWILSO23>

Wilson Dixon is known to many as the greatest country singer Cripple Creek has ever produced, as well as the *only* country singer Cripple Creek has ever produced. Whichever way you look at it, it’s a pretty good achievement.

Life of late has been fun for Wilson, navigating his way through the pandemic-denying QAnon-believing alt-right-leaning members of his own family. Use of the word “fun” in the previous sentence is heavily nuanced.

Join Wilson as he performs his brand-new show with brand-new songs and stories about his, unfortunately, not brand-new extended family.

If you’re lucky he might tell a few new stories about his horse Andrew.

Supported by Port of Tauranga

**Tauranga Zinefest**

Genre: Community

When: Sunday 22 October, 10am to 3pm

Where: Cargo Shed, 5 Dive Crescent, Tauranga

Admission: Free

Buckle ya’ seat belts, Tauranga, the Zinefest is back in town! But hold up, let’s first set the zine scene…

Pronounced “zeen”, zines are short-run, self-published (maga)zines, touching on a variety of topics from music to art, to politics, sexuality and humour. Content can be written, drawn, painted, collaged, or any other form the zine maker desires. Historically, zines have served as a powerful outlet for content considered to be outside of the mainstream and can provide a safe and independent platform of expression for under-represented and marginalised voices. We’re talking Māori and other BIPOC communities, rangatahi, disabled people and the rainbow community.

Tauranga Zinefest is a free, highly visual community event, dedicated to promoting and exploring this unique sub-culture. Pop in, bring your best mate, tamariki, heck why not Nanny and Koro too, for a fun-filled day of zines, cartoons, workshops, makers’ table, photo booth, zine library and oh, so much more.

Supported by TECT and Tauranga City Council

**Biggie and Smalls
2v2 All-Style Dance Battle**

Genre: Community and Dance

Workshop: Wednesday 25 October, 6.30pm to 8pm

Dance Battle: Thursday 26 October, 6.30pm to 8.30pm

Where: Cargo Shed, 5 Dive Crescent, Tauranga

Admission: Free

Calling all street dance lovers! We’re teaming up with Aotearoa’s hottest hip-hop and street dance collective, Projekt Team, to bring you some of the biggest and baddest freestyle names in the country.

Biggie and Smalls is an epic show of street dance fun for the whole whānau. Join in the workshop one night – and then show off your skills at the all-style dance battle the next.

Everything about it is impromptu… a random selection of hip-hop music, randomly paired Biggie and Smalls teams and freestyle, improvised movement. And the best part? You’re either the dancer or the judge.

This is an awesome opportunity for new and emerging freelance dancers to enter the battlefield, with a Biggie guiding the way! Audience members will judge the battle rounds to determine who will be crowned the Biggie & Smalls Champions of the 2023 Tauranga Arts Festival!

**FREE WORKSHOP**

Don’t miss the incredible opportunity to learn from Aotearoa’s best. On Wednesday 25 October, you can learn the foundations of breaking, including footwork, freezes and power moves – for free!

Discover the funky and fluid movements of locking. Immerse yourself in the raw and expressive world of krump. Develop your own unique style and cypher with the team.

Whether you’re a beginner or an experienced dancer, there’s something for everyone. Take your street dance skills to new heights!

Register here: <https://forms.gle/P8CV48AvS8c4ABHNA>

Supported by Wright Family Foundation

**Waiata Mai**

Genre: Community and Music

When: Saturday 28 October at 4pm

Where: Edgewater Fan, Southern Waterfront

Admission: Free

Tuhia tō waiata ki tō rae
Learn your waiata, write your words on your forehead

Bring the whole whānau down to the waterfront and sing to your heart’s content with Tauranga Arts Festival’s big community singalong, Waiata Mai.

With local legends like Ria Hall (Ngāi Te Rangi, Ngāti Ranginui, Ngāti Pukenga) and the Tuatara Collective Choir leading us in song, this is a free event for the whole of Tauranga Moana, curated by Jason Te Mete (Ngāti Ranginui, Ngāi Te Rangi).

From Tū Tira Mai Ngā Iwi to Hallelujah in te reo Māori, let’s sing together. We’ll provide the words, you just bring a blanket and organise your whānau and friends.

Suitable for all ages

Supported by TECT, Tauranga City Council, Bay of Plenty Times and Wright Family Foundation

**Wham Bam Tauranga Poetry Slam**

**Motif Poetry**

Genre: Spoken Word

When: Sunday 22 October at 7pm

Duration: 120 minutes

Where: Carrus Crystal Palace, Southern Waterfront

Admission: $13 - $15

Contains adult themes, sexual themes, discussion of mental health and strong language, suitable for ages 16+

Bookings: <https://premier.ticketek.co.nz/shows/Show.aspx?sh=TRGWHAM23>

It’s alive. It’s energetic. It explodes from the mic and flies around the room. Welcome to the third annual Wham Bam Tauranga Poetry Slam

Get ready for three rounds of audience-judged, original work from established and emerging local performers. The poets battle it out and, by the end of the night, we will crown a new Tauranga Slam Champ who will go on to represent Tauranga at the national NZ Poetry Slam.

Slams are safe, fun, inclusive spaces and, whether you perform sonnets, rap, activism or comedy, all styles are welcome in this fun format. The point is not the points, the point is the poetry.

Entries are open. To compete, register at taurangafestival.co.nz

**Scenes from a Yellow Peril**

Written by **Nathan Joe**

Directed by **Jane Yonge**

Genre: Playreading

When: Sunday 29 October at 5pm

Duration: 80 minutes

Where: University of Waikato, Tauranga Campus

Admission: $10 - $20

Content: Adult themes, strong language

Bookings: <https://premier.ticketek.co.nz/shows/Show.aspx?sh=TRGYELLO23>

A dizzying mix of humour and rage, commentary and confessional, this is a spoken word experience that packs a punch.

Scenes from a Yellow Peril takes a scalpel to the outdated and orientalist images of the demure, soft-spoken and subservient East Asian. From examinations of rage to romantic and familial love, consumption of media, ancestral tributes and the deconstruction of language, the play is a kaleidoscopic vision of contemporary identity politics.

Award-winning Chinese-Kiwi playwright Nathan Joe pens devastatingly acute observations of the East Asian-New Zealand experience. Performed at microphones, this rehearsed reading is the real deal. Not to be missed.

Supported by Asia New Zealand Foundation

Presented by arrangement with Playmarket

**Wunderboxes**

Genre: Visual Arts

When: From Thursday 19 October

Every day, 10am to 4pm

Where: TAG Pop-Up Gallery, 42-44 Devonport Road

Admission: Free

Welcome to Tauranga Art Gallery’s magical miniature art adventure! Experience the enchantment of Wunderboxes – five captivating, interactive art installations designed for the entire family.

Hidden throughout central Tauranga Moana, this thrilling trail begins at the new TAG Pop-Up Gallery. Grab a map and brace yourself for an extraordinary journey of discovery.

The Wunderboxes share Tauranga Moana’s special stories and foster a connection with the seasons and the rhythmic dance of maramataka, the Māori lunar calendar. A year-long project – starting at the Festival - discover the first wave of Wunderbox installations, and dive into the radiant world of Raumati. Guided by Tauranga artists drawing inspiration from local pūrākau, embark on an extraordinary artistic exploration fuelled by the spirit of summertime.

Suitable for all ages

Presented by Toi Tauranga Art Gallery

**A Seat at the Table**

Genre: Visual Arts

When: Thursday 19 October to Saturday 28 October

Every day, 10am to 4pm

Where: Red Square, Corner of Willow Street and Spring Street

Admission: Free

Many of life’s most important and memorable conversations happen over dinner. But what happens when not everyone gets an invitation?

Presented by Fiona Menzies and curated by Rosie Dawson-Hewes, A Seat at the Tableattempts to rebalance the voices at the dinner table of contemporary fine art. Because, let’s be real for a minute – historically, there haven’t been many seats offered to diverse points of view or artforms.

The extravagant dinner table which awaits you is set with works by Tracy Keith, Victoria McIntosh, Elliot Mason, Devyn Ormsby, Tessa Russell, Hollie Ryan, Nephi Tupaea and more. A veritable smorgasbord of delectable treats, with something for all palates – from whimsical to meaningful.

Taste a more balanced contemporary art diet. Everyone’s invited to this dinner party!

Supported by Creative Communities

**Tai Timu Tai Pari**

Genre: Visual Arts

When: Thursday 19 October, from 5pm to 7pm

Friday 20 October to Monday 23 October, 10am to 4pm

Where: Cargo Shed, 5 Dive Crescent, Tauranga

Admission: Free

The tide is a metaphor for how we rise together and reside together.

This group exhibition by local artists and designers from Toi Ohomai | Te Pūkenga is set visibly against the incoming and outgoing tide of Te Awanui, echoing the location of the Papa Unaunahi (Cargo Shed).

Change, renewal, equity and movement. These works, which draw from traditional and digital technologies, speak to our people, time and place, acknowledging and understanding our history and desire for partnership.

Tai Timu Tai Pari also boasts a series of pop-up performances: from fashion shows to live music and visual art workshops. A full schedule of events is coming soon.

Presented by Toi Ohomai | Te Pūkenga

**Te Whakaata i Te Matapihi**

**Glimpses**

Genre: Visual Arts and Heritage

When: Sunday 29 October at 4pm

Duration: 60 minutes

Where: University of Waikato, Tauranga Campus

Admission: Free

Hei pupuri te aho o te wānanga, hei kawe i ngā kura huna a Rua

To hold fast to the strands of valued knowledge

Museums can be places of inclusion and belonging, with stories and objects that connect with many diverse communities.

In the latest Te Whakaata i Te Matapihi: Glimpses project, our city’s museum collection has been explored by local rangatahi. They were challenged to find objects that speak to them. And, for the first time in the history of the collection, they were also invited to become youth agents in a co-collecting project that will bring a youth voice to the collection. Their selections will be presented at the 2023 Tauranga Arts Festival and celebrated with the launch of a new Glimpses publication that tells their stories.

Presented by Tauranga Heritage Collection

Supported by Tauranga City Council

**Every Word Matters**

Genre: Speakers

When: Saturday 28 October at 10am

Duration: 60 minutes

Where: University of Waikato, Tauranga Campus

Admission: $10 - $20

Bookings: <https://premier.ticketek.co.nz/shows/Show.aspx?sh=TRGEVERY23>

Forty years ago, a scruffy and mischievous pooch emerged from a dairy, captivating kids across Aotearoa and the world. Since then, Dame Lynley Dodd has charted the adventures of Hairy Maclary, Slinky Malinki, Zachary Quack and Stickybeak Syd, doing double duty as both writer and illustrator.

Celebrating this glorious fortieth anniversary, Lynley reflects on her legacy, the happy accident that led to Hairy Maclary’s creation and how in a picture book, every word matters.

Supported by Books a Plenty and Craigs Investment Partners

**Mansfield Fangirls**

Genre: Speakers

When: Saturday 28 October at 11.30am

Duration: 60 minutes

Where: University of Waikato, Tauranga Campus

Admission: $10 - $20

Bookings: <https://premier.ticketek.co.nz/shows/Show.aspx?sh=TRGFANGI23>

Katherine Mansfield made an impact. She played a part in shaping modernism, redefining literature with her experimental style. The ways in which she risked, provoked and lived, as well as her extraordinary canon of writing continue to inspire artists around the world today.

A special treat to align with the Katherine Mansfield 2023 Centenary. Verb Wellington Founder and The Spinoff Books Editor Claire Mabey chats with artists including Michèle A’Court, Charlotte Yates and Katie Wolfe to find out how Mansfield has intersected with and influenced their work.

Supported by Books a Plenty and Craigs Investment Partners

**Comfort/Disturb**

Genre: Speakers

When: Saturday 28 October at 1.30pm

Duration: 60 minutes

Where: University of Waikato, Tauranga Campus

Admission: $10 - $20

Bookings: <https://premier.ticketek.co.nz/shows/Show.aspx?sh=TRGCOMFO23>

Mexican poet, educator and human rights activist Cesar A. Cruz once said, “art should comfort the disturbed, and disturb the comfortable”.

In this hour-long panel discussion, award-winning documentary theatre pioneer Katie Wolfe and Ockham Book award-winner Tusiata Avia interrogate how they weave both celebration and challenge into their work – and how Cruz’s provocation resonates with their own artistic practice.

Supported by Books a Plenty and Craigs Investment Partners

**The Big Stuff**

Genre: Speakers

When: Saturday 28 October at 3pm

Duration: 60 minutes

Where: University of Waikato, Tauranga Campus

Admission: $10 - $20

Bookings: <https://premier.ticketek.co.nz/shows/Show.aspx?sh=TRGBIGST23>

Emily Perkins is one of our most celebrated authors, but it’s been eleven years since readers devoured a new novel from her. One of the most anticipated novels of 2023, Lioness, was released in July, and was recently described by Primer as “Succession with a much-needed dose of feminism”.

Lioness navigates the faultlines of mid-life change, asking if it’s actually possible to change your life. What are the masks we wear and how hard is it to tear them off?

Emily talks to Claire Mabey, deep-diving into the big stuff which is alive in her work: the fiftysomething experience, self-doubt, and how you can grapple with and find agency.

Supported by Books a Plenty and Craigs Investment Partners

**The Edge of Possibility**

Genre: Speakers

When: Saturday 28 October at 4.30pm

Duration: 60 minutes

Where: University of Waikato, Tauranga Campus

Admission: $10 - $20

Bookings: <https://premier.ticketek.co.nz/shows/Show.aspx?sh=TRGEDGE23>

“Resilience has never been more important. The pandemic, war, climate uncertainty... The magnitude and speed of change, ambiguity and unpredictability we have had to deal with in recent times, and will continue to experience, makes it a vital necessity.”

These are the words of Dr Alia Bojilova (TV3’s Tracked), a peak performance psychologist who understands the idea of resilience only too well. She grew up in Eastern Europe during some of the most tumultuous times in recent history.

Alia draws on her experience in combat, and working with elite athletes, entrepreneurs and the SAS, to explore how resilience is not a trait or a given, but the result of a series of small decisions on how you engage with each moment.

Supported by Books a Plenty and Craigs Investment Partners

**Organising the Crime**

Genre: Speakers

When: Sunday 29 October at 10am

Duration: 60 minutes

Where: University of Waikato, Tauranga Campus

Admission: $10 - $20

Bookings: <https://premier.ticketek.co.nz/shows/Show.aspx?sh=TRGCRIME23>

Jared Savage, who has twice been named NZ Reporter of the Year, has carved a niche reporting on organised crime. His 2019 doco, Fighting the Demon, delved into Aotearoa’s ongoing methamphetamine crisis.

His bestselling 2020 book, Gangland, shone a light on the evolution of gangs in Aotearoa. Hot off the press, his follow-up Gangster’s Paradise is about the deadly escalation of gang culture in this country. In recent times, gang recruitment has almost doubled; 300 million dollars are made a year dealing meth alone. It is a world of drugs, guns and money. Lots of money.

Jared goes behind the headlines to tell tales of turf wars, retaliation and retribution.

Supported by Books a Plenty and Craigs Investment Partners

**Emergency Emergency**

Genre: Speakers

When: Sunday 29 October at 11.30am

Duration: 60 minutes

Where: University of Waikato, Tauranga Campus

Admission: $10 - $20

Bookings: <https://premier.ticketek.co.nz/shows/Show.aspx?sh=TRGEMERG23>

In thinking about the challenges of the climate crisis, life is definitely cloudy rather than sunny. But Tauranga Moana boasts local heroes who have been considering a way forward. These eco-warriors are connecting, enabling and empowering others.

We speak to Heidi Hughes, Marty Hoffart and others about their work championing minimisation and resource management. With the recent turbulent weather events experientially jolting our eyes open, our panel considers what action we must now take, both as individuals and collectively.

Supported by Books a Plenty and Craigs Investment Partners

**In Frame: Gaylene Preston**

Genre: Speakers

When: Sunday 29 October at 1.30pm

Duration: 60 minutes

Where: University of Waikato, Tauranga Campus

Admission: $10 - $20

Bookings: <https://premier.ticketek.co.nz/shows/Show.aspx?sh=TRGFRAME23>

Gaylene Preston has been making films for more than fifty years. One of our most innovative storytellers, she has always sought out narratives which have yet to be told. From Mr Wrong to My Year with Helen, her films have a distinctive New Zealand flavour and a strong social message.

Her Ockham New Zealand Book Award longlisted memoir, Gaylene’s Take, charts her compelling journey as both filmmaker and human. We talk to her about the highs, the lows and the liberation you can find when you blaze your own trail.

Supported by Books a Plenty and Craigs Investment Partners

**Schools Festival**

Our Schools Festival gives Tauranga and Western Bays rangatahi the opportunity to access a range of arts experiences. The Festival engages schools and students with special matinee performances at student-friendly prices, inspiring future theatremakers, innovators and arts lovers. We take bespoke workshops which leap across artforms into schools, catering to a wide age range.

We are able to bring these low-cost experiences to our kura because of the amazing support of Taylor Bros Transport, who continue to invest in and back our community.

In 2023, rangatahi will be able to participate in workshops with Ockham award-winning poet Tusiata Avia, alt-country music sensations Jenny Mitchell and the Mitchell Twins and one of Aotearoa’s hottest street dance collectives, Projekt Team. They’ll also have the chance to blast off to Mars with the thrilling interactive space adventure, Mission Control: Mars.

**Carrus Crystal Palace**

Step inside the magical travelling Speigeltent and be transported to the ambience of another world. Our iconic festival venue is returning and will be located at the southern end of Tauranga’s waterfront, hosting our music and comedy performances.

Based on the 19th century Belgium-designed Spiegeltent, the opulent wooden interior includes ornate mirrors etched with ferns, stained-glass windows featuring harakeke, and pāua set into the pillars.

Immersed with the laughter, tears, awe and wonder of past performances, the addictive atmosphere of the Palace will be open for you to experience over the 10 nights of the festival.

Attend, be awed, get whisked away – travel with us in the Palace on an unforgettable festival journey.

**Access at Tauranga Arts Festival**

Tauranga Arts Festival Trust is committed to offering a range of access services so everyone can enjoy the programme. The information below highlights the initiatives in place to deliver a more accessible festival.

If you wish to speak to one of our team about your access requirements, please do not hesitate to contact us at **access@taurangafestival.co.nz**

You can also find more information on our website **taurangafestival.co.nz**

**COMPANION TICKETS**

We have a number of complimentary companion tickets available at each event. If you require a companion ticket, please email the festival team.

**WHEELCHAIR ACCESS BOOKINGS**

If you require wheelchair seating for any of the performances scheduled at Baycourt Community and Arts Centre, please make your booking directly with them. You can contact them on 07 577 7188 or send an email to **baycourtboxoffice@tauranga.govt.nz** For wheelchair seating at all other venues please email the festival team.

**HEARING LOOP**

A hearing loop is available in the Addison Theatre at Baycourt Community and Arts Centre, from rows F to S. To access this wireless audio signal, change your hearing aid setting to ‘Telecoil’ and it will connect.

**SERVICE DOGS**

Licensed hearing and guide dogs are welcome at all our venues – please let us know if you are bringing your service dog with you so we can arrange appropriate seating for you both.

**SAFE SPACE**

Tauranga Arts Festival is committed to providing a safe space for all. We have zero tolerance for discriminatory and bullying behaviours.

**ACCESSIBLE FESTIVAL PERFORMANCES**We will be sharing the most up-to-date information about accessible performances on our website **taurangafestival.co.nz**

We are continually looking for ways to improve our understanding of accessibility needs, universal design and social inclusion. If you have any feedback in this regard, please reach out to us.

**Book Your Tickets**

Ticketek

0800 842 538

07 577 7188

ticketek.co.nz

In Person

Baycourt Box Office

38 Durham Street, Tauranga

Mon-Fri, 10am-4pm

Booking fees apply to all ticket purchases

**EARLYBIRD TICKETS** are available for a large number of events in the festival programme. There’s a window in which to nab them though. You’ve got until August 27, so check out the individual event pages for more details.

**COVID-19**

Sadly, the pandemic is still with us. Tauranga Arts Festival is committed to the safety and wellbeing of the community, audiences and artists. We will comply with the latest Government health advice at the time of each event. If an artist becomes unwell and can no longer travel or perform, events may be postponed or cancelled. We will offer refunds to our ticket holders should this happen. We thank you for your trust and understanding as we navigate running events at this time.

**OUR ENVIRONMENT**

Tauranga Arts Festival aims to present a Zero Waste Event.During the 10-day Festival, more than 30,000 people will experience our event in some way. We encourage all our community to join us to reduce the impact events have on our environment.

**Connect**

Facebook: @taurangafestival

Instagram: @taurangafestival

Twitter: @tgafestival

#taurangafestival

**Tauranga Arts Festival Trust**

**Chair**

Kathryn Lellman

**Trustees**

Colin Bond

Lesley Fraser

Catherine Harold

Toni Henderson

Puhirake Ihaka

Brit Ivil

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Nikki Hansen

**Artistic Director**

Shane Bosher

**Associate Artistic Director**

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**Publicist**

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Vicki Cooksley

Entertainment Production Services

**Venue Partners**

Baycourt Community & Arts Centre

University of Waikato - Tauranga

**Accommodation Partner**

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