



NELSON ARTS FESTIVAL

19 - 29 Oct 2023

PROGRAMME

THE SAVAGE COLONISER SHOW TUSIATA AVIA

Theatre Royal

Thurs 19 + Fri 20 Oct | 8pm | 70 min

NZSL Interpreted

nelsonartsfestival.nz

Supported by:



Core Funder:



Nelson
City Council

Te Kaunihera o
Whakatū



Show Credits

Written by: Tusiata Avia

Directed by: Anapela Polata'ivao

Executive Producer: Victor Rodger

Assistant Director: Stacey Leilua

Costume Designer: Elizabeth Whiting

Production Designers Brad Gledhill and Rachel Marlow

Choreographers: Tupua Tigafua and Mario Faumui

Composer: David Long

Lighting operator: Peter Davison

Sound Engineer: Matt Eller

Stage Manager: Jazmin Whittall

Performers: Stacey Leilua, Joanna Mika-Toloa, Mario Faumui, Ilaisaane Green, Petmal Petelo, Iuni-Katalaina Polataivao-Saute

Interim Producer: Tupe Lualua

Interim Tour Manager: Kasi Valu

Running time approx 1hr 10mins | Images: Raymond Sagapolutele



Writer: TUSIATA AVIA

One of Aranui's finest, Tusiata Avia crushed it with her first poetry collection, *Wild Dogs Under My Skirt*, which she toured around the world for several years as a one woman show. In 2020 she was named a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to poetry and arts and the following year became the first female Pasifika winner of the Ockham award for poetry with her fourth collection *The Savage Coloniser Book*.

Director: ANAPELA POLATA'IVAO

Multi-award-winning director and actress Anapela Polata'ivao is from the villages of Vailoa ma Vaiusu in Upolu and Fagae'e ma Safune in Savai'i. Since graduating from Toi Whakaari: New Zealand Drama School in 2000 she has directed diverse works such as *Alofagia Le Opera* with Sole Mio and the Pasifika musical *The Factory*. She won awards for both directing and acting in the critically acclaimed FCC production of *Wild Dogs Under My Skirt*.

Executive Producer: VICTOR RODGER

Best known for turning his daddy issues into a cottage industry, Wainon-born playwright Victor Rodger created the theatre entity FCC (Flow, Create, Connect) to give his Pasifika mates roles that placed them at the heart of the narrative. Celebrated for his hit play *Black Faggot*, he was named an Officer of the Order of New Zealand Merit in 2021 for services to theatre and Pacific arts.

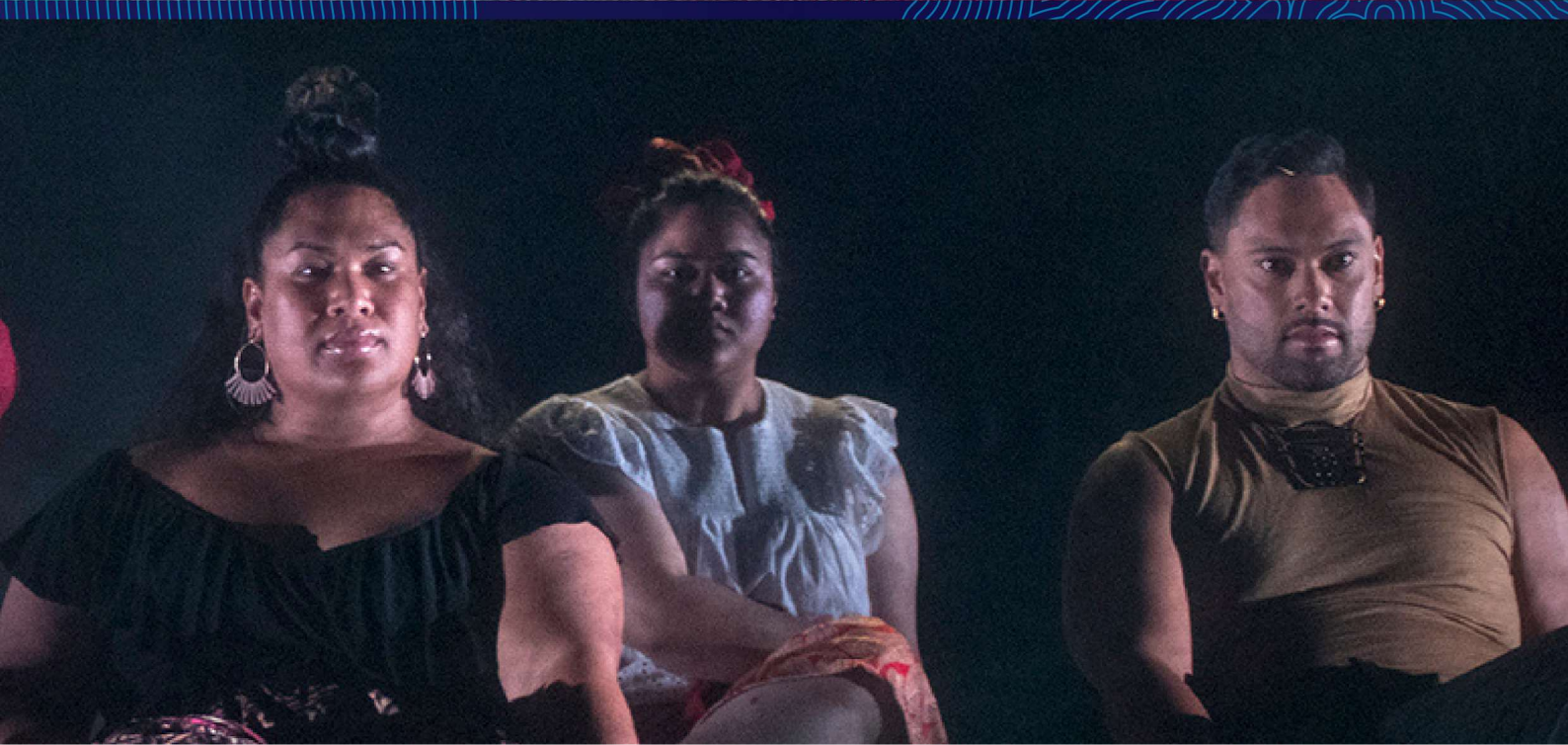
Actor/Assistant Director: STACEY LEILUA

Stacey Leilua grew up on the streets of Kura and Rewa before studying acting at Unitec and then became a director of the late, great Kila Kokonut Krew South Auckland theatre collective. An original cast member of *Wild Dogs Under My Skirt*, she is now one of the stars of the hit NBC comedy series *Young Rock*.

Actor/Choreographer: MARIO FAUMUI

A son of Roskill, CA, quadruple threat Mario Faumui has garnered acclaim as an actor, choreographer, director and writer. The choreographer for *Wild Dogs Under My Skirt* since 2016 and a founding member of the acclaimed MVPFAFF dance company Fine Fatale, last year he was nominated for Best Director at the New Zealand TV Awards for his work on the drama series *Panthers*.





Actor: JOANNA MIKA-TOLOA

Long-time Point Chev resident Joanna Mika-Toloa is a singer and actress whose credits include Victor Rodger's plays *Girl on a Corner* and *Sons*. She is an original member of the *Wild Dogs Under My Skirt* cast who performed to critical acclaim Off Broadway at the SoHo Playhouse in 2020 and also travelled to Edinburgh as part of the cast of the Pasifika musical *The Factory* in 2014.

Actor: ILAISAANE GREEN

The star of *Tropical Love Birds* at Auckland Arts Festival 2021, Otara native, Ilaisaane Green's credits include *The Commons* opposite *Downton Abbey's* Joanne Froggatt and box office smash hit *Red, White & Brass*. For her role in the groundbreaking Tongan language webseries *Brutal Lives*, she won Best Actress at the 2020 Sydney Web Festival.

Actor: PETMAL PETELO

A proud daughter of Samoa, Petmal Petelo was the stage manager for the first production of *Wild Dogs Under My Skirt* in 2016, before joining the cast in 2018. Since then, she has won a Best Newcomer Award at the 2018 Auckland Theatre Awards and made her screen debut in *Teine Sa: The Ancient Ones*.

Actor: IUNI-KATALAINA POLATA'IVAO-SAUTE

Straight outta Rewa, Iuni-Katalaina Polata'ivao Saute is also straight outta high school. *The Savage Coloniser Show* is her professional acting debut.

Production Designers: BRADLEY GLEDHILL & RACHEL MARLOW

One Time Lower Hutt local Rachel Marlow and North Shore native Bradley Gledhill are the co-founders of design company Filament Eleven 11 and create production designs – lighting/set/video – for live events and public experiences, both nationally and internationally. Individually, Marlow was the award winning lighting designer for FCC's acclaimed production of *Wild Dogs Under My Skirt* while Gledhill's many credits include lighting Victor Rodger's play *My Name is Gary Cooper*.

Composer: DAVID LONG

In 2022 Upper Hutt muso David Long released the album *Ash and Bone* and is soon to release a chamber orchestra piece, *I'll Hum the First Few Bars*. He also scored Loren Taylor's upcoming feature *The Moon is Upside Down* and Paul Oremland's *Mysterious Ways*. In 2021 he scored the feature film *Punch*, composed the score for Tupua Tigafua's dance show *Ciggy Butts in the Sand* and won Best Score for the TV series, *The Luminaries*.





Costume Designer: ELIZABETH WHITING

Khandallah native Elizabeth Whiting is the Rolls Royce of costume designers in Aotearoa and once dressed *Savage Coloniser's* director Anapela Polataivao as a mafia-esque rat in *The Worm*. Her work for opera, theatre, ballet and the World of Wearable Arts has been seen throughout Aotearoa New Zealand and as far abroad as Edinburgh, Perth, Seattle and Kentucky. No stranger to designing Pasifika works, her past credits including designs for *Black Grace* and Victor Rodger's *My Name is Gary Cooper* for Auckland Theatre Company.

Choreographer: TUPUA TIGAFUA

Tupua Tigafua has danced with companies such as Black Grace, Mau and White Face Crew before establishing his own path as an Independent artist. A son of Mt Wellington, in 2017 he debuted his original work *Shel We* at the Measina Festival to huge acclaim and went on to perform it at the BIBU biennial in Sweden. Most recently he collaborated with composer David Long on the celebrated piece *Ciggie Butts in the Sand*. He has previously collaborated with *The Savage Coloniser Show* director Anapela Polata'ivao on *Alofagia*, *Le Opera* with Sole Mio.

Stage manager: JAZMIN WHITTALL

Lighting operator: PETER DAVISON

Sound engineer: MATT ELLER

Interim Producer: TUPE LUALUA

Tour manager: KASI VALU

Fa'afetai tele lava to Le Moana, Louise Gallagher, Creative New Zealand, Vaimaila Urale-Baker, Leki Jackson Bourke, Tusitina & Pulega Polata'ivao, Rocky Manusaute, Vela Manusaute, Letti Wickman, Sapati Apa-Fepulea'i, Lyncia Muller, Sese Pahulu, Fa'amele Etuale, Frankie Adams and Onehunga Community House.

New Zealand Sign Language Interpreting provided by Platform Interpreting New Zealand.

Audio Description provided by Audio Described Aotearoa Ltd.



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