



TE AHUREI TOI O TĀMAKI
AUCKLAND
ARTS FESTIVAL

Personal



Digital Show Programme

Rangatira, Q Theatre

6–9 March 2025

**Produced by Jodee Mundy Collaborations
in association with Quiet Riot Creative**

Creator, Writer & Performer

Jodee Mundy OAM

Director

Merophie Carr

Producer

Linda Catalano



55mins no interval

Suitable for ages 8+. All shows are bilingual
English and Australian Sign Language (Auslan).

Set & Lighting Design

Jen Hector

Sound Design

Madeleine Flynn

Tim Humphrey

Video Design

Rhian Hinkley

Script Dramaturg

Sandra Fiona Long

Movement Consultant

Jo Dunbar

Auslan Translation Consultant

Gavin Rose-Mundy

Stage Manager / Technical Operator

Toni Patchett

Production Manager

Jenny Hector

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Acknowledgements

***Personal* is presented by
Te Ahurei Toi o Tāmaki
Auckland Arts Festival
with support from**



Australian High Commission
New Zealand

Jodee Mundy would like to thank:

The Mundy family, artists and creative team; my five-year-old daughter Evie Molly; Campbell Burn; Next Wave Inc. and Creative Australia.



Personal

Accessibility



The following Deaf and hard-of-hearing accessible performances of *Personal* (and supporting events) are scheduled during the Festival:

Thursday 6 March OPENING NIGHT

Personal – performance,

7.30pm (55mins)

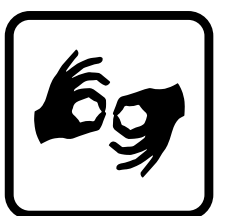
Australian Sign language (Auslan) and English.



Friday 7 March

Auckland Deaf Club meeting, 6.30pm

Meet Jodee and talk with her before the show.



Personal – performance,

7.30pm (55mins)

Australian Sign language (Auslan) and English.



Personal – post-show Q&A with Jodee,

8.30pm (20mins)

Facilitator: Rāhera Turner.

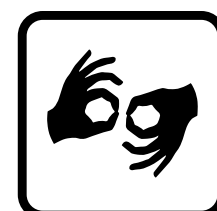
Presented in Auslan, NZSL and interpreted into English.



Saturday 8 March

Personal – two performances,
3.30pm & 7.30pm (55mins each)

Australian Sign language
(Auslan) and English.



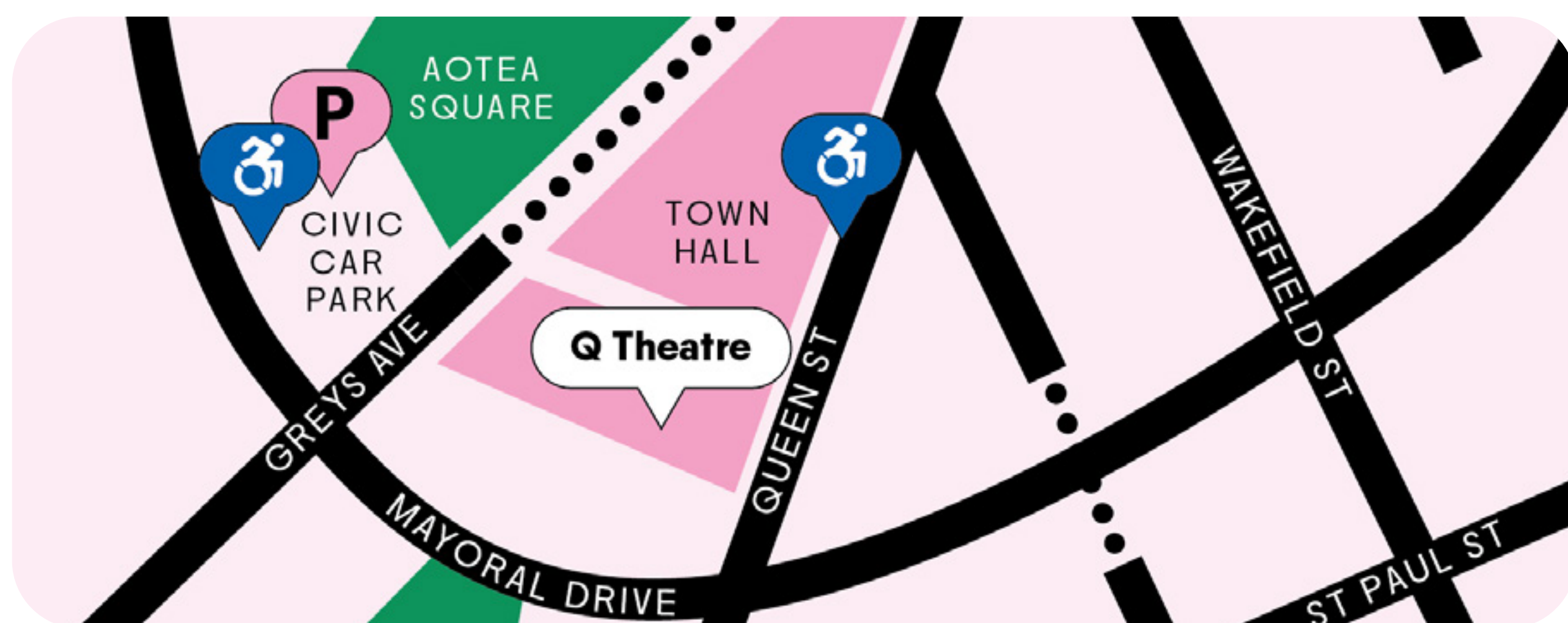
Sunday 9 March

Personal – performance,
3.30pm (55mins)

Audio described and
Relaxed performance.



The venue for all *Personal* performances
and events is Rangatira in Q Theatre,
305 Queen Street, Auckland CBD.



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About the Show



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About the Show

It wasn't until Jodee Mundy was five years old and lost at Kmart that she realised the rest of her family was Deaf. She didn't see 'disability' — only the love and protection of those closest to her.

In *Personal*, she conveys her experience as the only hearing person in a Deaf family, through a captivating blend of performance, storytelling, multimedia and animation.

Mundy delves into the contradictions of inhabiting two worlds: living in a Deaf family, where using sign language is natural; and living in a society that sees only the family's disability with voyeuristic curiosity.

The role children of Deaf adults play in paving the way for their family — as interpreter, authority, conduit — is central to this very intimate story. Created with a talented team of collaborators and presented in two languages via a virtual interpreter, *Personal* is a smart, touching and deeply personal work exploring disability and how we perceive one another.



Personal

About the Creator



Jodee Mundy OAM

Jodee Mundy is an interdisciplinary artist and cultural leader working across the independent, small to medium arts sectors, as well as, for festivals and in major

art organisations. A creative director, performer, writer, activist, creative producer, executive producer, commissioner, interpreter, film and festival maker, Mundy is a CODA (child of Deaf adults) and is the only person who hears as everyone in her immediate family are Deaf. Her mother tongue is Australian Sign Language while English is her second language.

A proud CODA member of the Australian Deaf community, in 2019, Jodee was diagnosed with an incurable life-threatening illness. She lives with gratitude for each day and has an acquired disability. As a disabled mother to two young girls, she lives and works on the lands of the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung peoples in Naarm (Melbourne).

Currently, after six years, Mundy has returned to freelance practice, focusing on national and international touring and screenings of her two works *Personal* and *Imagined Touch*. She is developing a children's book as well as, consulting on arts and disability for various organisations, speaking on panels, mentoring and working on new ideas. Mundy is on the Board of Directors of Next Wave



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Inc. Australia's leading artist- led organisation for art making and experimentation by emerging artists.

From 2007–12, Mundy's earlier work includes producing and creating *Pigeonhole* (White Night Melbourne) and *When Claude Met Roxy* (Brisbane Festival) with collaborator Dan Goronszy through their outfit The CollaborAgents. She directed for the Snuff Puppets, performed with Strange Fruit and co-founded Deaf Arts Network (Arts Access Victoria). In the UK, she worked as a British Sign Language Interpreter with Deafinitely Theatre, Graeae Theatre and for a Deaf TV programme, *See Hear*, on BBC. She also was an Interpreter for Sky News. A company member of Polyglot Theatre since 2007, she performed in multiple shows including *We Built This City*, *Muckheap*, *Tangle*, *Paper Planet*, *Ants* and *Bellbird*, touring to the UK, Ireland, China, Brasil, Taiwan, Singapore, Japan as well as across Australia.

In 2012, Mundy formed, Jodee Mundy Collaborations, her own independent creative producing company. Awarded the Australia Council Structured Mentorship in Community Partnerships, in 2014, Mundy's works since then have attracted investment from organisations such as Creative Australia, Australia Council for the Arts, Creative Victoria, Screen Australia, Vic Screen, City of Melbourne as well as philanthropists including the Besen Foundation, Ian Potter Foundation and The Pratt Foundation.



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Her works include: *Imagined Touch*, a ten-year project, that was created with Deafblind performers Heather Lawson and Michelle Stevens and artists Jen Hector, Madeleine Flynn and Tim Humphrey. This culminated into an award-winning live show, installation, research report, *Inclusion is a Myth*, and an award-winning film documentary. Premiering at Arts House in 2016 and then at Sydney Festival in 2017, the installation toured to the UK for its European Premiere, presented as part of Spill Festival of Performance at Dance East in Ipswich, and then was presented in London at the Barbican Centre in 2019.

With sell-out seasons and reviews to critical acclaim, *Imagined Touch* received a Green Room Award for Innovation in Experiential Theatre in 2017 and was nominated for Best Direction for a Documentary Short (subject) by the Australian Directors Guild in 2023.

In 2015, *A Sanctuary in the City*, commissioned by the City of Melbourne, was an installation created with primary carers and family members with disability over a one-year period. Installed along the Yarra River, this participatory work, film and installation attracted over two thousand of the general public to enter, take respite and reflect on how people can better care for themselves and their wellbeing.

In 2018, Mundy premiered the solo multimedia performance *Personal*. Premiering at Arts House, it explored her experience as the only hearing person



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in her Deaf family. Presented in Auslan and English, *Personal* was then presented at the Sydney Opera House as part of the inaugural Unwrapped festival, followed by a tour to nine venues across regional Victoria with a final season at Darwin Festival. *Personal* was nominated for four Green Room Awards for Production, Writing, Direction and Design and for a Helpmanns Award for Best Visual or Physical Production. Mundy was artist in residence at La Boite Theatre and Artist in Residence at Arts Centre Melbourne developing new works around Disability Arts Practice.

In 2019, Mundy received a 2019 Scholarship from the prestigious National Institute of Dramatic Arts to study a Masters in Fine Art-Cultural Leadership. Soon after, she became Head of Festival and Events for the City of Darebin and became the founding and inaugural Director of FUSE, a new multi-arts festival in Melbourne's inner north.

Launched in March 2020 until March 2023, she started out with a team of four staff and grew it to a team of nine. Her role was to executive produce and creatively lead the team as they collectively designed, pivoted and delivered five festivals (online/hybrid and in person) during Melbourne's six lock downs. She had oversight of multiple commissions and partnerships with a particular focus on working with First Nations artists, artists of colour, artists who are from the LGBTIQ+ community



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and artists who are Deaf and Disabled. Highlight projects include: Curators in Residence Program, *Ganbu Gulin* (One Mob), created with the Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee and the Wurundjeri Council, as Executive Producer of film documentary *Ganbu Gulin* (SBS Acquisition for NITV), *Take Back!* presented with Multicultural Arts Victoria featuring 20 artists of colour (Best Variety Show Green Room Awards 2021), *Out of the Park Picnic* presented with Multicultural Arts Victoria, *The Last Dance* by All the Queens Men, *An Uncertain Time* (Pony Cam), and *An Uncertain Time* by Sarah Austin (Contemporary Performance for Children and Families, Green Room Awards 2022).

In 2020, the Tarrawarra Museum of Art and Victoria Together commissioned Mundy to create the short film, *Killing Time*. Featuring her partner and two small children, it explored their time during the pandemic as they lived through the six lock down periods in Melbourne. This colourful, intense and dynamic film, was creatively captioned and toured the film festival circuit.

In 2020, she was awarded an Order of Australia medal (OAM) for Service to the Performing Arts.

In 2022, Jodee was part of the SYNC Leadership Cohort, a disability led coaching programme. Also in 2022, her film documentary *Imagined Touch*, which she produced and directed (written and co-directed by Sofya Gollan) was screened at the



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Other Film Festival, at the Australian Centre of Moving Image, as part of the inaugural Alter State Festival.

In 2023, *Imagined Touch* was an official selection in the Melbourne Women in Film Festival, then was selected as part of ReelAbilities Film Festival in New York followed by a screening at the infamous Lincoln Center.

In September and October 2023, Mundy toured her show *Personal* to Brisbane Festival at Metro Arts and then toured to six venues in Sydney, NSW, Bendigo and Melbourne after a five-year performing hiatus. This tour attracted widely sold-out shows with significant interest coming from abroad for its third and future tour.

From 2023, Mundy was Creative Lead of Alter State, a biannual, award-winning Disability-led contemporary arts festival co-founded and co-presented by Arts Centre Melbourne and Arts Access Victoria.

Alter State was awarded for Contribution to the Sector by the Green Room Awards 2023 under the leadership of Caroline Bowditch. Mundy was honoured to take Alter State to the next step held in October 2024 at Arts Centre Melbourne and expanding Alter State to an extra eight venues across Melbourne making this the largest Disability-led Arts festival in the southern hemisphere.

She has been a peer assessor for the Australia Council, for Creative Victoria, Arts House City of Melbourne and for the City of Darebin and sits on a number of advisory



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panels including the Evolution of Disability Arts in Australia, a Research Project in partnership with Arts Access Victoria, Universities of Melbourne and Queensland.

Her passion is to share knowledge and opportunities artists, cultural leaders and arts professionals from marginalised backgrounds in order to increase cultural equity, leadership diversity and representation across stages, screens and public spaces. She has mentored many artists from a wide range of backgrounds, many of whom are Deaf and Disabled artists.

She curated a six-month professional development programme, Arts Activated for Arts Access Victoria, which was presented in Auslan, and curated three panels for Arts Centre Melbourne, including State of Deaf Arts, The Future of Inclusive Leadership and Disability Arts: The Last Avante Garde. She has been a mentor for artists as part of Melbourne Fringe Professional Development programmes, Midsumma Pathways, RedHot Arts and for Flow Festival.

Mundy trained in Animateuring (theatre making) at the Victorian College of the Arts, in physical theatre at the Ecole De Mime Corporeal Dramatique in London, in Solo Arts Practice at Victoria University and in Interpreting and Translation of British Sign Language at the University of Central Lancashire. She is a Fellow of the Centre of Sustainable Leadership and a Fellow of Sync Leadership, a disabled-led programme exploring Deaf and Disabled leadership.



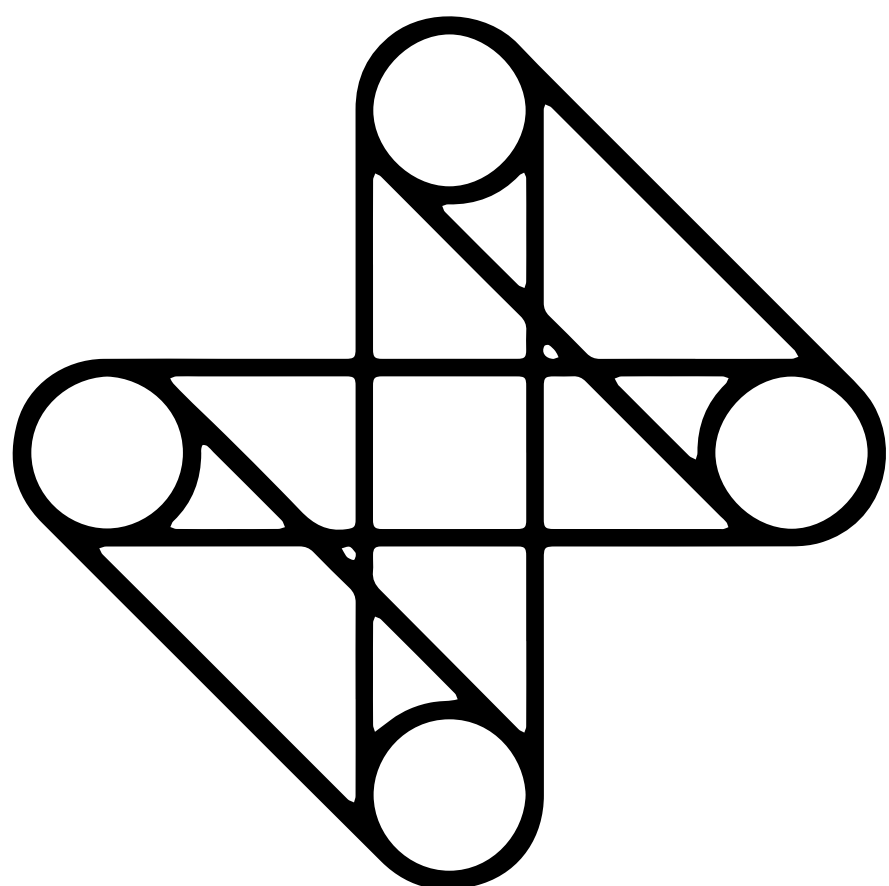
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About the Companies



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Jodee Mundy Collaborations

is an award-winning independent artist and disability-led producing company formed in 2012, in response to the multiple collaborations and partnerships established and continuing

to develop with artists, diverse communities, organisations and funders with the shared value of investing and platforming Deaf and Disability Arts.

Artist Jodee Mundy OAM is committed to producing high quality theatre works, public events, installations, films, festivals and artistic interventions bringing together cross- sections of who may not regularly encounter one another.

Her artistic aim is for audiences to witness works that challenge and inspire them to acknowledge: the value of live performance and communities and the ability of the art to redefine and skew the notions of inclusiveness.

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About the Creators



Quiet RIOT Creative develops, commissions, presents and represents daring, joyful work built on the values of innovation, diversity and collaboration

Founded by award-winning producer Linda Catalano, Quiet RIOT believes art making has the capacity to create change by encouraging others to look at the world around them differently.

We are producers, agents, curators, tastemakers and problem solvers. We work with artists to initiate, develop and create art, and take it to audiences across Australia and around the world. Radical kindness, curiosity, social justice, and carefully considered strategy and collaborations with artists to create contemporary works across genres, cultures, styles, and scale is at the heart of what we do.

Our work includes small independent venue presentations, major theatre and festival productions and large-scale major outdoor events. We are committed to developing new and innovative ways of producing work and we maintain a strong network across Australia and the world, connecting artists with venues, festivals, partners and audiences who share our values.

We don't just bring ideas to life. We build opportunities, challenge the status quo and push boundaries so we can bravely take leaps into the unexpected & unknown with confidence.



About the Festival

Who We Are

Te Ahurei Toi o Tāmaki Auckland Arts Festival is a melting pot of shared experiences, whakaaro, live entertainment and kōrero every March.

Our lifeblood is arts and culture in contemporary Tāmaki Makaurau. We care deeply about celebrating artists both here in Aotearoa and from around the world, serving the creatives and communities behind the works we present, honouring te reo and te ao Māori in all that we do, and contributing to a better city and society. That's us.

Every March you'll see a big reunion with our city's arts community — many of whom we consider our whānau whānui, our extended family — alongside our mahi towards better accessibility and education opportunities for our audiences. We're also passionate about the works we curate and our collaboration with the many people who make those experiences happen. We strive to celebrate with generosity; human connection and manaakitanga will always be at the heart of what we stand for.

When we're on, we're on a mission to make Auckland an amazing place to socialise and be entertained in. Whether you're discovering the city for the first time or rekindling your love for its hidden gems, we truly believe there's something for everyone at the Festival.

The Auckland Festival Trust Ph +64 09 309 0989 Email info@aaf.co.nz

Ground Floor, 48 Greys Avenue, Auckland 1010

PO Box 5419, Victoria Street West, Auckland 1142, Aotearoa New Zealand



About the Festival

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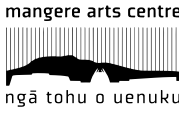
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13–16 March 2025

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