

Meremere

By Rodney Bell
Directed by Malia Johnston
Company: Movement of the Human



Circa One
22 - 30 June

Tues - Thurs 6.30pm
Fri - Sat 8pm. Sun 4pm
\$25 - \$46

Meremere is a powerful autobiographical work from Rodney Bell (Ngati Maniopoto). *Meremere* is a courageous response to a series of life events; an inspirational performance with live music from Eden Mulholland. The multimedia work was developed in collaboration with director Malia Johnston's performance design company Movement of the Human (MOTH). *Meremere* has won Rodney the 2017 Arts Access Artistic Achievement Award, and the 2016 Attitude Artistic Achievement Award in what has been an extraordinary career.

A critically acclaimed dancer and performer, Rodney is internationally renowned for his physically integrated performance. He began performing in 1994 as a founding member of Touch Compass Dance Trust. Rodney relocated to California in 2007 to join AXIS Dance Company as principal dancer, touring to 32 states until 2012. He faced many challenges after finishing with AXIS before his return to New Zealand, including a period of homelessness on the streets of San Francisco; a life changing experience that inspired the creation of *Meremere*.

The work is insightful, surprising very personal and incredibly engaging.



Design Credit: Ian Hammond

Photo Credit: Tom Hoyle

Rodney and Malia performed together between 1999-2003 and Rodney has worked closely with Malia since his return to Aotearoa. They recently created a work, *Hurihuri*, for the Commonwealth Games Festival 2018 and Rodney performed with Brydie Colquhoun at the inaugural Asia Pacific festival 'True Colours' in Singapore. Malia has a 20-year background in choreography and performance direction, she has collaborated with an incredibly diverse range of performers and arts organisations, creating new work for both the national and international stage.

Meremere promises to be an inspirational night of performance.

"Rodney's dancing is moving and absorbing, sculptural and full of emotion..." - NZ Herald

"...it is an intrinsically New Zealand story of great courage and achievement..." - DANZ

Circa Theatre Café & Bar

Enjoy Circa Theatre's historical ambience in our newly refurbished Café & Bar. Try our fresh and seasonally-changing menu with a selection of New Zealand wines, served from mid-morning until late, Tuesday to Sunday.

Stop in for a coffee, a bite to eat or a glass of wine on your way home. The newly extended outdoor space will be the place to be on those beautiful sunny Wellington days.

For private venue hire and catering information at Circa Theatre in partnership with Te Papa Venues, contact us on (04) 381 7272 or venues@tepapa.co.nz.



Congratulations to our **Friends of Circa Winner** *Jenny Hanna*. You have been selected as our Winners of the monthly prize draw! You will be receiving a double pass to an upcoming Circa Theatre production.



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