

KIA MAU
FESTIVAL

WRITTEN BY ROY IRO, REON BELL & SEAN RIVERA
DIRECTED BY SEPELINI MUA'AU

creative
nz
ARTS COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND TOI AOTEAROA



FLAMES

A HIP-HOP MUSICAL

CIRCA
THEATRE

13 – 17 JUNE
circa.co.nz | 04 801 7992

Timeline

This is the fourth iteration of FLAMES: A Hip-Hop Musical, the brainchild of Roy Iro (Kūki 'Airani) and Reon Bell (Ngāti Tūwharetoa) during their time at drama school alongside Sean Rivera (Filipino-Bicolano/Pākeha). In 2021, they performed a 25-minute showing at the New Zealand Fringe Festival in collaboration with Putahi Festival, where they won the Parkin Development Season Award. As part of the award, they rewrote and restaged FLAMES into a 60-minute show at BATS Theatre, later that same year. In 2022, Le Moana invited FLAMES creators for another run of the show at Measina Festival, where Sepelini Mua'au (Levī-Sāleimoa/Matāutu-Falelātai) first joined the creative waka as Director. FLAMES' story and characters were refined, and rewritten again, new actors were introduced with the show performed out in Porirua and Lower Hutt for high school audiences. In 2023, it was confirmed FLAMES would join Kia Mau Festival to present another iteration at Circa Theatre, which is where you meet us here tonight; a fourth "origin" story, in another multiverse of FLAMES plotlines, presenting a new "WHODUNNIT" style episode with added talent and a fresh live aspect to the music.

Director's Note

The FLAMES cast and crew are a talented bunch. I can't say much more, this is my second time having a run at this show and it's always a blast. It's hard, of course, the boys push me to the edge every rehearsal, but a show like this really does require true collaboration and trust. Most of this cast and crew were required on multiple kaupapa throughout rehearsals, which relinquished any sense of ownership over the work or specific roles and responsibilities, demanding a collaborative effort for all to just chip in and build the show, make the music, update storylines, edit individual character dialogues and raps altogether. Roy, Sean and Reon did the heavy lifting with writing, and the rest of us picked up where we could. I'm always proud to help present any work with other BIPOC creatives, but especially alongside special festivals such as Kia Mau. Enjoy the show, it's fun and silly for good reason, and you just get to witness what I had the pleasure of seeing every rehearsal, mediocre performances, and subpar musicianship. All love for FLAMES, Sepe.

He Tāngata

CREATED BY REON BELL, SEAN RIVERA AND ROY IRO

SEPELINI MUA'AU	DIRECTOR
LUCAS NEAL	SET DESIGN
MICHAEL LYELL-O'REILLY	LIGHTING DESIGN
REON BELL	SOUND DESIGN

CAST

ROY IRO	MORGAN REED
REON BELL	IAN SHEFF
SEAN RIVERA	ANDRE 'THE GREAT' BAMBINO
MOANA ETE	THE DON
GYPSYMAE HARIHONA	THE GODFATHER

PRODUCTION TEAM

TAYLOR-ROSE TEREKIA	PRODUCER
AMANDA JOE	PRODUCTION & STAGE MANAGER
MICHAEL LYELL-O'REILLY	LIGHTING OPERATOR
SARAH DAVITT	SOUND OPERATOR
EDEN WINTERS	SET INTERN
NATHAN ARNOTT	SET CREW
DANIELLE MENDOZA	GRAPHIC DESIGNER
ROC TORIO	PHOTOGRAPHER

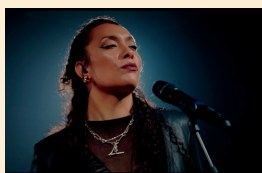
Ngā Mihi Nui ki a Koutou

Creative New Zealand, Toi Whakaari: NZ Drama School, Te Herenga Waka–Victoria University of Wellington, koha from Michael Lyell-O'Reilly, Colin Edison, Shanell Bielawa, Mitch Sigley, Gabriella Eaton, Paul Tozer, Eleanor Strathern, Ben White, Ian Murray, The Murray Family, The Joe Family, Huia Zofia Max, Ayush Singh, Zody Takurua, Manu.

KIA MAU FESTIVAL

AT CIRCA THEATRE

www.circa.co.nz



AJA: Manawa Pao

Circa One | 2-3 June | \$25 - \$45

Kia Mau Festival will be opened by award winning musician, singer and songwriter, AJA.



Mokomoko

Circa Two | 6-10 June | \$20 - \$30

Written & Directed by Sherilee Kahui.



Waiwhakaata – Reflections in the Water

Circa One | 7 - 10 June | \$25 - \$45

Written by Niwa Milroy & Cian Parker & Directed by Eddie Elliott.



Flames: A Hip-hop Musical

Circa Two | 13 – 17 June | \$20 - \$30

By Roy Iro, Reon Bell and Sepelini Mua'au & Directed by Sepelini Mua'au.



O le Pepelo, Le Gaoi Ma Le Pala'ai – The Liar, the Thief and the Coward

Circa One | 15 - 17 June | \$25 - \$45

Co-Writer/Director: Ui Natano Keni (Samoan/Aotearoa); Co-Writer / Producer: Sarita Keo Kossamak So (Khmer/Aotearoa); I Ken So Productions