



MOKOMOKO

Nā Sherilee
Kahui

6TH - 10TH
JUNE 2023

KIA MAU
FESTIVAL

TOI Toi Whakaari
New Zealand
Drama School

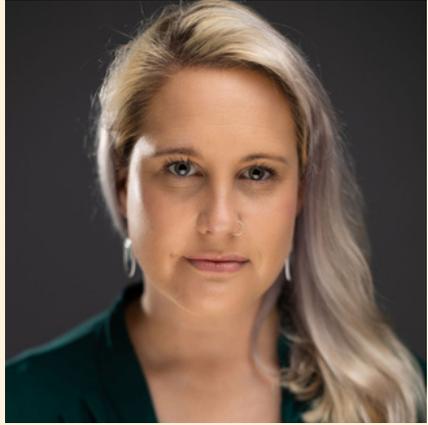
CIRCA
THEATRE

CIRCA.CO.NZ
04 8017992

Director's Note

EXTENDED CUT

Ko Taranaki te mounga
Ko Pungaereere te awa
Ko Kurahaupō te waka
Ko Taranaki te iwi
Ko Te Pōtaka te marae
Ko Ngāti Haupoto te hapū
Ko Sherilee Kahui toku ingoa



Mokomoko has a been a long time coming.

When Mīria George approached me to write a full-length piece for Breaking Ground 2021, I jumped at the opportunity – well, I would have jumped, if I wasn't heavily pregnant with my second pēpi, Jethro! Given baby's imminent arrival, I chose to re-work my solo show (A Smidge of) Pidge.* While Pidge was about existential dread and searching for purpose, in Mokomoko I'm exploring how grounding in one's identity builds resilience and helps with trauma healing.

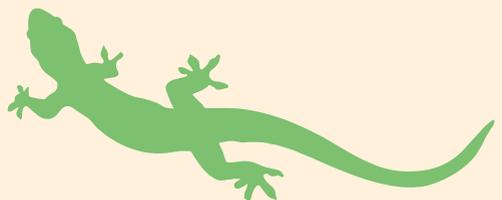
I was privileged to be able to work with Sarita So as my dramaturg while I was writing. Sarita pushed me to be clear about my ideas and what I was trying to say. She helped guide me to map out Moko's journey and encouraged me to learn more about our atua wahine, Hinauri, and how her story could weave into and hold mine.

I first learned of Hinauri through reading *The Songs and Stories of Taranaki: The Writings of Te Kāhui Kararehe* compiled and edited by Ailsa Smith. The version of the myth used in the show is a summary of Te Kāhui's kōrero, and as such is in Taranaki mita. Te Kāhui is my whānau's eponymous ancestor and my great-great-great grandfather. He was one of the infamous fencers arrested in 1880 for their passive resistance against government surveyors at Parihaka. E rere ana āku mihi nunui ki a koutou. Moe mai rā, e koro.

Ka hoki mai anō ki te hunga ora...

As part of *Breaking Ground*, Mokomoko had a rehearsed reading in front of a live audience at Te Auaha. Lynda Chanwai-Earle had the role of dramaturg for this part of the process and helped to guide Shania Bailey-Edmonds and Shervonne Grierson in their reading of the work. I had the privilege of sitting and listening to how the audience responded as well as participating in a feedback session, where I learned what worked, what didn't and what needed more attention. This was an invaluable experience, and I am hugely grateful to everyone at the Kia Mau Festival and *Breaking Ground* for facilitating this opportunity.

I am also grateful to Jonty and the team at BATS Theatre, for hosting us for our development season. What a privilege to be able to give this piece the space and time it needed to come into te ao mārama...



E rere ana āku mihi maioha ki a koe e te teina, e Mycah. He wahine māia, he wahine iho pūmanawa hoki.

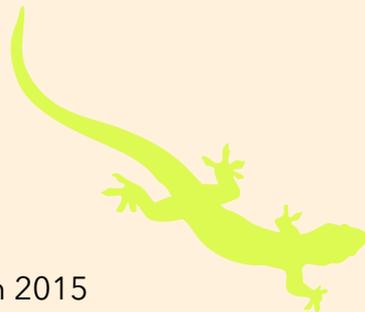
Me mihi au hoki ki a Regan Taylor; naū i whakatuwhera i ōku karu ki tēnei pūrākau anō. Ohaoha ana te whakamahi mai i ōu mātauranga hei āwhina i a mātou e puāwai ana. Ngā mihi, e hoa.

My hope for Mokomoko is that it helps in some small way; whether it validates, resonates, or challenges. Ko te mea tino whakahirahira ki a au, he koha tēnei whakaari mō Ngāi Wāhine Māori.

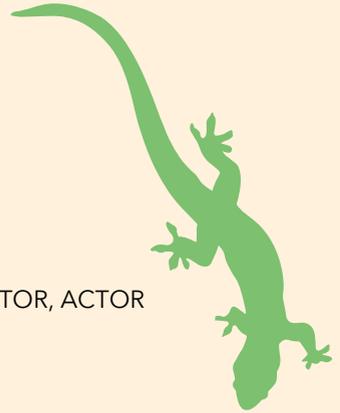
E kore e pau, he ika unahi nui.

Nā Sherilee Kahui

*(A Smidge of) Pidge was first developed in 2015 predominantly over two workshops. The first workshop, held in August 2015, was attended by: Jimmy Sutcliffe, Nell Williams, Michael Trigg, Jake Preval, Milo Haigh and Tristan Carter. A second workshop, in November 2015, was attended by Jimmy and Nell. There are a couple of scenes in Mokomoko that had their genesis at this workshop. Pidge had several seasons and was initially co-directed by Calvin Petersen & Jane Yonge; Jane directed a couple of seasons by herself in 2017, and finally, Hannah Clarke directed the 2018 season.



He Tāngata



SHERILEE KAHUI	WRITER, DIRECTOR, ACTOR
MYCAH KEALL	ACTOR
GAY PUKETAPU-ANDREWS	KAUMĀTUA
H-J KILKELLY	PRODUCER
DANIELLE GARDINER	MITA CONSULTANT
THOMAS CARROLL	TAONGA PUORO, SX
NICHOLAS ERICKSON	TAONGA PUORO, SX
HĀMI HAWKINS	LX DESIGN, OPERATOR
MOLLY FRIIS	PRODUCTION DESIGNER
PAREKAWA FINLAY	STAGE MANAGER, PRODUCTION INTERN
STEVIE GREEKS	MARKETING, PUBLICITY
AMANDA NOBLETT	CHOREOGRAPHY, WAIATA CONSULTANT
XOË HALL	POSTER DESIGN
JAMIE KAHUI	PRODUCTION PHOTOGRAPHY



AV CREATION

KATE POMEROY	AV LEAD
TREY STRICKLAND	AV MENTOR
HANNAH CLARKE	VO ACTOR
DANIEL FRASER	SOUND
AARON LEWIS	CAMERA
ROBERTO PANOVSKI	SPF SOUNDTRACK COMPOSER
DUNCAN PHILLIPS	MUSAK CREATION
MATTHEW STANCOMBE	ADDITIONAL TARANAKI AV FOOTAGE

Content Advisories: References to suicide & violence

If you need to step outside for a bit, kei te pai, feel free to take a seat in the bar or just outside the theatre and come back in when you are ready.



Ngā Mihi Nui ki a Koutou

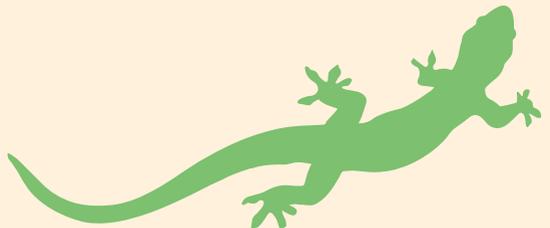
Tawata Productions, Toi Whakaari, BATS Theatre, Kia Mau Festival + Circa Theatre

And to all those who have assisted Mokomoko on this journey:

Mīria George, Hone Kouka, Nathan Mudge, Lynda Chanwai-Earle, Sarita So, Shania Bailey-Edmonds, Shervonne Grierson, Nell Williams, Michael Trigg, Jimmy Sutcliffe, Tristan Carter, Ngā Hua Toi, Michaela Simpson, Nick Zwart, Jordan Boyle, Shona Rapira-Davies, Bernard Blackburn, Joyce Kupe-Stephens, Tānemahuta Gray, Morgan Whitfield (Illumination Optics), Stuart McKenzie, Sarai Perenise-Ropeti, Mafo'e Fuimaono, Megan Gladding, Alex Martyn, Stephanie St George, Joshua Boudreau, Thomas Van der Sluis, Capital E, Lora Nankivell, Rowan Pierce, Newtown School, Morgan Bowles, Grace O'Brien, Sally Hughes + Regan Taylor

Thanks to my mum for looking after the kids!

We acknowledge Dalvanus Prime and Ngoi Pewhairangi as the creators of Poi E - and give our massive thanks to the Dalvanus Prime Estate for their tautoko of this project.



Tautoko

The following helplines are available for people needing help:

- Safe to Talk
- Sexual harm helpline: 0800 044334, text: 4334 or email: support@safetotalk.nz
- Rape Crisis: 0800 88 33 00
- Women's Refuge or call 0800 733 843
- Shine domestic abuse services or free call: 0508 744 633 (24/7, Live Webchat is also available)
- Hey Bro helpline - supporting men to be free from violence 0800 HeyBro (439 276)
- Family violence information line - to find out about local services or how to help someone else call: 0800 456 450
- Oranga Tamariki line - for concerns about children and young people: 0508 326 459, or email: contact@ot.govt.nz1737,
- Need to talk? - Free call or text: 1737 for mental health support from a trained counsellor
- Youthline or call: 0800 376 633, free text: 234, email: talk@youthline.co.nz
- Shakti - for migrant and refugee women - 0800 742 584 - 24 hours
- Elder Abuse Helpline: 0800 32 668 65 - 24 hours, text: 5032, email: support@elderabuse.nz
- Wellington Help - for individuals, whānau and communities affected by sexual abuse in the Wellington Region: 04 801 6655 & push 0 at the menu - 24 hours

For information on family violence and sexual violence:

- Hohou te rongu kahukura - outing violence and building rainbow communities free from violence
- You, me, us - promoting healthy queer, trans and takatapui relationships
- Sensitive Claims for sexual abuse (ACC) 0800 735 566.

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