

NEW ZEALAND FESTIVAL

23 Feb – 18 Mar 2018

WELLINGTON

Nau mai haere mai ki
Te Taurima o Aotearoa
Kei ngā kaiwaiata,
ngā kaiwhakaari
ngā kaikanikani
me ngā kaimātakitaki
whakatau mai rā

Welcome to the
New Zealand Festival
To the artists and
to our audiences,
we greet you

Kia ora and welcome to a New Zealand Festival journey that will blow your mind. The theme of journey runs through humankind's most powerful stories. Every culture and epoch has their own tale of quest and travel, but in the Pacific this is inextricably linked to the sea – Moananui-a-Kiwa, the mother who connects us all – and to waka – the vessels that carry life. This Festival we celebrate the epic voyages that brought people to this land, before we turn to the future and contemplate the voyages to come. From Kupe to conquistadors and Star Wars, these stories of journey will make your heart sing.

Once again, I am humbled by the immense dedication and passion that has gone into making this programme possible. A huge welcome and thank you to the artists who transform Wellington during the Festival. There are works that come to us from some of the greatest stages across the world, while others are new creations that will have their first outing here. All of them are evidence that the power of art is very much alive. As technology transforms both our environment and our inner worlds, it is inspiring to see the next generation of artists grasp this new reality and find expression for a new sense of self and purpose.

Thank you also to the Festival partners and supporters who have worked with us to make this programme possible. I look forward to sharing an incredible three weeks with you.

SHELAGH MAGADZA
Artistic Director

AND THERE'S MORE ...

- Fun FAMILY shows will keep the kids entertained.
 - You won't pay a cent for our FREE shows.
 - Go online to festival.co.nz to learn more about Festival shows, there's video and audio galore.
 - Sign up to the New Zealand Festival enews for deals and more at festival.co.nz/email.
 - Plus you could win an incredible opening weekend Festival experience for two in Wellington!
-

BOOKING TICKETS

NEED HELP?

CALL THE NEW ZEALAND FESTIVAL ON (04) 912 0411

HOW TO BOOK

ONLINE

festival.co.nz or ticketmaster.co.nz

PHONE

0800 120 071

IN PERSON

At Ticketmaster agencies nationwide

POST

NZ Festival Bookings
c/o Ticketmaster
PO Box 106443
Auckland 1143

EMAIL

To book your tickets by email, fill in the Festival's booking form, scan and email to groups@ticketmaster.co.nz.

DOOR SALES

Tickets may be purchased at the venue one hour prior to the show – provided there are still tickets available!

BOOKING PERIODS

THE CULTURE CLUB

Preferential booking from Wed 18 Oct to Sun 29 Oct 2017 (excluding any previously announced shows). Learn more about The Culture Club at festival.co.nz/join.

PUBLIC SALES

From Mon 30 Oct 2017. Early Bird pricing ends on Mon 27 Nov 2017.

EARLY BIRD SALES

Book early and save! An Early Bird price is available for most shows, giving you a discount on the top ticket price. But only until Mon 27 Nov 2017.

WRITERS & READERS

Preferential booking period for The Culture Club supporters and Take Five Pass holders begins Thu 1 Feb 2018. Public sales open Thu 8 Feb 2018.

TAKE FIVE PASS

A discounted Writers & Readers multi-pass is available for purchase from Wed 18 Oct 2017 (for The Culture Club) and Mon 30 Oct 2017 (General Public). Offer ends Fri 23 Feb 2018.

TICKETMASTER BOOKING FEES

Ticketmaster booking fees apply to all ticket purchases, including door sales.

PHONE, EMAIL AND POSTAL BOOKINGS

\$11.00 per transaction

INTERNET BOOKINGS

Tickets posted, picked up at venue or printed at home: \$5 per transaction

Tickets couriered: \$9 per transaction

TICKETMASTER BOX OFFICES

\$2 per ticket (St James Theatre and i-SITE at Michael Fowler Centre)

CREDIT CARDS

A payment processing fee of no more than 2.3% applies to purchases by credit card, debit card or gift card.

BOOKING INFORMATION

BOOKING ONLINE?

Get your tickets posted or delivered via email for printing at home.

BOOKING FOR MORE THAN 10 PEOPLE?

Please use our personalized booking service. Phone Ticketmaster on (04) 384 3842.

TICKETS DIDN'T ARRIVE?

If you haven't received your tickets within 10 days of booking, please contact Ticketmaster.

CHILD PRICING

Selected shows have special prices for children aged 15 years and under. All children must have a ticket, regardless of age.

SEATING / PRICING

PREMIUM SEATING (P)

Available for selected shows. Premium seats are the very best seats in which to see the show. Premium seats are limited and sell quickly.

A RESERVE (A)

These are the best seats in the venue (after Premium, if Premium seating applies). A Reserve seats are not sight obstructed and offer the best vantage point for seeing the show.

B RESERVE (B)

These are the second-best seats in the venue. B Reserve seats are not sight obstructed and offer a good view of the performance. (Please note: where there is no reserve lower than B Reserve, the C or D Reserve definition may apply.)

C RESERVE (C)

A limited number of seats are available in this price category. These seats are not the best seats in the venue, and are often at the back or to the very sides of the venue.

D RESERVE (D)

These represent the lower priced seats in the venue and may have minor sightline and/or sound issues.

RESTRICTED VIEW (RV)

These are the lowest priced seats in the venue and will have restricted sightlines and/or sound issues.

GENERAL ADMISSION

This is typically one price entry where you can choose your own seat on arrival. The event may be seated or standing, as indicated.

WHEELCHAIR SEATING

It is essential you advise us at the time of booking if you have any special seating requirements, including wheelchair and/or companion seating. At all venues there is an allocated wheelchair area but availability is limited. All efforts are made to ensure wheelchair seating/spaces are in the A Reserve area (and will be sold at the lowest non-restricted view price).

Limited free companion seating is also available. Contact the Festival for details.

SEATING REQUESTS

If you have a particular seating request we advise you to phone through your booking and discuss your requirements with a Ticketmaster customer service representative.

DISCLAIMER / IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Information in this programme is correct at the time of printing. The Festival reserves the right to alter without notice any events, programmes and artists. All ticket purchases are subject to availability, and the best available seats (in each price category) at the time of purchase will be sold.

Latecomers may be excluded from a show or admitted only at a suitable point in the performance. Latecomers will not be entitled to a transfer or a refund.

The use of cameras or recording devices is prohibited. All mobile phones and other devices that emit a sound must be either turned off or switched to silent for the duration of the performance.

Tickets are not transferable and there are no refunds or exchanges permitted, except as required under New Zealand consumer law. If a show is cancelled you will be refunded your ticket price (excluding the Ticketmaster service fee).

Any claims on refunds for cancelled shows must be done prior to Fri 23 Mar 2018, via Ticketmaster.

NEW ZEALAND FESTIVAL & TE ĀTI AWA / TARANAKI WHĀNUI IWI PRESENT KUPE: FESTIVAL OPENING NIGHT

Project Navigator and Waka Expert Hoturoa Barclay-Kerr
Project Director Anna Marbrook
Project Designer Kasia Pol

NEW ZEALAND / COOK ISLANDS / SAMOA

As dusk falls, join a cast of thousands on Wellington's stunning waterfront for the once-in-a-lifetime 2018 New Zealand Festival opening night event, Kupe.

Inspired by the arrival in Aotearoa of great navigator and explorer Kupe, this free, whānau-friendly spectacular is part one of A Waka Odyssey and a landmark celebration of our shared voyaging history. Be a part of history in the making, welcoming a majestic fleet of waka hourua (traditional double-hulled sailing canoes) and their fearless crew, as they sail across the waters of Te Whanganui-a-Tara, Wellington Harbour – a moving finale to their months-long journey from Samoa, the Cook Islands and around New Zealand.

Then let the sounds of the Pacific surround you in this theatrical extravaganza featuring performers, a mass choir, a thousand-strong haka and a musical score by Warren Maxwell (Trinity Roots, Little Bushman).

Kupe sparks a week-long celebration of our place in the Pacific, including a Petone beach party for all the whānau and more...

WHEN

Fri 23 Feb, 7pm

DURATION

Approx. 1hr

WHERE

Wellington Harbour and Taranaki Wharf

FREE ENTRY

FUNDERS



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Wellington Regional Amenities Fund is a partnership between Wellington City Council, Hutt City Council, Upper Hutt City Council, Kāpiti Coast District Council and Porirua City Council and thanks to Te Puni Kōkiri

COME ON BOARD ...

From November 2017, you can follow A Waka Odyssey online. Join our fleet of Pacific sailing waka and their heroic crew on an adventure of a lifetime, across the Pacific Ocean and around Aotearoa.

Sign up for Festival email updates and become part of the story. You'll also be first in line to buy tickets for strictly-limited waka harbour sailings when they go on sale.

Plus you will be in to win an amazing opening weekend Festival experience for two, including Air New Zealand flights, QT Museum Wellington accommodation and much more.

Haere mai – Come on board

festival.co.nz/waka

#NZWaka

KUPE DREAMING

Waka are at the heart of the Pacific, and in this week-long series of events – part three of A Waka Odyssey – waka arts and culture take centre stage. From waka sailings on the harbour, behind-the-scenes tours of waka taonga at Te Papa and celestial navigation at Space Place to a new Kupe theatre work by Apirana Taylor (see page 22), storytelling and a party night ... Dive in and discover more about these living treasures. See festival.co.nz/waka for more details.

Regional events co-hosted by Ngāti Toa

WHEN

Fri 23 Feb – Fri 2 Mar

WHERE

Wellington Harbour and waterfront, and other locations around the city and region

KUPE LANDING: PETONE FAMILY DAY

FREE / FAMILY / MUSIC

Join friends and whānau, old and new, for a day of music, food and waka fun on the Petone Foreshore, part two of A Waka Odyssey. Stand on the beach where the great Pacific explorer Kupe stood more than 700 years ago. Watch a magnificent fleet of waka hourua (traditional double-hulled sailing canoes) and waka taua (war canoes) sail up to shore, as we continue the celebration of waka voyaging and our place in the Pacific. With the waka landing on the beach, Moana fans and their families can get up close and climb on board. Meet the navigators and their crew and find out more about their journeys, and about star navigation. The party continues all afternoon with live music, DJs, cultural performances, food stalls and more.

WHEN

Sat 24 Feb, 12.30 – 6.30pm

WHERE

Hikoikoi, Petone Foreshore

FREE ENTRY

THE SELECT (THE SUN ALSO RISES)

Based on the novel *The Sun Also Rises* by Ernest Hemingway

Created and performed by Elevator Repair Service

Directed by John Collins

UNITED STATES

THEATRE / ARTIST TALK

The giddy atmosphere of 1920s Paris and Spain explodes from the stage in this unique dramatisation of Ernest Hemingway's classic first novel, *The Sun Also Rises*.

Set in the jazz age of post-World War I Europe, a group of lost youths drinks away the horrors of war in a quest for freedom, love and life. Hemingway's text is delivered word-for-word by the highly acclaimed New York ensemble Elevator Repair Service in an energetic, riotous, genre-defying stage performance.

"Dazzlingly free and inventive" and "profoundly intelligent" (*The Scotsman*), *The Select (The Sun Also Rises)* effortlessly rises to the challenge of its ambitions, and from this classic of American literature, a new classic of American theatre is born.



"You will remember every magic, sensual pleasure" - TIME OUT NEW YORK

WHEN

Sat 24 Feb – Thu 1 Mar, 6.30pm (except Mon)

Sun 25 Feb, 12.30pm

WHERE

Opera House

TICKETS

Early Bird A\$89

A\$99

B\$79

C\$59

DURATION

3hrs 30mins (incl. interval)

POST-SHOW ARTIST TALK

Tue 27 Feb, Opera House auditorium

PARTNERED BY



The performance on Sun 25 Feb at 12.30pm will be audio described.

THE WETA DIGITAL SEASON OF
BARBER SHOP CHRONICLES

Fuel, National Theatre and West Yorkshire Playhouse

Written by Inua Ellams

UNITED KINGDOM
THEATRE / ARTIST TALK

Straight from its sell-out debut at London's National Theatre, Barber Shop Chronicles has audiences and critics buzzing.

This lively, life-affirming and "irresistibly joyful" (Daily Mail) portrait of the modern-day barber shop tackles the big topics – fatherhood, friendship, politics and football – against an energetic backdrop of banter, boasting and African beats.

In a universal tale that spans Johannesburg, Harare, Kampala, Lagos, Accra and London, this “flamboyant, musical, moveable feast” (The Times) captures the heart and soul of the barber shop as a place for African men to gather and talk (and talk and talk) – with some hair trimming on the side.

Barber Shop Chronicles is guaranteed great entertainment, from the heart. Take a front-row seat in an intimate theatre space within Wellington’s TSB Bank Arena and be transported to the barber shops of Africa and London. Settle in for an exhilarating night of theatre.



THE STAGE (UK)



THE INDEPENDENT (UK)

“An absolute cracker”- FINANCIAL TIMES (UK)

WHEN

Sat 24 Feb – Sun 4 Mar, 7.30pm (except Mon)

Sun 25 Feb & Sun 4 Mar, 1.30pm

WHERE

TSB Bank Arena

TICKETS

Early Bird A\$79

A\$89

B\$69

DURATION

1hr 45mins

POST-SHOW ARTIST TALK

Wed 28 Feb, TSB Bank Arena auditorium

The performance on Wed 28 Feb at 7.30pm will be New Zealand Sign Language interpreted.

PARTNERED BY



THANKS TO

British High Commission

HOME

Commissioned by Brooklyn Academy of Music, New Zealand Festival, Arizona State University Gammage and the Edinburgh International Festival
Created by Geoff Sobelle

UNITED STATES THEATRE

What makes a house a home? Multi-award-winning theatre artist Geoff Sobelle casts his penetrating gaze over our favourite four walls in his new theatre work, co-commissioned by the New Zealand Festival.

Home is a large-scale collaborative performance that explores and explodes the relationship between a “house” and this place we call “home”. On stage, a house appears. You watch it fill room by room as generations of inhabitants move in, grow up, get old, argue, do laundry, fall in love, work and party. From solitude to riotous party, these walls contain the stuff of life.

Actor-illusionist-inventor Sobelle is known for his virtuosic works of visual theatre. Here a cast of seven actors and the live music of American folk-rock artist Elvis Perkins invite us into the rituals and relationships that create a home. This joyous meditation on our domestic selves gives you a prime spot at the family dinner table – it’s an interactive art installation with a twist.

“Actor-creator, magician and illusionist, Geoff Sobelle performs miracles”
– PHINDIE (US)

WHEN

Wed 7 – Sun 11 Mar, 7.30pm

WHERE

Opera House

TICKETS

Early Bird A\$69

A\$79

B\$59

C\$39

DURATION

1hr 30mins

PARTNERED BY

MinterEllison
RuddWatts

À Õ Làng Phõ

Nouveau Cirque du Vietnam
Lune Production with Théâtre Séart – Scène nationale

VIETNAM

CIRCUS / SPECTACULAR / FAMILY

Whisk the whole family away to a village in Vietnam at À Õ Làng Phõ – a circus show of extraordinary feats and infectious fun by a dazzling cast of acrobats and live musicians.

Be transported from the calm, rural backwaters to the brash, bustling city in this ingenious and dare-devil performance that is “a delight from start to finish” (Perth Now).

While a story unfolds of serene village life disrupted by modernity, watch as bamboo poles and woven baskets are repurposed to create breathtaking stunts and a host of peculiar characters. Traditional Vietnamese song makes way for a contemporary hip-hop showdown in this display of “stunning athleticism and ravishing music” (The West Australian).

A sell-out in its Australian premiere. Get in quick to secure your seats for this sure-fire Festival favourite.

“Will leave you spellbound”- TIME OUT PARIS

“Surprisingly beautiful, humorous and joyous, there’s oh so much to love”
- PERTH NOW

WHEN

Thu 8 Mar – Sun 11 Mar, 7pm

Sat 10 & Sun 11 Mar, 1.30pm

WHERE

St James Theatre

TICKETS

Adult Early Bird A\$59

A\$69

B\$49
C\$29
Child A\$39
B\$29
C\$19

DURATION
1hr 10mins

PARTNERED BY



WILD DOGS UNDER MY SKIRT

Written by Tusiata Avia
Directed by Anapela Polataivao

NEW ZEALAND
THEATRE / ARTIST TALK

Samoan New Zealander Tusiata Avia's poetry becomes a fearless and enchanting piece of theatre under the direction of Anapela Polataivao and a cast of six powerful Pasefika actresses.

Breathing provocative new life into Avia's examination and celebration of what it is to be a Samoan woman, Polataivao's direction adds "extra levels of nuance, power and dramatic sophistication" which earned her Best Director in the 2016 Auckland Theatre Awards.

Through her vivid, compelling and at times hilarious characters, Avia paints a deeply personal view of Pacific Island life and its sometimes uneasy collisions with the Kiwi way. Heart-stopping and unmissable theatre.

Co-produced by the New Zealand Festival and FCC

"One of the best pieces of theatre I've seen in many years" - ALBERT WENDT

WHEN
Wed 7 – Sun 11 Mar, 7pm
Sat 10 Mar, 1.30pm

WHERE

Hannah Playhouse

TICKETS

Early Bird \$45

A\$49

B\$39

DURATION

1hr 15mins

POST-SHOW ARTIST TALK

Sat 10 Mar, 1.30pm, Hannah Playhouse auditorium

THANKS TO



The performance on Sat 10 Mar at 1.30pm will be New Zealand Sign Language interpreted.

US/THEM

By Carly Wijs

BRONKS and Richard Jordan Productions
with Theatre Royal Plymouth and Big in Belgium
in association with Summerhall

BELGIUM

THEATRE

This “astonishingly assured” (The Guardian) drama comes to New Zealand following sell-out seasons at the Edinburgh Festival and London’s National Theatre.

Based on the experiences of children who lived through the 2004 Beslan school hostage crisis, *Us/Them* – the break-out hit show from Brussels youth theatre company BRONKS – portrays extreme events but through a child’s eyes. Despite the potentially harrowing subject matter, the experience is naively wonderful and unsettlingly funny.

Two children sketch a map onto a wide bare stage. They are intent, urgent. It has to be accurate. Part of the staggering achievement of *Us/Them* is that its two performers are

able to start with a simple physical act of abstract map-making and open up an entire world of the mind. Thrilling, often humorous and with a deft lightness of touch.

★★★★★ “Frequently playful, sometimes surprisingly jokey – and ultimately desperately moving” - THE GUARDIAN

WHEN

Fri 16 – Sun 18 Mar, 7.30pm
Sat 17 & Sun 18 Mar, 1.30pm

WHERE

Circa Theatre

TICKETS

Early Bird \$45
\$49

DURATION

1hr

Recommended for ages 12+

KA TITO AU - KUPE'S HEROIC JOURNEY

A play by Apirana Taylor

NEW ZEALAND
FREE / THEATRE

Kupe, the great Pacific explorer and navigator, is the hero of this lively, lyrical solo show by treasured local poet and storyteller Apirana Taylor.

Legend has it that Kupe discovered Aotearoa after pursuing Te Wheke-o-Muturangi, a giant octopus that was endangering his people's fishing grounds in the Pacific. Be enchanted by the exhilarating tale of Kupe's many exploits.

A masterful piece of storytelling, Ka Tito Au is part of A Waka Odyssey, the Festival's celebration of our shared voyaging past and Pacific future.

See it for free at Te Papa or as part of its tour of the Wellington region. Find out more at festival.co.nz/waka.

Commissioned by the New Zealand Festival by arrangement with Playmarket

WHEN

Sat 24 Feb, 11am

Sat 3 & Sun 4 Mar, 1.30pm

WHERE

Te Marae, Te Papa

FREE ENTRY

Recommended for ages 8+

DURATION

50mins

THANKS TO



WORLD PREMIERE SEASON OF BLESS THE CHILD

Tawata Productions

Written by Hone Kouka

Directed by Mīria George

NEW ZEALAND

THEATRE

A child has died and Shardae, mother of the child, is held guilty until proven otherwise.

A power-hungry lawyer Khan Te Ahi Richards is reluctantly dragged into the case to defend the mother as the whānau close ranks. And rumbling from beneath is Rūaumoko, god of earthquakes and unborn children.

Now the mother, the lawyer and the wayward ones are all in search of an answer – who took the life of baby Ara?

Challenging and thought-provoking, Bless the Child is a story of life and death, good versus evil. In an unflinching look at our society through a Māori lens, it uncovers the truth of our shared humanity – to protect the child.

Co-produced by the New Zealand Festival, Auckland Arts Festival and Tawata Productions

WHEN

Wed 28 Feb – Sat 3 Mar, 7pm

Sat 3 & Sun 4 Mar, 1.30pm

WHERE

Hannah Playhouse

TICKETS

Early Bird A\$45

A\$49

B\$39

DURATION

2hrs 20mins (incl. interval)

THANKS TO



Contains nudity, strong language and violence

RUSHES

Movement of the Human, Te Papa & Circa Theatre

Created by Malia Johnston, Rowan Pierce and Eden Mulholland

NEW ZEALAND

DANCE / MUSIC / THEATRE / FAMILY

A multi-award-winning collaboration, RUSHES is an inter-arts experience like no other. Immerse yourself in this unique experience where live music gig meets art gallery meets theatre, dance and film. RUSHES lets you choose your own adventure. Pick a pathway through a series of performance spaces that can be explored at will.

Featuring over 30 performers from around New Zealand as well as stunning visual imagery, lighting and sound, RUSHES will leave you energised and exhilarated.

WHEN

Fri 23 Feb – Sat 3 Mar, 7.30pm (excluding Mon 26 Feb & Sun)

Sun 25 Feb & Sun 4 Mar, 4pm

Mon 5 Mar, 7.30pm

WHERE

Circa Theatre

TICKETS

Adult \$42

Child \$20

Family and concession prices available

DURATION

Approx. 1hr 30mins

THANKS TO



PETER AND THE WOLF

By Sergei Prokofiev, adapted by Sophie Roberts & Leon Radojkovic
A Silo Theatre production

NEW ZEALAND
THEATRE / FAMILY / MUSIC

In this electric contemporary reimagining of Sergei Prokofiev's beloved musical fairy tale, director Sophie Roberts and composer Leon Radojkovic bring together a glinting musical adaptation of Peter and the Wolf with a six-piece band, puppetry, live videography and narration by special guests.

Peter is not supposed to leave his grandfather's house. There are wolves lurking in the forest and it's not safe. But Peter does adventure into the surrounding meadow, and it's not long before the wolf appears. Follow Peter as he travels deep into the woods, vanquish your fear, but don't look behind you ...

"Silo Theatre is unparalleled in its energy and ambition"

- THE PANTOGRAPH PUNCH

WHEN

Wed 14 & Sat 17 Mar, 6pm

Thu 15 – Sun 18 Mar, 11am

WHERE

Soundings Theatre, Te Papa

TICKETS

Adult Early Bird \$35 \$39

Child \$19

Family (2 Adults, 2 Children) \$100

Family (1 adult, 2 children) \$69

Recommended for ages 7+

DURATION

55mins

PARTNERED BY



THANKS TO



The performance on Thur 15 Mar at 11am will be a relaxed performance.

FUTURE PLAYGROUND

Future of Storytelling, Refik Anadol, Matt Parker & Josh Holtsford, Catshrine, Balam Soto

UNITED STATES / TURKEY / CANADA
INTERACTIVE / FAMILY

An eye-popping digital wonderland – bring your friends and family then stay and play.

Showcasing some of the most ingenious, creative, boundary-pushing tech in the world, Future Playground is a total immersion experience.

In Future Playground, multimedia and digital artists from the United States, Turkey and Canada transform code into a thing of wonder and delight.

You'll get to "shake it off" with the Pop n' Lock Dance Machine, dive into a family-friendly Virtual Adventure Room, lose all perspective in the Infinity Room and more. This

is digital storytelling at its most inventive, with an amazing, bedazzling experience around every corner.

If this is the future of digital technology, then we like it. More than just screens, this is pure artful inspiration where you make the magic. Come and play.

“We’ve seen the Future of Storytelling, and it’s awesome” - VICE MAGAZINE

WHEN

Thu 1 – Sun 11 Mar (except Mon), 12–9pm
Sessions start every 15mins, last entry 7.45pm

WHERE

Shed 6

TICKETS

Adult \$35 Child \$17

Family (2 adults, 2 children) \$90

Family (1 adult, 2 children) \$60

Tue 6 – Thu 8 Mar at 1–2pm will be relaxed performances.
Tickets \$15 with free companion ticket.

STAR WARS: A NEW HOPE IN CONCERT

Music by John Williams

Conducted by Hamish McKeich

Movie with live score performed by the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra

UNITED STATES / NEW ZEALAND

MUSIC / FILM / FAMILY

The Oscar-winning music from Star Wars has been closely guarded for 40 years. Now, as an absolute treat for New Zealand fans, the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra will perform the music of Star Wars: A New Hope for a live screening of the original film.

Soaring trumpets blare over the movie’s opening moments: “A long time ago in a galaxy far, far away ...” Seared into the minds of generations of wonder-struck children (and adults), the music of Star Wars is central to the film’s captivating charm and popularity.

Composer John Williams' spectacular symphonic soundtrack was named the greatest film score of all time by the American Film Institute – and is arguably the most recognisable piece of orchestral music of the 20th century.

Few orchestras around the world will have this opportunity. Few fans either. This is a once-in-a-lifetime chance to experience the full power of this finely tuned, “fully operational” orchestra bringing Star Wars to life as never before. Grab your popcorn, put on your favourite Star Wars costume and be whisked away to another galaxy.

“Pure, unadulterated fun” - HUFFINGTON POST

WHEN

Sat 10 Mar, 7pm

Sun 11 Mar, 1.30pm

WHERE

TSB Bank Arena

TICKETS

Adult Early Bird A\$89

A\$95

B\$69

Child A\$69

B\$49

DURATION

2hrs 30mins (incl. interval)

PARTNERED BY

NZME.

Presentation licensed by  CONCERTS

In association with 20th Century Fox, Lucasfilm, and Warner / Chappell Music.

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BEYOND TIME

U-Theatre

TAIWAN

SPECTACULAR / DANCE / MUSIC

Beyond Time offers a thrilling “glimpse into other dimensions” (Broadway World) with its fusion of martial arts, tai chi, contemporary dance, bold percussion and stunning visual

effects. You'll be carried off to an enthralling new universe far removed from the bustle of everyday life.

Each performance is an intense physical and spiritual journey for these artists, whose virtuosity and precision make them "consummate multitaskers: dancers who drum and drummers who dance, creating music as they move" (The New York Times).

From a dark stage, a solitary figure in white emerges, twirling to a haunting melody. Rows of dancing drummers beat a strong pattern of sound and movement. Meditative and explosive. Modern and spiritual. This remarkable work will hook you in with its powerful, hypnotic pull.

"Truly spectacular!"- LE FIGARO

"A visual delight" - TAIPEI TIMES

WHEN

Tue 27 & Wed 28 Feb, 7.30pm

WHERE

St James Theatre

TICKETS

Early Bird A\$79

A\$89

B\$69

C\$49

DURATION

1hr 15mins

PARTNERED BY



BETROFFENHEIT

A Kidd Pivot, Electric Company Theatre co-production
Co-created by Crystal Pite & Jonathon Young

CANADA
DANCE / THEATRE

Theatre maker Jonathon Young and five-star choreographer Crystal Pite have united forces with astounding effect in this Olivier Award–winning dance work.

A work of staggering pain and beauty, this cutting-edge dance–theatre hybrid lays bare on stage the emotional state of shock and bewilderment that takes hold of you in the wake of a disaster. These two artists at the top of their game transform an almost unbearable personal tragedy into “a stunning testament to what can happen when life turns into art” (The Globe and Mail, Canada).

This piece has taken international stages by storm. See why, in this, its final world tour performance. Make it a must-see. You won’t regret it – or forget it.

“An overwhelming theatrical experience ... raw, funny and profoundly, tenderly human”
- THE INDEPENDENT (UK)

★★★★★ - THE GUARDIAN

★★★★★ - THE STAGE (UK)

★★★★★ - EVENING STANDARD (UK)

WHEN

Sat 3 & Sun 4 Mar, 8pm

WHERE

St James Theatre

TICKETS

Early Bird A\$89

A\$99

B\$79

C\$59

D\$39

DURATION

2hrs (incl. interval)

THANKS TO

Canada

THE WELLINGTON AIRPORT SEASON OF
SWAN LAKE /LOCH NA hEALA

By Michael Keegan-Dolan

IRELAND

DANCE / THEATRE / ARTIST TALK

“A show of terrible beauty and extraordinary craft” (The Guardian), this is not Swan Lake as you know it.

Rooted in the midlands of Ireland, ancient mythology and the ills of the modern world collide in this extraordinary adaptation of the beloved classic.

Combining soaring dancing and boundary-busting theatre, song and live music, acclaimed director Michael Keegan-Dolan swaps Tchaikovsky’s original score for Irish folk music with a Nordic noir twist.

Stunning and hard-hitting, yes. Yet good things arise out of the bad, as this extraordinary, magical performance transports you along an imagined dark path towards the light and a resounding redemption.

A Sadler’s Wells co-production with Michael Keegan-Dolan; Colours International Dance Festival, Theaterhaus Stuttgart; Dublin Theatre Festival and Theatre de la Ville, Luxembourg. With support from The Civic Theatre, Tallaght, and South Dublin County Council Arts Office

“It is utterly original, it is utterly brilliant” - IRISH INDEPENDENT

★★★★★ - THE GUARDIAN

★★★★★ - FINANCIAL TIMES (UK)

★★★★★ - EVENING STANDARD (UK)

WHEN

Wed 14 Mar – Sat 17 Mar, 8pm

WHERE

St James Theatre

TICKETS

Early Bird A\$89

A\$99

B\$79

C\$59

D\$39

DURATION

1hr 15mins

POST-SHOW ARTIST TALK

Thu 15 Mar, St James Theatre auditorium

PARTNERED BY



THANKS TO



Contains strong language and sexual themes

WORLD PREMIERE SEASON OF THE PIANO: THE BALLET

Royal New Zealand Ballet

Inspired by the film *The Piano* with permission kindly granted by Jane Campion, Jan Chapman and Saddleback Productions

NEW ZEALAND
DANCE / ARTIST TALK

Twenty-five years ago, cinema-goers around the world were captivated by an extraordinary tale of desire, violence and hope.

The story of Ada McGrath and her daughter Flora, husband Alastair and lover Baines unfolded against the wild grandeur and desolation of New Zealand, as Jane Campion's award-winning film took audiences on a visceral journey into New Zealand's imagined past as it had never been portrayed before.

Drawing on the rich inspiration of *The Piano*, the Royal New Zealand Ballet is honoured to stage the world premiere of this new full-length dance work by Jiří and Otto Bubeníček. Originally conceived as a short work for Dortmund Ballet, *The Piano: the ballet* is now reimagined and expanded for the RNZB, giving Ada's story a new and distinctively New Zealand voice and, in dance, a powerful new means of expression. Excerpts from Michael Nyman's iconic film score are blended with evocative music by Debussy, Arensky, Stravinsky, Schnittke, Brahms and Shostakovich.

"Not just about a story, or some characters, but a whole universe of feeling"

- ROGER EBERT, FILM CRITIC

WHEN

Fri 23 & Sat 24 Feb, 7.30pm

Sat 24 Feb, 1.30pm

Sun 25 Feb, 4pm

WHERE

St James Theatre

TICKETS

P\$89–115

A\$79

B\$69

C\$49

D\$39

Concession and subscriber prices available

DURATION

Approx. 1hr 50mins (incl. interval)

PRE-SHOW ARTIST TALK

Fri 23 Feb, 6.30pm, St James Theatre

THANKS TO



NATIONAL TOURING PARTNER



OrphEus – a dance opera

By Michael Parmenter

With The New Zealand Dance Company

NEW ZEALAND / UNITED STATES / AUSTRALIA

DANCE / MUSIC / ARTIST TALK

One of New Zealand's most acclaimed choreographers, Michael Parmenter, returns to the Festival with the world premiere season of OrphEus – a dance opera, a bold new work with The New Zealand Dance Company.

Parmenter has drawn on a ravishing musical score, including Rameau and Charpentier, reflecting a period during which the ancient Greek hero invoked a harmonious cosmos and a hierarchical political order. Since then, Orpheus has come to represent art's power to transcend suffering and death.

In this richly layered, epic dance work, Parmenter brings these contending perspectives into conflict and dialogue. OrphEus confronts the power of music and voice in both the personal and the political realms, revealing, in this familiar story of love and loss, the tensions between seduction and restraint, harmony and disorder.

Combining the power of dance, live music and theatre, Parmenter's incredible vision is brought to life by The New Zealand Dance Company, performing alongside Grammy Award-winning American tenor Aaron Sheehan, baroque ensemble Latitude 37 and special guests.

Through the lens of this mythic yet deeply personal tragedy, OrphEus thrillingly stages the eternal challenge of the artist – to seek the familiar or venture into dangerous uncharted territory.

Co-produced by the New Zealand Festival, Auckland Arts Festival and The New Zealand Dance Company

“Michael Parmenter's name is synonymous with bold and innovative contemporary dance ... challenging, thought provoking and fulfilling.”- THE PRESS (UK)

WHEN

Fri 16 & Sat 17 Mar, 8pm

WHERE

Opera House

TICKETS

Early Bird A\$69

A\$79

B\$59

C\$39

PRE-SHOW ARTIST TALK

Sat 17 Mar, 6.30pm, Opera House, Dress Circle Foyer

THANKS TO

GRIZZLY BEAR

UNITED STATES
MUSIC

Grizzly Bear are the cult band's cult band and are in Wellington exclusively for two shows only.

Fleet Foxes frontman Robin Pecknold proclaimed one of their releases "the best record of the Noughties". Radiohead's Jonny Greenwood declared them "my favourite band in the world."

For once, such glowing praise seems justified. Across five albums, this Brooklyn quartet has explored a dreamy, deeply psychedelic sound that's equal parts chamber music, rock, electronic effects and baroque Americana.

Offering sonic surprises galore, they regularly reduce their live audiences to tears of joy. A song that starts out painfully intimate, as if recorded in a phone booth, might end up as a "cast of thousands" affair. While the soaring voices of chief songwriters Ed Droste and Dan Rossen are interspersed with unexpected sounds – crackling fires, whispering voices flickering through the mix.

After a five-year sabbatical exploring the alternative worlds of high-end cuisine, the US campaign trail and fatherhood, they return to the stage, touring their latest album Painted Ruins. Grab your chance to submerge yourself in the Grizzly Bear sound.

"One of indie rock's sharpest bands"- CONSEQUENCE OF SOUND (US)

WHEN

Sat 3 & Sun 4 Mar, 8pm

WHERE

Opera House

TICKETS

Early Bird \$85

\$89

DAVID BYRNE

UNITED STATES
MUSIC

From being the ultimate art school punk fronting the groundbreaking, oft-imitated band Talking Heads, David Byrne is a musical pioneer with a career spanning five decades and counting.

Lauded by David Bowie, Pink Floyd, Radiohead and more, Byrne has occupied the shattered mind of a paranoid murderer (Psycho Killer), hollered out rodeo-friendly country ballads (Road to Nowhere), devastated nightclub dance floors (Once in a Lifetime) and delivered a love song so poignant it's still regularly played at weddings (This Must Be the Place). Now he comes to Wellington to do all this and more.

A riveting live performer, Byrne has explored Brazilian and Afro-Cuban music, disco, hip hop, opera and techno, and is also an artist, writer, photographer, soundtrack composer and film director, driven forward by a restless artistic curiosity. Same as it ever was, he's unmissable.

"He has become, without fanfare or Talking Heads reunion tours, perhaps the single greatest influence on the current generation of indie rockers" - THE NEW YORK TIMES

WHEN

Wed 28 Feb, 8pm

WHERE

Michael Fowler Centre

TICKETS

Early Bird P\$129

P\$139

A\$119

B\$109

C\$99

D\$89

PARTNERED BY

SUNDAY STAR+TIMES

ACCOMMODATION PARTNER



CÉCILE McLORIN SALVANT & THE AARON DIEHL TRIO

UNITED STATES
MUSIC

Grammy Award – winner Cecile McLorin Salvant is the hottest voice in American jazz right now.

“You only get a singer like this once in a generation or two,” said jazz giant Wynton Marsalis, who’s such a fan of this Miami-born vocalist he hired her to front his Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra.

Channelling the sass, the sorrow and the sweeping ease of jazz’s greatest vocalists – Ella Fitzgerald, Billie Holiday, Bessie Smith, Sarah Vaughan – Salvant’s bell-clear soprano and unusually juicy bass is a new, fresh voice of its very own: rich, striking, endlessly nuanced, a straight-up heartbreaker.

With an entrancing stage presence and performance of pure emotion, she reinvigorates jazz standards – finding fresh thrills within vaudeville, the blues, gospel and folk music too. She’ll have you eating out of the palm of her hand.

“The finest jazz singer to emerge in the last decade” - THE NEW YORK TIMES

WHEN
Tue 13 Mar, 8pm

WHERE
Michael Fowler Centre

TICKETS
Early Bird A\$79
A\$89
B\$69
C\$49
D\$39

DURATION
1hr 30mins

PARTNERED BY



JORDI SAVALL WITH HESPÈRION XXI AND TEMBEMBE ENSAMBLE CONTINUO

SPAIN / MEXICO
MUSIC / ARTIST TALK

For one rapturous night only, Jordi Savall brings to Wellington the vibrant music of ancient Spain and Mexico in a performance that transcends time, cultures and continents.

In *Folías Antiguas y Criollas: From the Ancient World to the New World*, early music flourishes at the hands and bow of “superstar” (The New Yorker) Savall, his world-renowned ensemble Hesperion XXI and the celebrated Mexican Tembembe Ensemble Continuo.

Brimming with creativity, these consummate performers give life to the thrumming melodies and infectious rhythms of conquistador Spain and folk traditions of Latin America – bridging the distance between old world and new.

Prepare yourself for a magical evening of spine-tingling, foot-stamping music from the best early music performers in the world.

“Gorgeous living music that opens a door on a sumptuous past”
- SYDNEY MORNING HERALD

WHEN
Sat 24 Feb, 7.30pm

WHERE
Michael Fowler Centre

TICKETS
Early Bird P\$99
P\$109
A\$89
B\$79
C\$69
D\$39

DURATION

2hrs 20mins (incl. interval)

PRE-SHOW ARTIST TALK

Sat 24 Feb, 6pm, Renouf Foyer, Michael Fowler Centre

PARTNERED BY



THANKS TO



and
Embassy of Mexico

ANNE SOFIE VON OTTER WITH THE NEW ZEALAND SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Conducted by Benjamin Northey

SWEDEN / NEW ZEALAND MUSIC

Swedish mezzo-soprano Anne Sofie von Otter is one of the titans of grand opera and French chanson.

Celebrated for her mesmerising voice – and for her enthusiasm for song in all its forms – this Grammy Award–winner is lauded from Madrid’s Teatro Real to London’s Royal Opera House. She has shared the stage with the world’s greats, among them The Metropolitan Opera, the Berliner Philharmoniker and Sir Simon Rattle.

Experience her extraordinary voice and interpretative depth in this one-night-only performance with the fine players of the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra – which will include personal favourites from Schubert lieder and more.

Anne Sofie von Otter has visited New Zealand only once before – a sell-out performance at the Wellington Town Hall. Seize this opportunity to hear one of the singing world’s most accomplished stars.

“She possesses one of the most flexible and natural vocal instruments of any living

artist” - OPERA NOW

WHEN

Thu 15 Mar, 7:30pm

WHERE

Michael Fowler Centre

TICKETS

Early Bird P\$99

P\$109

A\$89

B\$79

C\$69

D\$39

DURATION

1hr 45mins

(incl. interval)

PARTNERED BY



THANKS TO

Peter and Carolyn Diessl

THE KING'S SINGERS & VOICES NEW ZEALAND CHAMBER CHOIR

UNITED KINGDOM / NEW ZEALAND
MUSIC

With “voices of spun gold” (BBC Music Magazine), The King’s Singers are masters of vocal harmony. These polished entertainers will sing a mix of ancient and contemporary, classical and popular, all delivered with “pinpoint precision and total rapport” (The Times, UK).

In a rare visit to New Zealand, this irresistibly charismatic ensemble performs at the Festival on their whistle-stop “Gold” world tour to celebrate 50 years in the business. Double Grammy Award–winners, The King’s Singers are beloved the world over, from London’s Royal Albert Hall to New York’s Carnegie Hall, and now – for one night only –

in Wellington.

They will be joined on stage by our country's internationally renowned choir Voices New Zealand – who will themselves be celebrating the 20th anniversary of their founding at the 1998 New Zealand Festival. This celebratory programme will feature especially commissioned anniversary pieces by contemporary composers Nico Muhly, Bob Chilcott and New Zealand's Leonie Holmes.

Join the best choral voices in New Zealand and one of Britain's greatest musical exports for a musical trip from the Renaissance to now. Prepare to be charmed.

“The superlative vocal sextet”- THE TIMES (UK) [The King's Singers]

“Supreme polish and breathtaking accuracy” - THE DOMINION POST [Voices NZ]

WHEN

Sat 10 Mar, 7.30pm

WHERE

Michael Fowler Centre

TICKETS

Early Bird A\$69

A\$79

B\$59

C\$39

DURATION

1hr 30mins (incl. interval)

THANKS TO



British High
Commission

MECHANICAL BALLET

Stroma with Sarah Watkins
& Stephen De Pledge

NEW ZEALAND
MUSIC / ARTIST TALK

Drums that strike themselves. Loudspeakers that pivot and pirouette. Pianos whose keys tap-dance ghostly toccatas. Welcome to a brave new world of mechatronic music, where self-playing instruments rule.

Autonomous instruments have fascinated composers since the dawn of the mechanical age. The most famous of these is arguably Georges Antheil's epic work Ballet Mécanique [1925] – best described as The Rite of Spring meets heavy metal. In Mechancial Ballet, experience the wonder for yourself as a crowd of mechatronic loudspeakers and percussion instruments come to life – created by Wellington-based musicians/engineers Jim Murphy, Bridget Johnson and David Downes. They keep pace with percussionists from leading Kiwi new music ensemble Stroma and top New Zealand pianists Sarah Watkins and Stephen De Pledge.

This concert of virtuosic proportions features two seminal works by US minimalist icon Steve Reich, Drumming Part 1 and Piano Phase, as well as world premieres of works by composers Bridget Johnson, David Downes and Michael Norris. The future starts here.

“They remain at the top as a cutting-edge contemporary music ensemble”
- CAPITAL TIMES

WHEN

Fri 16 & Sat 17 Mar, 7pm

WHERE

Hannah Playhouse

TICKETS

Early Bird A\$45

A\$49

B\$39

DURATION

1hr 40mins

(incl. interval)

POST-SHOW ARTIST TALK

Fri 16 Mar, Hannah Playhouse auditorium

PARTNERED BY



THANKS TO



CHAMBER MUSC NEW ZEALAND PRESENTS
ANDERSON & ROE
PIANO DUO

UNITED STATES
MUSIC

Pianists Anderson & Roe are as much at home with Daft Punk as they are with Mozart. From classical and jazz to pop, their music will charm you with its wit and artistry.

Greg Anderson and Elizabeth Joy Roe have performed together since studying music at The Juilliard School in New York. With chart-topping albums, film scores and music videos to their name, Anderson & Roe are “the very model of complete 21st-century musicians” (The Washington Post).

For their New Zealand premiere, this dynamic duo pairs Bernstein with The Beatles, Gluck with John Adams, in a refreshing new take on five centuries of classic music. It’s musical dynamite.

“The most dynamic duo of this generation” - SAN FRANCISCO CLASSICAL VOICE

WHEN
Sat 17 Mar, 7.30pm

WHERE
Michael Fowler Centre

TICKETS
A\$85
B\$65
C\$35
Concession and subscriber prices available

DURATION
2hrs (incl. interval)

THANKS TO

VOICE

creative nz
ARTS COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND / TOI AOTEAROA

CHAMBER MUSIC SERIES

ST MARY OF THE ANGELS

Located near the heart of the city, the landmark St Mary of the Angels is one of Wellington's best music venues and the home of chamber music during the New Zealand Festival.

The ceilings of this newly strengthened and restored church may soar above you, yet this is an intimate setting for music from around the world – from the traditional string quartet and piano to the Japanese recorder and Māori taonga pūoro. The church's own organ will also get a sounding alongside resonating brass. Let the day's cares be washed away in this beautiful setting by some of the world's best chamber musicians.

THANKS TO



A NEW ZEALAND PARTITA

Stephen De Pledge

NEW ZEALAND
MUSIC

A frequent recital and concerto soloist in New Zealand, pianist Stephen De Pledge has received international plaudits for his “spring-loaded virtuosity” (Independent on Sunday, UK) and “abundant musicianship” (Independent, UK). These exhilarating qualities come to the fore in A New Zealand Partita.

Commissioned especially for De Pledge, seven New Zealand composers have written pieces inspired by JS Bach's Partita no. 3 in A minor, BWV 827. In a series of fascinating three-way conversations between composers, pianist and Bach himself – the performance includes Bach's original partita – we hear this 18th-century musical form reimagined for the 21st century.

“ Formidable ... left me wanting to hear more” -SUNDAY TIMES (UK)

WHEN

Tue 27 Feb, 6pm

TICKETS

Early Bird \$45

\$49

DURATION

1hr

WHERE

St Mary of the Angels

THANKS TO



ROMANCE & REVOLUTION

Orava Quartet

AUSTRALIA

MUSIC

The Orava Quartet has “arrived, not merely on the international scene, but somewhere near its apex” (Australian Stage). In this first and exclusive New Zealand performance, the trailblazing Orava Quartet brings their unique brand of passion and vitality to the classics of the string quartet repertoire. From Haydn’s ‘Joke’ quartet, filled with sheer beauty as well as wit, to Shostakovich’s emotionally wrenching eighth quartet and the lush melodies of Mendelssohn’s String Quartet in A minor, this performance will hold our hearts and heads in equal thrall.

“ Currently the most exciting young quartet on the block”
- LIMELIGHT MAGAZINE (AUSTRALIA)

WHEN

Thu 1 Mar, 6pm

TICKETS

Early Bird \$45

\$49

DURATION

1hr 15mins

WHERE

St Mary of the Angels

THANKS TO



TE AO HOU | THIS NEW WORLD

Rob Thorne & New Zealand String Quartet

NEW ZEALAND

MUSIC

At the heart of Te Ao Hou | This New World are the stone, wood, shell and bone of taonga pūoro (traditional Māori instruments). Born of the earth and water, these instruments produce sounds unique to Aotearoa. Conjuring a realm of light and dreams is Rob Thorne, a master of taonga pūoro, performing the world premiere of his Tomokanga with the New Zealand String Quartet.

Music by New Zealand composers Gillian Whitehead, Gareth Farr and Salina Fisher further ignites the synergies between taonga pūoro and Western string instruments. Another ground-breaking collaboration by the virtuosic New Zealand String Quartet, our leading chamber ensemble.

“An enchanted sonic forest to replenish our souls” - NEW ZEALAND HERALD

WHEN

Tue 6 Mar, 6pm

TICKETS

Early Bird \$45

\$49

DURATION

1hr 15mins

WHERE

St Mary of the Angels

THANKS TO



DISTANCES

Dylan Lardelli & Miyata-Yoshimura-Suzuki Trio,
with soloists from Ensemble Musikfabrik

JAPAN / GERMANY / NEW ZEALAND
MUSIC

Delight in the “flair, rigour and integrity” (New Zealand Listener) of New Zealand’s composition vanguard: Samuel Holloway, Chris Gendall and Dylan Lardelli. In Distances, these composers collaborate with artists from the Miyata-Yoshimura- Suzuki Trio and Ensemble Musikfabrik in a programme of captivating music.

This exploration, performed on Japanese and European instruments, unites composers from New Zealand, Japan and Germany and interweaves works from the 21st century with ancient pieces. You’ll become part of a transcendent performance ritual that bridges the distances of time and place.

WHEN

Fri 9 Mar, 6pm

TICKETS

Early Bird \$45
\$49

DURATION

1hr 15mins

WHERE

St Mary of the Angels

THANKS TO



FIELDS OF POPPIES

Paul Rosoman & Monarch Brass Collective

NEW ZEALAND
MUSIC

Concert organist Paul Rosoman performs in venues all over the world. Here in Wellington, the acoustics of St Mary of the Angels and the power and versatility of its Maxwell Fernie organ make this the perfect venue for his collaboration with Monarch Brass Collective – eight of New Zealand’s best brass and percussion players.

In 1916, writing home from the Great War, French organist Charles-Marie Widor recorded, “A piece of shrapnel fell on my table as I was writing my *Salvum Fac.*” Inspired by the perpetual link between music and war, Rosoman performs Widor’s magnificent work in the company of Bach, Vierne, Brahms and others. An evocative reflection on conflict and peace through music – whether as a call to war or lament for the fallen.

“Paul Rosoman is a master of his craft”- ELLWANGEN (GERMANY)

WHEN
Tue 13 Mar, 6pm

TICKETS
Early Bird \$45
\$49

DURATION
1hr 15mins

WHERE
St Mary of the Angels

THANKS TO



NEW ZEALAND FESTIVAL CLUB

See a show, stay for the party. The New Zealand Festival Club is at the pulsing heart of this year's programme, set in the sparkling spiegel tent surrounds of the much-loved Pacific Crystal Palace. This electric pop-up on Wellington's waterfront is the place to be and be seen for three fun-filled Festival weeks. From makeout music to gig-theatre, come catch some of the world's most exciting performers up close and personal.

And when the curtain falls each night, Wellington's newest hot spot throws open its doors with free entry for everyone. Grab a bite to eat and a drink from the well-stocked Garage Project bar, and enjoy late-night DJ antics and partying on tap alongside Festival artists and crew.

Because the show ain't over until the Festival Club closes.

WHEN

Fri 23 Feb – Sun 18 Mar, Tue–Sun, until late

WHERE

Festival Club, Odlin's Plaza, Wellington waterfront

TICKETS

Festival Club shows as priced
General Admission

FREE ENTRY

Post-show from 9pm most nights

PARTNERED BY



TEEKS: A SONG FOR YOU

NEW ZEALAND MUSIC

With his smooth, rich-tone, relaxed delivery and elegantly regretful old-soul voice, Te Karehana Gardiner-Toi, aka Teeks, brings us an intimate showcase of his own heart-rending catalogue, as well as songs that have shaped his musical palette. Raised on a wide range of music from traditional waiata and kapa haka to Bob Marley, Elvis Presley and Sam Cooke, he proves that soul music will always transcend time and trend.

Teeks released his debut EP *The Grapefruit Skies* in 2017. Recorded in Auckland and New York, the magic is unmissable from the very first note.

WHEN

Sat 24 Feb, 6pm

WHERE

Festival Club, Odlin's Plaza, Wellington waterfront

TICKETS

\$39 (seated)

DURATION

1hr

RIA HALL: RULES OF ENGAGEMENT

NEW ZEALAND

MUSIC

A politically astute and emotionally potent singer, Ria Hall touches on themes of love and war, revolution and change, on her debut album *Rules of Engagement* – its narrative inspired in part by 1864's Battle of Gate Pā (Pukehinahina) and delivered in both te reo Māori and English over Pacific-inspired beats. She'll bring her raw and rootsy songs to life with the help of vocalist Mara TK and powerhouse Wellington trio *The Nudge*.

WHEN

Sat 24 Feb, 8pm

WHERE

Festival Club, Odlin's Plaza, Wellington waterfront

TICKETS

\$39 (seated)

PARTNERED BY



ON THE ROAD

Ōtaki, Sun 25 Feb, 7pm. See festival.co.nz/ontheroad

NATHAN HAINES & JONATHAN CRAYFORD: ADAGIO

NEW ZEALAND
MUSIC

International jazz legends Nathan Haines and Jonathan Crayford join forces for a collaborative re-working of the Adagio form. A slower "adagio" tempo is the starting point for an intimate musical journey that takes in the works of Samuel Barber, Bach, Stravinsky, Vaughan and John Williams, and even Morricone.

Crayford (on piano and keyboards) and Haines (on woodwinds and electronics), both prolific recording artists and multiple recipients of New Zealand's Best Jazz Album of the Year, have played at the most famous jazz clubs in the United States and Europe. Enjoy the journey with two of New Zealand's most celebrated and travelled musicians.

WHEN
Sun 25 Feb, 7pm

WHERE
Festival Club, Odlin's Plaza, Wellington waterfront

TICKETS
\$49 (seated)

ARABIA-BUDA-SCOTT

NEW ZEALAND
MUSIC

Samuel Scott and Lukasz Buda (together one third of The Phoenix Foundation) and James Milne (Lawrence Arabia) have been sharing half-baked ideas, kernels of songs and bedroom epics together for over a decade. Their inspired collaborations have led to international tours and New Zealand music awards, including a coveted Silver Scroll.

Now they are bringing you a stripped back, band-free live show of some of their faves.

Think Weird Science meets Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young, just minus the sex robots and coke addictions.

WHEN

Tue 27 Feb, 7pm

WHERE

Festival Club, Odlin's Plaza, Wellington waterfront

TICKETS

\$39 (seated)

PARTNERED BY



PACIFIC PARTY: LAUGHTON KORA & BAILEY WILEY

NEW ZEALAND

MUSIC

At the end of every epic voyage is a great celebration, and the wrap party for A Waka Odyssey will be no exception. Join the Festival team and supporters to celebrate an epic week of waka-inspired events as we farewell the crews back to their homes around Aotearoa and the Pacific. Garage Project brews will be flowing and golden-voiced Bailey Wiley and master of electronic funk Laughton Kora will make you want to party harder. Say haere rā to A Waka Odyssey in style.

WHEN

Wed 28 Feb, 8pm

WHERE

Festival Club, Odlin's Plaza, Wellington waterfront

TICKETS

\$29 (standing)

THUNDERCAT

UNITED STATES
MUSIC

Thundercat – aka Stephen Bruner – is best known as the LA bassist / singer-songwriter who has enjoyed an insanely hectic but productive few years, putting the bump in the trunk of everyone from experimental electronic producer Flying Lotus, soul singer Erykah Badu and veteran thrash-metallers Suicidal Tendencies to superstar rapper du jour Kendrick Lamar. But this Grammy-winning “Afrofuturist jazz-fusion genius” (Rolling Stone) is also a fine singer and an unusually open-minded producer.

Bringing his considerable talents from Compton to Wellington, Thundercat will take you on a “wild odyssey” (The Guardian) through his latest album Drunk, an intoxicating cocktail of jazz, punk, hip hop, 80s yacht rock, psychedelia and funk. Yeah.

WHEN

Thu 1 & Fri 2 Mar, 8pm

WHERE

Festival Club, Odlin’s Plaza, Wellington waterfront

TICKETS

\$49 (standing)

ZOË COOMBS MARR: TRIGGER WARNING

AUSTRALIA
COMEDY

A feminist comedian in the guise of a mouthy stand-up, dressed as a silent Gaulier clown, trying not to offend anyone. Sound confusing? It is.

Welcome to this award-winning show from Zoe Coombs Marr, one of Australia’s weirdest and wildest comedians. With sell-out seasons in Melbourne, Sydney, Edinburgh and London, Trigger Warning will leave you bewildered, challenged and completely hysterical long after the show’s end.



- THE AGE

WHEN

Fri 2 & Sat 3 Mar, 6pm

WHERE

Festival Club, Odlin's Plaza, Wellington waterfront

TICKETS

\$29 (seated)

DURATION

1hr

PARTNERED BY



BAREFACED STORIES

AUSTRALIA

THEATRE

Australia's most popular live storytelling series Barefaced Stories lands in New Zealand for one massive Festival Club night.

Minute by riveting minute, hear real people reveal real stories. From comedians to bus drivers, accountants to pro-wrestlers, each person takes to the stage armed only with a true-life tale – some humorous, some sad, some downright perverse!

Hosted by co-creator, comedian and ABC Radio public broadcaster Andrea Gibbs, this one-off Festival edition features special guest artists, solo raconteurs and interesting Wellingtonians with a tale to tell.

A sure-bet evening of refreshingly honest, bold and brutally frank entertainment.

WHEN

Sat 3 Mar, 8pm

WHERE

Festival Club, Odlin's Plaza, Wellington waterfront

TICKETS

\$39 (seated)

THE STAVES

UNITED STATES
MUSIC

Feel the freedom and adventure of The Staves' "gorgeous 1970s-roadtrip vibes" (The Sunday Times, UK) at an intimate Festival Club gig.

These three sisters grew up listening to a winning recipe of Simon & Garfunkel; Crosby, Stills & Nash; and The Beatles in Watford, England. Now, their incredible, blood-is-thicker-than-water harmonies and songs of love and longing are "illuminated from within" (The New York Times).

From commanding arena stages on tour with Florence + The Machine, Bon Iver and Angus & Julia Stone, they come to Wellington for two New Zealand Festival shows only. Guaranteed to give you goosebumps. Grab your chance to get up close and personal with The Staves' spellbinding harmonies and songs.

WHEN
Sun 4 & Tue 6 Mar, 7pm

WHERE
Festival Club, Odlin's Plaza, Wellington waterfront

TICKETS
\$49 (seated)

PARTNERED BY



VALERIE

Last Tapes Theatre Company

NEW ZEALAND
THEATRE / MUSIC

Named the stand-out cabaret of the year by the New Zealand Herald, Valerie is gig-theatre at its finest.

“Nature versus nurture. Did Nurture pull the trigger in my grandfather’s case? In Valerie’s case? Or did Nature pull the trigger long ago, and we’re all just waiting to feel the bullet?”

An inter-generational, interdisciplinary story reaching into the guts of family mythologies. Using music, genetics and storytelling, Valerie unravels a family history of mental illness and shines a light on the future.

WHEN

Wed 7 Mar, 7pm & Thu 8 Mar, 8pm

WHERE

Festival Club, Odlin’s Plaza, Wellington waterfront

TICKETS

\$39 (seated)

DURATION

1hr 10mins

PERFUME GENIUS

UNITED STATES

MUSIC

Seattle-based pop star Perfume Genius and his band bring to the Festival his ferocious and sophisticated blend of American rock. On his latest album, No Shape – one of the best of 2017 (The Guardian) – Mike Hadreas crafts a bold and graceful sound that skims over church music, makeout music, rhythm and blues, art pop, krautrock and queer soul, with a hint of Kate Bush, Prince and The Velvet Underground. This is Perfume Genius at his most lush, transcendent and self-assured.

WHEN

Tue 13 & Wed 14 Mar, 7pm

WHERE

Festival Club, Odlin’s Plaza, Wellington waterfront

TICKETS

\$49 (standing)

PARTNERED BY



CASUS CIRCUS: KNEE DEEP

AUSTRALIA
CIRCUS

“Every minute counts” (The Guardian) in Knee Deep, from Edinburgh Fringe Festival favourites Casus Circus.

Balancing exquisite skill and brute strength on the edge of an eggshell, these best in the biz entertainers have racked up countless fans worldwide with this, their five-star (Broadway World) premier work.

Watch powerful bodies hang, light as a feather from the Festival Club ceiling as pure, unadulterated talent twists and turns above you.

Come experience the thrilling push and pull of this cutting-edge circus for yourself.

WHEN

Thu 15 & Fri 16 Mar, 5.30pm & 9pm

WHERE

Festival Club, Odlin's Plaza, Wellington waterfront

TICKETS

\$59 (seated)

DURATION

1hr

PARTNERED BY



SOLOMON GEORGIO

UNITED STATES
COMEDY

Looking for a laugh? Then Solomon Georgio is your man. This hilarious Seattle comedian (Comedy Central, Spongebob Squarepants) brings his irreverent standup to Wellington. Expect a biting social commentary intertwined with stories of his life as an openly gay Ethiopian refugee in America. With his first recorded comedy album under his belt and a winning stage presence, Georgio will have you in stitches.

WHEN
Sat 17 Mar, 6pm

WHERE
Festival Club, Odlin's Plaza, Wellington waterfront

TICKETS
\$29 (seated)

DURATION
1hr

DRAX PROJECT

NEW ZEALAND
MUSIC

Born out of jazz school, this gifted quartet have grown from a music students' busking project into one of the hottest tickets in town. Their debut album produced by award-winning Devin Abrams (Pacific Heights, Shapeshifter) comes out early 2018. With expectations among fans running feverishly high, expect a bracing, jazz-inflected live sound deeply rooted in hip hop and electronic dance music from these Wellington heroes – the perfect finish for the Festival Club's closing nights.

WHEN
Sat 17 Mar, 8pm and Sun 18 Mar, 7pm

WHERE
Festival Club, Odlin's Plaza, Wellington waterfront

TICKETS
\$39 (standing)

WRITERS & READERS THURSDAY 8 – SUNDAY 11 MARCH

Get ready for four days of fast-tracked, smart conversation from some of the world's best thinkers and talkers – and you.

In 2018, Writers & Readers will spill out over three intimate venues around the waterfront, including the bustling pop-up New Zealand Festival Club (see page 66) and Circa Theatre. Poets, orators, journalists, bloggers, historians, playwrights, cartoonists, fiction fantasists, tweeters and foodies will share their witty, wise and wonderful words – imparting their knowledge and stirring your imagination.

Book now for three special sessions – including our opening night gala on International Women's Day – and sample a taste of what's to come when the full programme launches on Thursday 1 February. With sessions and tickets strictly limited, our Take Five Pass puts you at the front of the Festival queue – find out more on page 77.

festival.co.nz/writers #NZFWriters

WRITERS & READERS OPENING NIGHT: WOMEN CHANGING THE WORLD

We kick off 2018 Writers & Readers on International Women's Day with a celebration of women, their words and their power to change – marking 125 years of New Zealand suffrage. Come and hear from New Zealand Poet Laureate Selina Tusitala Marsh, broadcaster Kim Hill, novelist Charlotte Wood, fantasy champion Charlie Jane Anders, poet and memoirist Patricia Lockwood, Spinoff Parenting editor Emily Writes, columnist and falconer Rachel Stewart, free-range celebrity cook Annabel Langbein and others.

WHEN
Thu 8 Mar, 7pm

WHERE

Michael Fowler Centre

TICKETS

\$49

DURATION

1hr 30mins

WRITERS & READERS SPECIAL SESSIONS:

RADICALISM AND TOLERANCE

Maajid Nawaz and Ali A Rizvi in Conversation

UNITED KINGDOM / PAKISTAN & CANADA

WRITERS & READERS

In a time of rising extremism around the world, discover first-hand why former Islamist extremist Maajid Nawaz and political commentator Ali A Rizvi are on a quest for peace and tolerance. They make their first appearance in New Zealand in conversation with John Campbell, exclusive to Writers & Readers. Nawaz (pictured) shares his experience as a young Islamist extremist in his memoir, *Radical*, which spurred him to found the world's first anti-radicalisation organisation, Quilliam. Rizvi is the author of *The Atheist Muslim: A Journey from Religion to Reason* and is a regular contributor to the Huffington Post. You can also see them on screen before the session in a free New Zealand premiere of the documentary *Islam and the Future of Tolerance* (see below).

In association with ThinkInc and LOOP

WHEN

Fri 9 Mar, 7pm

WHERE

Michael Fowler Centre

TICKETS

\$49

DURATION

1hr 15mins

ISLAM AND THE FUTURE OF TOLERANCE

FILM / FREE

Attend the New Zealand premiere of an unlikely conversation between two men on a topic of grave importance. This feature documentary chronicles the initial clash but ultimate collaboration of prominent atheist author and philosopher Sam Harris and former jailed radical Islamist Maajid Nawaz as they critically analyse Islam in the 21st century. Their collaboration has galvanised a movement of courageous voices to speak up and connect with each other in the interest and empowerment of liberalism and xenomania. Prepare yourself for the 7pm onstage conversation between Nawaz and Ali A Rizvi (see above) with this special free screening.

In association with ThinkInc and LOOP

WHEN

Fri 9 Mar, 4pm

WHERE

Michael Fowler Centre

FREE ENTRY

DURATION

1hr 30mins

PHOTOBOOK NEW ZEALAND 2018

Feast your eyes on the best independent photobook publishing from New Zealand and around the world, including a specially curated exhibition of Japanese photobooks and the winners and finalists of the New Zealand Photobook of the Year competition. There will be free public talks and panel discussions with renowned local and international photographer-publishers, including Jem Southam (UK), Bryan Schutmaat (US) and Carollen Benitah (France). Aspiring photobook publishers can take advantage of a masterclass, and there's a special class for school children with an interest in photography. More information at photobooknz.com

WHEN

Sat 10 & Sun 11 Mar

WHERE

College of Creative Arts, Massey University

FREE ENTRY

FESTIVAL CLUB: TOM SCOTT SUNDAY “ROAST”

Join an eclectic group of writers, theatre-makers and Wellington personalities to fondly and raucously “roast” Tom Scott, the celebrated cartoonist, columnist, playwright, screenwriter and life member of the Press Gallery. Enjoy boutique pub grub and listen to tales tall and true, including those drawn from Scott’s new book, *Drawn Out: A Seriously Funny Memoir*, which relates his tragi-comic childhood, manic student-newspaper days, years spent pen-pricking the powerful and collaborations with John Clarke, Murray Ball and Ed Hillary. Then linger at the New Zealand Festival Club for the Writers & Readers closing party from 8pm onwards.

WHEN

Sun 11 Mar, 5pm

WHERE

Festival Club

TICKETS

\$79

DURATION

1hr 30mins

VISUAL ARTS

UNVEILING A SPECTACULAR NEW ART GALLERY AT TE PAPA

VISUAL ARTS / FREE

Te Papa is opening a spacious new art gallery in March 2018. Spanning two levels and 3980m², the 8-metre high Toi Art gallery will feature new immersive and large-scale art, a suite of stunning new exhibitions, and iconic works from the national art collection.

Pacific Sisters: Fashion Activists

Pacific Sisters: Fashion Activists is a celebration of mana wāhine, indigenous identities

and the role the Pacific Sisters collective has played over the past 26 years – through their collaborative works across fashion, performance, music and film – in giving voice and visibility to Māori and Pacific peoples in Aotearoa.

Lisa Walker:

I want to go to my bedroom but I can't be bothered

I want to go to my bedroom but I can't be bothered charts the 30-year evolution of world-renowned New Zealand jeweller Lisa Walker. From the 1980s to now, Walker has challenged convention – “Just because it's jewellery doesn't mean we have to clam up and be well-behaved.”

Kaleidoscope: Abstract Aotearoa

Abstract art is often presented as a 20th century European invention. Kaleidoscope turns that on its head and celebrates how the exploration of shape, colour and pattern have captured our imaginations in the Pacific. At its heart is a must-see new immersive commission by contemporary artist Tiffany Singh.

WHEN

Opens March

WHERE

Toi Art at Te Papa

FREE ENTRY

**TOI
ART**

**THE LANGUAGE OF THINGS: MEANING AND VALUE
IN CONTEMPORARY JEWELLERY**

VISUAL ARTS / FREE

The Language of Things reflects how meaning and value are challenged through the often-surprising materials used in contemporary jewellery from Europe, America, Asia, Australia and New Zealand. In this exhibition, visitors can expect to see everything from

a necklace made of scissors to a woman covered in brass leaves and a performance of masked characters.

These curious pieces not only prompt us to consider what contemporary jewellery can be, but also the relationship between our inherent understanding of conventional jewellery and how we 'read' the materials that surround us in daily life.

WHEN

Sat 25 Nov– Sun 11 Mar

WHERE

The Dowse Art Museum

FREE ENTRY

GAVIN HIPKINS: THE DOMAIN

VISUAL ARTS / FREE

Gavin Hipkins: The Domain gives followers of this widely recognised artist an opportunity to see how his career has unfolded and introduces newcomers to one of New Zealand's most innovative and subversive investigations of the possibilities of photography.

Since his art school days, Gavin Hipkins has resisted being pigeon-holed as an artist making a certain kind of image. This expansive survey of his 25 years of art-making to date brings together a dramatic range of works, from substantial multi-part installations to short films to his unique collaborations with jeweller Karl Fritsch. The result is a thought-provoking and illuminating exhibition.

WHEN

Sat 25 Nov – Sun 11 Mar

WHERE

The Dowse Art Museum

FREE ENTRY

THIS IS NEW ZEALAND

VISUAL ARTS / FREE

New Zealand has been exhibiting at the Venice Biennale since 2001. While this declares our internationalism, some of our projects have tackled old themes of national identity, playing on the Biennale's arcane national pavilion structure. This Is New Zealand presents Venice works by Michael Stevenson, Michael Parekowhai and Simon Denny alongside earlier works made for diplomatic purposes and new projects by Bronwyn Holloway-Smith and Gavin Hipkins. It takes its title from Hugh Macdonald's spectacular three-screen movie made for Expo '70 in Osaka.

WHEN

Sat 3 Mar – Sun 15 Jul

WHERE

City Gallery Wellington

FREE ENTRY

FOUR GLOBES FOR 4 PLINTHS: RUTH WATSON'S OTHER WORLDS

VISUAL ARTS / FREE

A major new public sculpture will be launched for the opening of the Festival at the 4 Plinths site between Te Papa and Circa Theatre. Created by internationally recognised, Auckland-based artist Ruth Watson, and commissioned by the Wellington Sculpture Trust, each of the four globes is a dramatic reinterpretation of Earth or Mars based on early or unusual maps of the planets.

Watson offers images of the world that are not entirely familiar: "My aim is to show us the world anew, encouraging new ways of thinking about an image we take for granted." Explore this brave new world for yourself.

WHEN

Wed 21 Feb, 5.30pm – Jan 2020

WHERE

Te Papa forecourt

FREE ENTRY

LUKE WILLIS THOMPSON

VISUAL ARTS / FREE

Adam Art Gallery Te Pātaka Toi presents a new solo exhibition by Luke Willis Thompson. Using the entire gallery as his stage, Thompson is producing new work that continues his investigation into cinema and performance as mechanisms of violence and counterviolence. Thompson was born and educated in Auckland. After completing his studies in Frankfurt, Germany, he has been based in London, where he was the Create Artist in Residence at Chisenhale Gallery in 2016–17. Winner of the 2014 Walters Prize, Thompson is receiving recognition internationally with inclusion in major exhibitions in Australia, Brazil, Canada, Germany and the United Kingdom.

WHEN

Wed 21 Feb – Sun 15 Apr

WHERE

Adam Art Gallery Te Pātaka Toi

FREE ENTRY

THE SECRETS OF MONA LISA

VISUAL ARTS / FREE

Discover the amazing secrets behind the world's most famous painting. Direct from Europe and for the first time in New Zealand, The Secrets of Mona Lisa exhibits the findings of French scientific engineer and examiner of fine art Pascal Cotte.

Granted unprecedented access by the French Government and the Louvre Museum to Leonardo da Vinci's masterpiece, Cotte's painstaking scientific analysis has uncovered 25 startling mysteries and revelations. These are explored using the only 360° exact replica of the painting ever made, original archives and memorabilia, and 40 super-magnified sectional images.

WHEN

Sat 10 Feb – Sun 15 Apr

WHERE

Expressions Whirinaki Arts and Entertainment Centre, Upper Hutt

ENTRY BY DONATION

ADAM PORTRAITURE AWARD 2018

VISUAL ARTS / FREE

The New Zealand Portrait Gallery hosts the 15th annual Adam Portraiture Award. This premier portrait competition exhibits the best in contemporary New Zealand painted portraiture. This year's finalists and winner have been selected by judge Angus Trumble, Director of the National Portrait Gallery Australia, and the winner will receive a \$20,000 prize. The public can also have their say, with people's choice judging running for the duration of the exhibition.

WHEN

Thu 1 Mar – Sun 27 May

WHERE

New Zealand Portrait Gallery

FREE ENTRY

WOMEN AT THE FRONTLINE OF CLIMATE CHANGE IN VANUATU

VISUAL ARTS / FREE

Women in Vanuatu's villages around Efate, Moso and Nguna islands faced the devastating effects of the El Nino drought, and the ongoing recovery following category-five Cyclone Pam in 2015. This exhibition brings to light the risks that climate change presents to Pacific Island women and the issues we share as Pacific neighbours.

This exhibition was directed and recorded by Volunteer Service Abroad volunteers, journalist Fiona Morris and photographer Murray Lloyd as part of their volunteering assignment with UN Women's Markets for Change project, which is principally funded by the Australian Government and implemented in partnership with UNDP.

WHEN

Fri 23 Feb – Sun 8 Apr

WHERE

Mahara Gallery, Waikanae

FREE ENTRY
