

TE AHUREI
TOI O TĀMAKI

AUCKLAND
ARTS FESTIVAL

GRAVITY & GRACE



By **Eleanor Bishop**
& **Karin McCracken**

Adapted from the book
'**Aliens & Anorexia**'
by **Chris Kraus**

Rangatira, Q Theatre

21–24 March 2024

Gravity & Grace

Credits



Creators

Eleanor Bishop & Karin McCracken



Director

Eleanor Bishop



Performers

Nī Dekkers-Reihana (Ngai Tuteauru, Ngā Puhi),
Simon Leary, Karin McCracken, Sam Snedden,
Rongopai Tickell (Kāi Tahu, Ngāti Toa Rangatira)



Performance Designer

Meg Rollandi



Video Designer

Owen Iosefa McCarthy

Gravity & Grace

Credits



**Composer &
Sound Designer**
Emi 恵美 Pogoni



Lighting Designer
Rob Larsen
(Ngāti Awa)



**Stage Manager &
Technical Operator**
Natasha Thyne



Video Programmer
Rachel Nesor,
Artificial Imagination



Production Management
Khalid Parkar,
Pilot Productions



Producer
Melanie Hamilton

Gravity & Grace

Credits

Set Build

Tāwhiri Workshop

(Alasdair Watson, Duncan Perratt,
Ollivier Ballester, Mika Turnbull, Allan Rockell,
Geoff Goss, Alejandro Ariza, Giovanni Maule)

Dialect Coach

Perry Piercy

Intimacy Direction

Todd Emerson

Promotional Photography

Isadora Lao, Andi Crown

2hrs 30mins inc interval

***Contains mature themes, including
sadoomasochistic sex and eating disorders***

Cover image by Andi Crown

Everybody fails, sometimes spectacularly. Few write a fearless book about it.

Based on the book *Aliens & Anorexia*, a thrilling piece of autobiographical fiction by acclaimed feminist writer Chris Kraus, *Gravity & Grace* follows Kraus through the production of an ill-fated film in Auckland in the 90s, her bold move to punk New York in the 70s, and to a disastrous appearance at a Berlin film market. Along the way, she has encounters with some of the greatest artists and philosophers of the 20th century.

EBKM has been working on this show since 2020; we are so delighted that the work is finally meeting its audience. Thank you for being here!

Gravity & Grace is a landmark production for us, our most ambitious work to date, and has only been possible due to the dedication, collaboration and sheer brilliance of this company of artists.

Chris Kraus (also known for writing the cult feminist classic *I Love Dick*) maintains an extraordinary commitment to her artistic practice. Our deep thanks go to her for gifting us the opportunity to adapt her smart, piercing book for the stage.

– **Eleanor Bishop &
Karin McCracken (EBKM)**

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Eleanor Bishop and Karin McCracken are an award-winning partnership of theatre makers from Aotearoa New Zealand. They make high quality, socially minded, formally innovative contemporary theatre for a range of audiences in New Zealand and abroad.

In 2022 they were announced as winners of the Bruce Mason Playwriting Award, the first time in the award's 40-year history that it has been given to a creative partnership. Recently their work *Yes Yes Yes* has been licensed for productions in Welsh (*Ie Ie Ie*) and Catalan (*Sì Sì Sì*) languages.

ebkm.co.nz

Gravity & Grace

Acknowledgements

We acknowledge and thank mana whenua of the land this show was created on (Te Āti Awa/ Taranaki Whānui ki te Upoko o te Ika, and Ngāti Toa Rangatira) and mana whenua of the land it is performed on for you today, Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei.

Our thanks to: Artificial Imagination for AV systems design support; Toi Rauwhārangī College of Creative Arts, Massey University; Illumination and Optics; BATS Theatre; Wellington City Council; Hannah Playhouse; Te Auaha; Homer Erotic: The All Female Poet's Band; musicians Anita Clark, Lucy Reid and Rob Thorne; Kate Ashworth; Sojourn Apartment Hotel; artists involved in the show's development: Stephen Lovatt, Moana Ete, Natasha James, Hannah Kelly, Andrew Paterson, Sylvie McCreanor, Ana Scotney, Sepelini Mua'au and Shanell Bielawa; show documentation (2022): Joel Strawbridge, Lachlan Crane, Lewis Ferris, Nick George; showreel (2022): Jordan Harrison.

Our huge thanks to Te Ahurei Toi O Tāmaki Auckland Arts Festival, especially Shona McCullagh, for believing in our vision for this work, and Creative New Zealand for supporting its development.

Gravity & Grace

Acknowledgements

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 creative *nz*
ARTS COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND TOI AOTEAROA

“Oh Bondage Up Yours”

Written by: Poly-Styrene

Westminster Music Ltd.

Administered by: Essex Music of Australia Pty Ltd

Andy Warhol film material courtesy The Andy Warhol Museum.

Paul Thek [ST338], 1964.

All Andy Warhol film material © The Andy Warhol Museum, Pittsburgh, PA, a museum of Carnegie Institute. All rights reserved.

About the Festival

Who We Are

Te Ahurei Toi o Tāmaki Auckland Arts Festival champions change-making, the environment, ambitious ideas, powerful voices and unique experiences that open our eyes, our hearts and our minds.

Taking place each March in New Zealand's largest city, and reflecting its contemporary, multicultural nature, the Festival challenges its community to be courageous, to be bold, and to explore new ways of reflecting the world around us.

Through the incredible work of artists here in Aotearoa and across the globe, we aim to unify, uplift and inspire our audiences – the people of Tāmaki Makaurau, Aotearoa, and all who visit.

To learn more about us, tap here. 

The Auckland Festival Trust Ph [+64 09 309 0101](tel:+6493090101) Email info@aaf.co.nz

Ground Floor, 48 Greys Avenue, Auckland 1010

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

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7—24 MĀEHE 2024

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