

TE AHUREI
TOI O TĀMAKI

AUCKLAND
ARTS FESTIVAL

The **SUN** and
the **WIND**

By

Tainui Tukiwaho



Loft, Q Theatre

20–24 March 2024

The Sun and the Wind

Credits

Taurima Vibes

Writer, Set Designer

Tainui Tukiwaho

Tūhoe, Te Arawa, Tuwharetoa, Whakatohea

Director

Edward Peni

Performers

Taungaroa Emile

Ngāti Kahungunu; Ngati Kuki 'Āirani

Julie Edwards

Joe Dekkers-Reihana

Ngāi Tū Te Auru; Ngāpuhi

Tuakoi Ohia

Ngāti Hine; Mataatua; Tainui; Te Arawa; Te Āti Awa; Ngāi Pākehā

Alternate Performer

Georgia-May Russ

Sound Design

Eve Gordon

Lighting Design

Katrina Chandra

Ngāti Paoa; Scottish; English;
Nepalese; Fijian Indian

Lighting Operator

Glen Glover

1hr 15mins no interval

***Contains depictions and references to suicide, self-harm and death,
and the use of a fake gun/gunshot sound(s)***

The Sun and the Wind

Acknowledgements

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Written by: Callander/Murray • Universal/Dick James Music Ltd.

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“Fine Brown Frame”

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The Sun and the Wind

Creative Notes



The Sun and the Wind

Creative Notes

Writer's note

Nei ra nga mihi ki a koutou i panuitia enei tuhinga. Koutou I whai wa ki te tautoko I a matou kaupapa.

I began writing this show as an escape from my children during lock down. In the evenings, I gave myself writing challenges and *The Sun and the Wind* was the result.

There were two specific wero I laid down for myself: I gave myself the challenge of making the hostage genre surprising again and I wanted to find an interesting way to use a gun in a show. These are two tropes that I had not seen used in an interesting way in a very long time. I'm excited to see whether audiences think I have achieved this.

The Sun and the Wind is the first drama I have written. The tone and style of the piece is reminiscent of my

The Sun and the Wind

Creative Notes

other more comical/musical works but the engine of this show lives in a much darker and often hopeless space which was surprising for me.

– **Tainui Tukiwaho**

The Sun and the Wind

Creative Notes

Director's note

Kia ora. It is wonderful to be presenting this gripping new play by Tainui Tukiwaho, a story that explores themes of family, grief, hope, and the collisions that can create connections and vice versa.

The themes of the Aesop fable of which the play takes its name from, with the gentle heat of persuasion, have helped to hold a delicate balance of the story's familial warmth and heartbreak.

I am indebted to our wonderfully talented, multi-hyphenate cast and crew who have been generous, agile and sensitive with their ideas, whakaaro and presence, bringing out as much life as possible to fulfill the story's impact.

We hope you enjoy the ride.

– Edward Peni

The Sun and the Wind

About the Company



The Sun and the Wind

About the Company

Winners of the 2018 Wellington Theatre Awards - Excellence Award for Community Engagement, Taurima Vibes is an important intermediary organisation that creates brokering opportunities for a vast array of communities across Aotearoa.

As brokers they are committed to bringing the spotlight to marginalised, undervalued and historically unheard communities. Taurima Vibes is made up of creators, advisors and consultants leading in advocacy, strategic community engagement and creative sector development for the arts and well-being across the motu.

After five years of performance hiatus, Taurima Vibes storm back to the stage with Tainui Tukiwaho's, *The Sun and the Wind*.



The Sun and the Wind

Biographies – Creative Team



The Sun and the Wind

Biographies – Creative Team



Tainui Tukiwaho

Tūhoe, Te Arawa, Tuwharetoa, Whakatohea

Writer, Set Designer

Tainui Tukiwaho is a father of seven who has blazed a trail in te ao whakaari for the past 20 years.

After graduating from Unitec, Tainui gathered trusted and passionate Māori creatives to build a home for Māori theatre. Alongside and through this important kaupapa, Tainui adopted and implemented a distinctive style and perspective, representative of his cultural background.

Some of his proudest works include *Front Yard Festival*, a travelling show that kept the community alive for kaumatua during lockdowns. *Hemo is Home* is another lockdown project that was written with his children and starred his 11-year-old Te Rongopai. *Hemo is Home* won an Adam NZ Play Award in 2022. In 2023, Tainui directed *Kōpū*, a powerful, conversation-changing, all-woman sketch comedy show.

Tainui's art and life are always kaupapa-driven, as he boldly leads the way and holds space for Māori creatives.

The Sun and the Wind

Biographies – Creative Team



Edward Peni

Director

Edward Peni is an actor, stage manager, director and producer. Recent producer credits include *O Nofoa with Te Pou Theatre* (2017),

a Samoan translation of Eugene Ionesco's *The Chairs*, as well two successful seasons of *Skin Hunger* by Tatiana Hotere as part of the Auckland Fringe Festival 2022 and Summer at Q 2023.

Edward has starred in Harold Pinter's *The Hothouse* (2008 & 2018) and co-directed Potent Pause's production of Pinter's seminal work, *The Homecoming* in 2022. Other directing credits include the premiere of *TWACAS (The West Auckland Cardigan Appreciation Society)* by Sam Berkley in 2010, *The First Asian All Black* by Renee Liang in 2011, and the 2023 season of *The Sun and the Wind* by Tainui Tukiwaho at Circa Theatre.

Edward's theatre skillset has also transposed into the realm of Urban Regeneration working as a Placemaker at Eke Panuku Development Auckland where he influences and informs good design that enables strong connections between people and place.

The Sun and the Wind

Biographies – Performers



The Sun and the Wind

Biographies – Performers



Taungaroa Emile

Ngāti Kahungunu; Ngati Kuki 'Āirani

Rangi

Taungaroa Emile has worked with almost every professional theatre company in Aotearoa.

Taungaroa has enjoyed various roles over the years in film and television from *Once Were Warriors*, *Jubilee*, *Whale Rider*, *No. 2*, *Tama Tu* and, recently, *Vai*.

His theatre experience includes *Awhi Tapu*, *The Prophet*, *TU*, *Sunset Road*, *Waiora*, *The Night Mechanics* and *Astroman*.

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Biographies – Performers



Julie Edwards Hūkerikeri

Julie Edwards began drama classes in 1985 at Theatre Corporate and is a 1989 graduate of Toi Whakaari: NZ Drama School. She has since

worked as an actor, director and as vocal and acting coach throughout New Zealand.

She is a 1985 founding member of Northland Youth Theatre where she directed and tutored for five seasons and, in 1995, was head of acting at Tai Tokerau Wānanga. From 1998–2001 she coordinated and tutored at Otago Institute of Theatre, Television and Radio.

A familiar face to Dunedin audiences, Julie has appeared in over 80 productions including *Into the Woods*, *Twelfth Night*, *Hamlet*, *Peninsular*, *The Humble Boy*, *Te Hara*, *Home Fires* by Hone Kouka, *Whaea Kairau* by Apirana Taylor, *Mum's Choir* for The Court Theatre in Christchurch, *Social Climbers* National Tour and *Middle Age Spread* for Centrepont Theatre. She recently appeared as Rose in Fusion Productions' *Di and Viv and Rose* by Amelia Bullmore at Wellington's Circa Theatre

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Biographies – Performers

and Dunedin's Mayfair Theatre. She recently co-produced and starred in *Barrier Ninja* by Fran Kewene for Kia Mau Festival and for Auckland Live's Matariki festival.

In 2013, Julie was awarded the 50+shows award for services to New Zealand Theatre. She is a founding member of The New Athenaeum Theatre in Dunedin and a member of Equity New Zealand.

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Biographies – Performers



Joe Dekkers-Reihana

Ngāi Tū Te Auru; Ngāpuhi

Hihi

Joe Dekkers-Reihana is a Dutch-Māori film, television and theatre actor, who has worked professionally since he was 15.

In 2013, Joe won the Chapman Tripp Theatre Award for Most Promising Male Newcomer. His work has taken him around the country for nearly a decade now, and he has featured in a number of notable works, including horror film *30 Days of Night*, Māori supernatural series *The Dead Lands* and Taika Waititi's comedy series *Wellington Paranormal*.

Raised in an artistic family, Joe's creative abilities come naturally to him. He proudly embraces his Māori and Dutch heritage and his work reflects his deep passion for storytelling and acting.

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Biographies – Performers



Tuakoi Ohia

Ngāti Hine; Mataatua; Tainui; Te Arawa;
Te Āti Awa; Ngāi Pākehā

Kate

Tuakoi Ohia has been working as a creative with Te Pou Theatre since 2019 and joined the board in 2022 representing

rangatahi. Her debut as an actress was in 2018 on New Zealand bilingual drama series, *Ahikāroa*. Working mainly in theatre, she has been working as a full-time actress ever since. Her debut production as a writer, *Kōpū*, premiered at Te Pou Theatre in May 2023.

Tuakoi is motivated to create, and support the development of projects which require the positive representation of Māori, and to create content that involves all Māori who wish to pursue a career path in the arts. Tuakoi is a member of the esteemed Kapa Haka, Te Rōpu Manutaki, founded by Dr Peter Sharples.

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

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