

Bio:

Kereama Taepa studied for his Bachelor of Māori Visual Arts at Massey University in Palmerston North, and continued on to gain his Masters degree. Taepa's involvement in the arts have been broad and varied including bronze technician at the Dibble Arts Foundry and participating in various national Māori arts symposiums, workshops and hui, and has freelanced offering design services.

He has exhibited his work nationally and internationally, and is held in collections across New Zealand and abroad. His design work is seen across Aotearoa also through brands and specialist campaigns. He recently exhibited within Nuit Blanche, Toronto 2022 and was also included in the major Contemporary Māori Art exhibition "Toi Tu Toi Ora", Auckland Art Gallery, 2021.

Taepa has multiple public works across Aotearoa and unveiled his last public work "Tohorā" on the Kāpiti Coast, 2020. He is a Supreme Award winner of the Rotorua Art Awards 2017, the Molly Morpeth 2D Art Award in 2008 and recently received the Runner Up Award at the National Art Awards 2018.

For the last decade, Taepa has sought to establish himself as Aotearoa's most leading contemporary Māori digital artist. His work explores themes of digital culture and its impact on Māori culture - and how Māori use technology to further serve the generations of the future. His work utilizes emergent technologies such as projection, 3D printing, Augmented Reality and Virtual reality to tell narratives of the past and the present. This has resulted in "*Poupou Matihiko*" being the first digital artwork to be acquired by the Parliamentary Collection in 2023.

[website](#)

[instagram](#)

[facebook](#)

Employment:

2023-current

Te Tuhi Māreikura Trust - Digital Designer

2009 - 2023

Toi Ohomai Institute of Technology (formerly Waiariki Institute of Technology) - Lecturer

2005 – 2008

Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangi - Lecturer

Professional Experience

2022

Digital Fellowship Programme, Australia and New Zealand - Mentor

2018

The Space Between Us - Indigenous art residency held in Banff, Canada

2002-2004

Dibble Art Foundry - Foundry technician

2002

Te Whare Wānanga o Aotearoa - Guest Lecturer

Education:

Toi Ohomai Institute of Technology, Certificate in Tertiary Teaching

Massey University, Masters of Maori Visual Arts

Massey University, Bachelor of Maori Visual Arts - Hons

Major Commissions:

2023

Whakairoiro, projection, Nuit Blanche, Napier

Mai Te Uira, visual and aural experience in collaboration with Tiki Taane, Lower Hutt

Poupou Matihiko, digital animation, New Zealand Parliamentary Collection, Wellington

Light Up Whakatāne, Whakatāne

2022

3D printed taonga (poupou), Adidas, Auckland

Adi, (3D printed poupou) Adidas Originals, Auckland

Shared Histories, Nuit Blanche, Toronto, Canada

WahARoa - Augmented Reality installation, Sculpture on the Gulf, Waiheke Island

Ka Mua Ka Muri, After Dark Urban Light Festival, Tauranga

2021

Taikākā - Vinyl wrap design, Rotorua

2020

Nuit in your Neighbourhood, Augmented Reality exhibition, Toronto, Canada

Tohorā - Public sculpture, Maclean Park, Paraparaumu

Spatial Design - Glass frieze, concrete path and garden design, Rotorua Airport, Rotorua

2019

Whuture Whakairo - temporary in situ art installation, Sculpture on the Gulf, Waiheke Island

Ngā Hau e Wha - 3D printed/lazer cut poupou installation, Waikato University, Tauranga

Pou Whenua - Bronze Public sculpture, Pāpāmoa Beach, Tauranga

2018

AEIOU - Maori alphabet installation, Te Aka Mauri, Rotorua
Pōhutukawa – Stainless Steel Public Sculpture, The Strand, Tauranga

2017

Vinyl Installation, Palmerston North Airport, Palmerston North
3D Printed Taonga, Oranga Tamariki, New Zealand

2016

a (very) brief history of aotearoa - Four Plinths Sculpture Project, Wellington

2015

AEIOU – Maori alphabet design, Rotorua Museum and Art Gallery
Tichi – bronze public sculpture, New Plymouth
ATM wrap design, ANZ Drinking fountain designs, Rotorua Lakes Council

2014

Illustrations, Te Tākeretanga, Levin
Waipa Toilet Block Screens, Rotorua Lakes Council

2013

Redwoods Toilet Shrouds, Rotorua Lakes Council

Exhibitions

Solo Exhibitions

2023

Rerekē, Jhana Millers Gallery, Wellington
Whakairoiro, Ahuriri Gallery, Napier

2022

Whakapī, Jhana Millers Gallery, Wellington
Tāpiri, Milford Galleries, Queenstown

2020

Transmission, Object Space, Auckland
Te Ao Mariko, Ramp Gallery, Hamilton

2017

Whakapī, Pataka Art + Museum, Porirua
Insert Coin, Lift installation Tauranga Art Gallery, Tauranga

2016

Geo, Helium Gallery, Rotorua

2015

Tauhuna, Art and Body Gallery, Mt Maunganui

2013

KABLAM! Rotorua Museum and Art Gallery, Rotorua

2006

Re:Context: thesis exhibition, Taketake Gallery, Whakatane

2002

Ko Iwi – People, Compendium Gallery, Auckland

Group Exhibitions

2023

He Kahu o Toi Kiri, Kūwao Space, Tauranga

NFT Aotearoa 2023, Eyes on Fire Gallery, Auckland

I/O, Kūwao Space, Tauranga

2022

Molly Morpeth Canaday 3D (finalist and Highly Commended award), Whakatane

Small Works, Waiheke art Gallery, Auckland

Studio D, Milford Galleries, Dunedin

2021

Ebb and Flow, (reshowing in Canada) Ocean Memories,

Kunsthalle Faust Gallery, Hanover, Germany

New Works, Milford Galleries, Dunedin

Toi Tū, Toi Ora, Auckland Art Gallery, Auckland

Tora Haere, Waiheke Community Art Gallery, Waiheke

Kei te Ora Tonu, Toi Tangata Studio Gallery, Otaki

Tuakana Teina, Rotorua Arts Village, Rotorua

2020

Ebb and Flow, Halifax, Nova Scotia

Mana Moana (online and public display), Wellington waterfront, Wellington

A Mua, The Dowse, Lower Hutt

Matatoki: Mata ā Waka, Tauranga Art Gallery, Tauranga

2019

Gathering Across Moana, Trinity Square Video, Toronto, Canada

Te Whāinga: A Culture Lab in Civility, A joint exhibition event hosted by Smithsonian Asia Pacific and Auckland Museum, Silo Park, Auckland

Scape, Temporary Public Art Exhibition, Christchurch

Manawataki, Ahua Gallery, Rotorua

Ihorei, Te Matatini, Wellington

2018

Art That Needs You, Tauranga Art Gallery, Tauranga

Miles Art Award (finalist), Tauranga Art Gallery, Tauranga

National Contemporary Art Award (finalist and runner up award), Waikato Museum, Waikato

2017

In Digi Nous: Virtual Futures, Augmented Realities, Urban Shaman Gallery, Winnipeg, Canada

Rotorua Art Awards (finalist), Sir Howard Morrison Performing Arts Centre, Rotorua

Art of Technology, Goddard Centre, Tauranga

Whakarongo, Toi Poneke, Wellington

2016

Works on Paper, Art Body, Mt Maunganui

New Zealand: Kiwi Consciousness, Imago Mundi, Italy

VEFA Art Auction, Vauxhall School, Auckland

Jokers Wild, Quirky Fox, Taranaki

Studio/Gallery Opening Exhibition, Hori Studio Gallery, Otaki

2015

Seven, The Artist's Room Fine Art Gallery, Dunedin

Tuku Iho, Bath Street Gallery, Auckland

He Toi Reikorangi-Te Atiawa Celebrate Matariki, Mahara Gallery, Waikanae

He Kitenga, The Suter Art Gallery, Nelson

N8VLab - Oma Rapeti, Haus of Flox, Auckland

Dirty Laundry, Pop-up show, Christchurch

N8VLab-Oma Rapeti, Pataka Gallery, Porirua

2014

N8VLab - Auckland, Railway Street Studio and Gallery, Auckland

Paperworks X, The Artist's Room Fine art Gallery, Dunedin

N8VLab – Transforma, The Artist's Room Fine Art Gallery, Dunedin

Major Collections

New Zealand Parliament Collection
Adidas, Auckland
New Plymouth City Council
Tauranga City Council
Pataka Art + Museum, Porirua
The Suter Gallery collection, Nelson
Rotorua Art Gallery and Museum Collection (multiple) Rotorua
Massey University Collection, Palmerston North
Te Manawa Gallery Collection, Palmerston North
Te Wānanga o Aotearoa Head Office Collection, Te Awamutu

Awards and Grants

2022

Molly Morpeth Canaday Art Award 3D - Highly Commended

2018

National Contemporary Art Awards – Runner Up

2017

Rotorua Art Awards - Supreme Award Winner

2008

Molly Morpeth Canaday Open Art Award - Major Award Winner

2002

Manawatu Pottery Society - Award of Merit for entry in the Beginner's Category and over all Premier Award for all categories

Bibliography

Books

Huia Publishers (2021). Pikihuia 2021. Wellington: Huia Publishers
(Front cover art)

Johnston, J. (2008). He Iti, He Taonga, Taranaki Maori Women Speak. Auckland: Pinder NZ.
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Paama-Pengelly, J. (2010). Maori Art and Design. Auckland: New Holland Publishers -
(Illustrative content pp.20-23).

Newspaper Articles

Daughter inspires winning artwork. (29 Jan. 2008). Whakatane Beacon, pp. 1

Design captures native bird's fragility. (22 Feb. 2013). Rotorua Daily Post

Digi Maori T shirt designer to show at NZ Fashion Awards. (16 Jun. 2011). Rotorua Daily Post

Toilets with view of bird life take shape. (6 Jun. 2013). Rotorua Daily Post

Website Articles

Zhang,M. (2021). Could 3D Scanning Further Complicate Art Repatriation?. [on-line]

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<https://hyperallergic.com/695572/could-3d-scanning-further-complicate-artrepatriation/> Digimaori at Miromoda. (1 Sep. 2011). The Big Idea Smith, C. (2 Sep. 2011). Expert Eye: Miromoda. Auckland: NZ Herald