

PRESS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 11.10.16

Set to premiere this November - Pollywood 142016 Pasifika Film continues to showcase Pasifika on the big screen. Grass Roots and Established practitioners come together in eclectic selection of short film that will entrance you with ideas and perspectives not likely to have been thought about outloud. A passing notion realized in moving image..

14 years of championing Pasifika Film is something to be proud of, to be shared and supported. "The only show of its kind in the world" Says Craig Fasi, Director of Pollywood Pasifika Film. "Passion is what keeps the engine running; Knowing that I am doing my part in the creative arts for our Pasifika people keeps me motivated to continue to produce statements of pride, innovation and diligence".

Presenting 84mins of film made up of 8 works lovingly produced locally and abroad. The scope is huge but the message is clear - 'Family First' - Something most Pasifika people are synonymous to.

'Maria' Directed by Jeremiah Tauamiti (Samoa) is a touching tribute to life. An intriguing story about a grand-daughter and her grandmother. Mr Tauamiti and co work hard to pull on those heartstrings..Literally, fresh out of the can - be one of the first people to see this film before it makes its international journey.

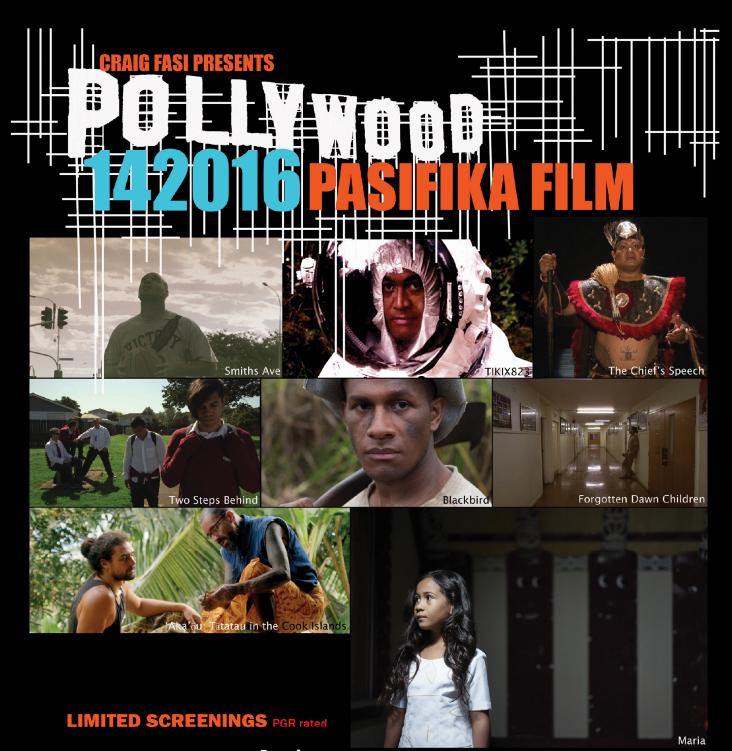
Robert George for 'Smiths Ave' & 'Aka ou: Tatatau in the Cook Island' packs a visual double punch - recently screening in The NZ International Film Festival 2016 and Loading Docs - Mr George (Cook Islands) continues to hone his craft on screen with his unique style and understanding of capturing an audience.

'Blackbird' by Australian based Director Amie Batalibasi (Solomon Islands), explores the history of Slave labour in colonial Australia. A period piece executed with brilliance and empathy for a time that most would have no idea about.

Pollywood 142016 Pasifika Film premieres at Te Uru in Titirangi, Wed 2 Nov then onto Mangere Art Centre, Sat 5 Nov and ends in the Auckland Art Gallery on Sat 12 Nov. Tickets only available online via eventfinda <a href="http://www.eventfinda.co.nz/search?q=pollywood&sort=date">http://www.eventfinda.co.nz/search?q=pollywood&sort=date</a>

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Rated PG



Premiere:

Wednesday 2nd November @ 6pm
Te Uru / Waitakere Contemporary Gallery
Entry - \$10.00 inc light supper & cash bar

Saturday 5th November @ 5pm Mängere Arts Centre - Ngā Tohu o Uenuku Entry - \$5.00

> Saturday 12th November @ 2pm Auckland Art Gallery – Toi O Tamaki Entry - \$5.00

Tickets available via Eventfinda

Thanks to





AUCKLAND ART GALLERY





### **Smiths Ave**

## Director: Robert George

2015

An unexpected call from his estranged father leads a young man to ponder events from his childhood. The soundscape takes you back in time and thought to marry you to an idea: basketball is clarity.

#### TIKIX823

### Director: Jason Slliva Taouma

2016

In a not too distant future where everyone now lives on remote islands, Tiki, a lone Samoan explorer must return to the land and come to terms with a terrible secret that will unlock his past, in order to know his fate.

## The Chief's Speech (to the United Nations)

Director: Vilsoni Hereniko

2015

Chief Telematua's impassioned speech may well change your understanding of climate change. A plea from Moana-Nui-A-Kiwa to the people of the world, a coda for our age.

### **Two Steps Behind**

## Director: Onehou Strickland

2016

The pressures from society cause Chris to think twice about gay, older brother Mana and himself. Whether he lets this ruin their brotherhood will see the course of his life forever.

### **Blackbird**

### Director: Amie Batalibasi

2015

"Blackbird' follows the story of Solomon Islander siblings, Kiko (16) & Rosa (24), who were kidnapped from their Pacific island home and forced to work on a sugar cane plantation in Queensland, Australia in the late 1800s. In a world where exploitation of Pacific Islanders for cheap labour is legislated and conditions for Islanders are akin to slavery, Rosa struggles to keep an eye on her spirited young brother as he journeys into manhood. Kiko, faced with unimaginable loss in a place far from his homelands, must find his will to survive. This narrative short film sheds light on a little known part of history - Australia's sugar slaves.

### Forgotten Dawn Children

Director: Joshua losefo

2015

loane wakes up to another lonely, cold morning. He turns on his radio, makes his tea, and goes to work. In the middle of his daily routine, he starts to remember how things used to be. Before they came. When people knew.

# 'Aka' ōu: Tātatau in the Cook Islands

Director: Robert George

2016

An unlikely master of the traditional Polynesian art of Tātatau, Englishman Croc Coulter must pass on his knowledge to a new apprentice

### Maria

Director: Jeremiah Tauamiti

2016

The matriarch of a large Polynesian family lies bedridden and silent, unable or unwilling to speak after a long illness. When a family crisis strikes, Nan Maria gets unexpected help as she struggles to reunite her fractured family.