

***Declaration: A Pacific Feminist Agenda* sets a daring new direction for contemporary Pacific art**



Artwork credit: Jessicoco Hansell *Auntie FM: To be of Secret Service (Psychic Frequency Unknown)*. Installation. Commissioned by Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki, 2022.

Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki’s latest exhibition sets a daring new direction, building a Pacific feminist trajectory in contemporary art.

*Declaration: A Pacific Feminist Agenda* brings together 12 prominent artists from across the Pacific whose works set a feminist agenda by foregrounding the most pressing issues of our times: climate change and resilience, tino rangatiratanga (sovereignty), activism and social justice.

‘I am thrilled to present *Declaration: A Pacific Feminist Agenda* at Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki; an exciting, energetic and bold exhibition that positions contemporary art and Pacific feminism as a powerful and inclusive tool for individual and collective empowerment,’ says Gallery Director Kirsten Lacy.

Curated by Ane Tonga, Curator, Pacific Art, *Declaration: A Pacific Feminist Agenda* reignites a call to action set in the late 1970s when Māori and Pacific women advocated for full and equal participation within feminist movements of the time and, more widely, within Aotearoa New Zealand society. The exhibition presents major commissioned projects alongside existing artworks and ephemera, some that are being shown to the public for the first time.

‘Declaration signals ambitions for contemporary Pacific art and artists at Toi o Tāmaki which are as expansive and complex as Te Moana Nui a Kiwa itself. Amid turbulent times, this exhibition calls our attention to the power of collective leadership, vision and radical hope that has always existed in the Pacific,’ says Ane Tonga, Curator, Pacific Art.

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Opening Saturday 26 March, *Declaration: A Pacific Feminist Agenda* will feature works by Jasmine Togo-Brisby, Marti Friedlander, Jessicoco Hansell, Taloi Havini, Lonnie Hutchinson, Ioane Ioane, Sione Monū, Suzanne Tamaki, Latai Taumoepeau, Molly Rangiwai-McHale & Luisa Tora, and Kalisolaite 'Uhila.

*Declaration: A Pacific Feminist Agenda* is presented in association with Auckland Arts Festival 2022 and is proudly supported by Auckland University of Technology, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Trade, the Stout Trust, Rose Dunn and has been made possible by the Auckland Art Gallery Foundation.

## Exhibition details:

*Declaration: A Pacific Feminist Agenda*

### When:

Saturday 26 March to Sunday 31 July 2022  
10am–5pm daily

### Where:

Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki  
Cnr Kitchener and Wellesley Streets  
Auckland, New Zealand

### Admission:

FREE

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For more information, high-res images  
and interview requests contact:

**Priscilla Southcombe**  
Communications Officer  
Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki

+64 21 548 480  
[priscilla.southcombe@aucklandartgallery.com](mailto:priscilla.southcombe@aucklandartgallery.com)  
[aucklandartgallery.com](http://aucklandartgallery.com)

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