

**Rongo**

**Whakapā**



**Atamira**  
**Choreographer**

**Dance**  
**Brydie**

**Company**  
**Colquhoun**

**“It’s a privilege having Brydie back in the Atamira whare as she works toward her choreographic debut, *Rongo Whakapā*. A longtime friend and admired artist, Brydie brings care, integrity, and depth to all she does. *Rongo Whakapā* is a beautiful reflection of her journey—holding space for connection, intimacy, and presence. This work is a true gift, and we are honoured to share it with the community.”**

Bianca Hyslop  
Kaihautū | Director  
Atamira Dance Company



An intimate and shared  
exploration of presence,  
connection, and community  
through dance.

*Rongo Whakapā* is the debut choreographic work by Brydie Colquhoun, one of Aotearoa New Zealand's most captivating Māori contemporary dance artists, teachers, and practitioners \_\_\_\_ In a time of increasing disconnection, we are invited into a shared, intimate space with encouragement to slow down and be fully present. *Rongo Whakapā*—meaning sense of touch—reflects this invitation as it examines the tension between individualism and collective community. While six dancers respond to each other and the shifting environment they co-create, audiences are invited to move freely, choose their point of view, and decide at what proximity they wish to engage \_\_\_\_ Atamira Dance Company is honoured to support Brydie with this significant milestone in the evolving landscape of Māori contemporary dance. Building the foundational shape of this work are conversations, interviews, and wānanga with Mātanga Mātauranga Māori, whānau, colleagues, and friends around intimacy and connection in our contemporary lives. Brydie's extensive embodied knowledge and whakapapa of movement practice, drawing on contemporary dance technique, contact improvisation, durational improvisation, and score-based structures, also inform the language \_\_\_\_ Supported with sound design by Eden Mulholland as well as spatial and light design by Rowan Pierce, an immersive world and shared experience is created. *Rongo Whakapā* gently explores shifts toward decolonising performance spaces, proposing new ways—or perhaps old ways—of gathering and witnessing.





**Te Kāhui Auaha | Creative Team**

Kaitito Nekehanga | Choreographer Brydie Colquhoun (Ngāpuhi)  
Kaihoahoa | Spatial & Light Designer Rowan Pierce  
Kaitito | Sound Designer Eden Mulholland (Ngāti Porou)

**Kaikānikani | Dance Artists**

Abbie Rogers (Kāi Tahu, Te Arawa)  
Caleb Heke (Ngāpuhi)  
Jeremy Beck (Kāi Tahu)  
Rachel Ruckstuhl-Mann (Kāi Tahu, Kāti Māmoe, Rangitāne)  
Sean MacDonald (Ngāti Kahungunu, Ngāti Raukawa, Tūwharetoa, Rangitāne)  
Tai Taranui Hemana (Te Arawa)

**Te Kāhui Hangarau | Technical and Production Team**

Kaiwhakahaere Hanga Hōtaka | Production Manager Emmanuel Reynaud  
Kaiāwhina Hangarau | Technical Consultant Robert Larsen (Ngāti Awa ki te Awa o te Atua)  
Ringa Hangarau | Operator Bekky Boyce

**Te Kāhui o Atamira | Atamira Management Team**

Kaihautū | Director Bianca Hyslop (Te Arawa, Ngāti Whakaue-kaipapa,  
Tūhourangi-Ngāti Wāhiao, Pākeha)  
Kaiwhakahaere | General Manager Ashley David (Armenian)  
Kaiwhakaputa Auaha | Creative Producer Marama Lloyd  
(Ngāpuhi, Ngāti Kahu, Te Rarawa)  
Kaiwhakahaere Tairanga, Ako | Marketing Coordinator & Education Producer  
Abbie Rogers (Kāi Tahu, Te Arawa)

**Poari | Atamira Board of Trustees**

Dolina Wehipeihana (Ngāti Raukawa, Ngāti Tūkorehe)  
Moana Nepia (Ngāti Porou, Te Aitanga a Hauiti, Rongowhakaata)  
Puawai Cairns (Ngāiterangi, Ngāti Ranginui, Ngāti Pūkenga)  
Mereana Beconcini (Ngāti Porou, Ngāti Kahungunu ki Te Wairoa, Ngāti Ruapani)  
Natasha Pearce

**Kaiāwhina | Contributors**

Tūi Matira Ranapiri-Ransfield (Ngāti Ohomairangi)  
Mokonui-a-rangi Smith (Te Arawa, Tainui, Takitimu, Horouta)  
Miriam McDowell (Ngāti Hine, Ngāpuhi)  
Olivia McGregor (Muaūpoko, Ngāti Raukawa)  
Madi Tumataroa (Ngāti Kahungunu, Ngāti Pāhauwera)  
Tyler Wilson  
Silo Theatre | Q Theatre | Creative Ambiance Stage Technologies

**Whakatairanga | Campaign**

Creative Direction & Design Osborne Shiwan  
Photography & Videography Osborne Shiwan  
Drone Photography & Videography Petra Leary

