



Onepū

Choreography  
Louise Potiki Bryant

Atamira Dance

Meet Hine-aroaro-pari whose echoes are heard on sea cliffs, Hine-rōriki, controller of the unruly northerly winds, Hine-aroraki, Māui's mother whose name denotes the soaring flight of birds, Hine-pū-nui-o-toka from the south, the mother of all winds, Hine-rōtia who releases the west winds and Hine-hauone from the north east, who finds Māui at sea, nursing him back to life.

Based on an interview in 1920 and originally published in 1939, these are selected excerpts from the book *Tikao Talks—Traditions and Tales of the Canterbury Māori as told by Teone Taare Tikao to Herries Beattie*.

Louise Potiki Bryant (Kāi Tahu, Waitaha, Kāti Mamoe) is Hine-pū-nui-o-toka the mother of the other five wāhine, and Māui's grandmother. She holds Te pū o te hau, the power of the wind in general and from her position in the South West she controls and unleashes Te pū o te toka—the origin of the southerly winds.

Jessica Johns is Hine-aroraki whose name denotes soaring. She controls the flight of birds and is the oldest of the five daughters. Hine-aroraki is Māui's mother.

Ariana Tikao (Kāi Tahu) is Hine-aroaro-pari who controls the pari-kalakalaka (pari-kārangaranga), the echoes on both the inland and the sea cliffs.

Imogen Tapara (Ngāti Ruanui, Ngā Ruahinerangi) is Hine-hauone who controls the easterly to northern winds. She finds Māui wrapped in a cloth after he had been placed out to sea by his mother Hine-aroraki who thought he was a whānau-karukaru (miscarriage). Hine-hauone nurses Māui back to life.

Rosie Tapsell (Te Arawa, Ngati Whakaue) is Hine-rōriki who holds and releases the powerful northerly winds.

Presley Ziogas (Ngāpuhi, Kāi Tahu) is Hine-rōtia who holds and releases the westerly winds, one of which, the māuru, was known to bring tidings of those who have passed on.

Ancient songs say the world is circular and that the sand lies round it like a rim, and that outside and beyond this is space. The rim of sand sometimes widens into a little plain, but generally it is merely a sandbank, and there are different names for the various portions of it in the east, west, north and south, but the general name for the whole bank is Pikopiko-i-whiti, a very ancient name.

Take a soup plate, fill it with water up to nearly the edge, leaving a brim showing all round. The brim represents the sandbank that goes right round the world to keep the water of the sea from running away.

All of these females became famous and were given great powers, and still hold important positions in connection with this world. They are in the points of the wind and stand at points round the world and hold or loose the principal winds. Each wind goddess holds a big tāwhiriwhiri (fan) which she uses to fan the winds over the earth.

# ndəu

# Company

Teone Taare Tikao was born in 1850. As a boy he was sent by his father to study under two tohunga in Banks Peninsula, with whom he stayed for nearly 10 years. In 1920 he was interviewed by historian Herries Beattie and a book was published in 1939, *Tikao Talks—Traditions and Tales of the Canterbury Māori as told by Teone Taare Tikao to Herries Beattie*. In the book Tikao acknowledges six atua wahine who stand at different points on a sand bank named Pikopiko-i-whiti which encircles the world. Standing within the directions of the wind these atua are strong forces of nature with the enormous power of controlling and releasing the winds of the world.

Onepū is an expression of mana wahine; the intrinsic spiritual power of women, and is inspired by a Kāi Tahu tradition as told by Teone Taare Tikao about six atua wahine (female deities) who control and release the winds of the world.

Onepū is a meditation on the different qualities brought to us on the winds of each these atua wahine and was made in collaboration with the performers and the creative team.

We would like to express our immense gratitude to the Tikao whānau for allowing us to tell this story. We would also like to say a huge thank you to Ariana Tikao, who is a great-granddaughter of Teone Taare Tikao, for all her beautiful contributions to the creation of Onepū and for being a very special part of the Onepū performances. Ngā mihi nui hoki ki ngā hapū o Kāi Tahu whānui.

Louise is a founding member of Atamira Dance Company for whom she has choreographed six works (*Ngāi Tahu 32*, *Te Aroha me the mamae*, *TAONGA: Dust Water Wind* and *Onepū*). Louise has also choreographed for The New Zealand Dance Company, Black Grace Dance Company, and Ōrotokare, Art, Story, Motion.

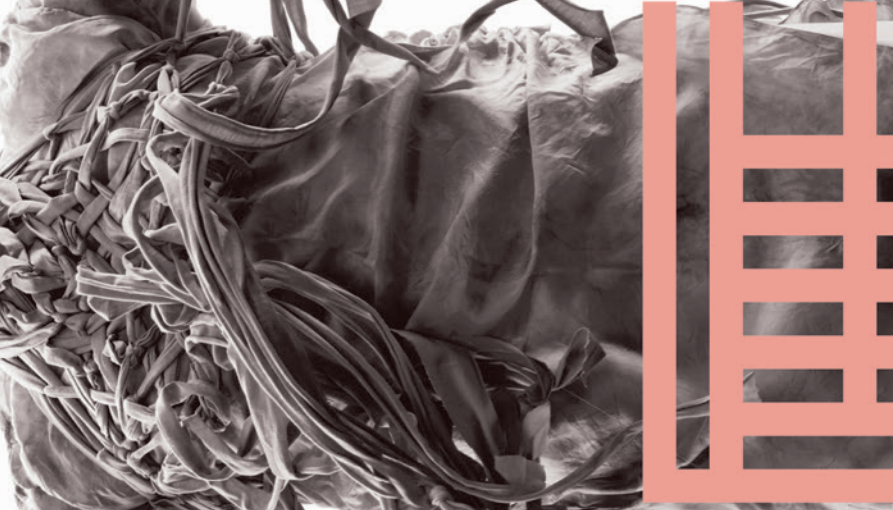
Louise has a body of solo and collaborative works which draw upon her whakaahua and interdisciplinary practices. She designs installations for her works, and is responsible for the design, production and editing of the integral projected video elements.

Louise Potiki Bryant is a choreographer, dancer and video artist of Kāi Tahu, Waitaha and Kāti Mamoe descent. With her artistic practice Louise aims to honour her whakapapa as well as her relationship to the whenua. Louise's practice is informed by both kaupapa Māori and mana wahine.

She has made seven dance films and several music videos including the music video for Ariana Tikao's song *Tuia* which was awarded Best Music Video at imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts festival in Toronto, Canada. Louise has designed video for many music, opera and dance productions including three of Kaha:wi Dance Theatre's recent dance works; *Re-Quickening*, *Blood Tides* and *Blood Water Earth*.

In collaboration with multi-media artist Santee Smith (artistic director of Kaha:wi Dance Theatre) Louise recently recontextualised the video design for the above three works for the *Blood Water Earth* video installation exhibited at Te Uru Waitakere Contemporary Gallery as part of the Auckland Arts Festival 2019.

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Onepū



**Choreography  
Louise Potiki Bryant**

**Jun 28—Aug 22**



**Atamira Dan**



**Creative team**  
Choreographer  
Louise Potiki Bryant  
Music composition  
Paddy Free  
Ariana Tikao  
Vocalist  
Taonga Pūoro  
Ariana Tikao  
Costume design  
Rona Ngahua Osborne  
Lighting design  
Vanda Karolczak  
Video design  
Louise Potiki Bryant

**Production team**  
Artistic Director  
Jack Gray  
Executive Producer  
Marama Loydd  
Production Manager  
Vanda Karolczak  
AV, Sound Engineer  
Paddy Free  
Stage Manager  
Sarah Briggs  
Rehearsal Director  
Bianca Hyslop

**Marketing**  
Videographer  
Matt Gillanders  
Publicist  
Elephant Publicity  
Marketing and  
ticketing support  
Stephanie Richardson

**Funders**  
Creative New Zealand  
Foundation North

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George Parker  
Christchurch Arts  
Festival  
Artistic Director  
Craig Cooper  
Taranaki Winter Fest.

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# Jun 28 – Aug 22