

LINE UP FOR OPERA IN THE PĀ 2023

Ludwig Treviranus – Concert Pianist and Accompanist

Ludwig Treviranus is a pianist of Samoan/German heritage. In 2022, he performed with Moses Mackay in Dubai at the World Trade Expo and with SOL3 MIO for their NZ/Aus Homecoming tour. This year, he will be publishing his 12 Fantasy Etudes, Four Seasons & Hip-hop Etudes. The next composition project is a piece for orchestra and piano based on the Gods of the Pacific. From 2020/21 he was appointed Fellow of Piano Performance at the University of Waikato. He now teaches music, and composes for Oclef, an online music school based in San Jose, California, leading a team of composers in developing a method book for teaching piano.

He holds a Doctorate of Music from Florida State University where he studied under Dr. Read Gainsford. In the USA, he was a finalist for the Beethoven International Piano Sonata Competition in Memphis, Tennessee (2009) as well as the Florida State Music School Chopin Competition (2010). Before his studies in Florida, Ludwig held a scholarship as a Māori/Pacific Island scholar to complete his master's degree at the University of Auckland under Dr. Rae de Lisle.



Moses Mackay – Star Performer

Moses Mackay is a classically-trained opera singer, composer and recording artist, and has appeared on stages all over the world. In February of 2022, Moses and Ludwig were invited to perform at the World Trade Expo in Dubai, where they received multiple standing ovations for their classical- and film-inspired new compositions. Moses also performed as a soloist at the Expo. He then flew to Los Angeles for a 3-month intensive, where he composed and recorded his first solo original album, of cinematic and classically influenced soul music. The album was mixed and mastered by Nick Patrick and Peter Schwier (producers of Andrea Bocelli, Aretha Franklin) and is set to be released at the beginning of 2023.

Moses is a member of world-renowned trio SOL3 MIO. Some of his pieces premiered at Spark Arena with orchestra and choir in October (SOL3 MIO homecoming tour 2022).

A master's graduate of the Wales International Academy of Voice, Moses has performed at some of the world's greatest music venues before such dignitaries as the President of China and Her Majesty, the late Queen of England. A diverse performer, Moses has sung operatic roles for NZ Opera and Festival Opera and has appeared as an oratorio soloist, including performances of Handel's *Messiah* and Fauré's *Requiem*.

In 2017, he took the role of Otis in the stage show *Pleasuredome - the Musical*, directed by Michael Hurst. Moses has been a radio host and appeared on television, most recently a guest appearance on *My Life is Murder*. He is also an ambassador for the Chase the Dream Foundation and the Big Buddy mentoring initiative.

The album *Grace* will be released early 2023 - visit his website for sneak preview snippets and to pre-order: www.mosesmackay.com



Kawiti Waetford – Star Performer

Raised on the beautiful Tutukaka Coast of Northland New Zealand, Kawiti Waetford is now a multi-talented opera singer, performer and public speaker. As an alumnus of Otago University, Kawiti was mentored by Dame Kiri Te Kanawa and has performed with her nationally and internationally.

Kawiti has sung in concert with the NZ Symphony Orchestra, the Auckland Philharmonic Orchestra and the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra and has been honoured to perform with artists such as Dame Kiri, Frederica von Stade, Simon O’Neill and Teddy Tahu Rhodes.

Kawiti graduated with a Masters Degree in Advanced Vocal Studies from the Wales International Academy of Voice, under acclaimed Welsh tenor, Dennis O’Neill, and studied with renowned American vocal pedagogue, Sherman Lowe, in Venice, Italy.

He has an extensive background in New Zealand Maori Performing Arts and as an actor appeared at The Globe Theatre, London, in Shakespeare’s “As You Like It”.

Kawiti performed for Their Royal Highnesses Charles, Prince of Wales and Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall and Prince Henry of Wales and attended Buckingham Palace to meet Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth and Prince Phillip.



In 2011 he attended the Solti Te Kanawa Accademia di bel canto where he worked with both Dame Kiri and Sir Thomas Allen. In 2015 he performed the role of the Archangel Michael in Murray Schaffer’s Apocalypsis, directed by Lemi Ponifasio as part of the Luminato Festival in Toronto.

Kawiti was a finalist in the New Zealand Lexus Song Quest in 2012 and was awarded the inaugural Dame Kiri Te Kanawa Scholarship, and was the beneficiary of the prestigious Ngarimu VC & Maori Battalion Scholarship.

Elisha Fa’i-Hulton - Artistic Director and Performer

Currently residing in Rotorua, New Zealand born Samoan Elisha Fa’i-Hulton, enjoys a busy and fulfilling music career as a classically trained singer and performer, a music teacher, a vocal coach and director.

Elisha holds a Master of Music (First Class Honors) from the University of Waikato under the mentorship of Dame Malvina Major, a Bachelor of Music and Post-Graduate Diploma of Music (Distinction) from the University of Auckland under the tutelage of Doctor Te Oti Rakena and Glenese Blake.

Elisha is a recipient of numerous awards and achievements such as the Ministry of Education Kupe Leaderships scholarship for teaching, the Dame Malvina Major Scholarship and the Creative New Zealand Iosefa Enari Memorial Scholarship.

As a performer, Elisha has worked throughout New Zealand and abroad with organisations including New Zealand Opera, New Zealand Arts Festival, New Zealand Operatic Societies, New Zealand Children's Choral Academy, Operatunity, Rotorua Lakeside, Bach Musica, Bay of Plenty Symphony Orchestra, Opus Orchestra, Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra, Motone Productions, P&O and Princess Cruise Line.

Within her teaching career, Elisha regularly works with young budding talents at Rotorua Boys’ High School through their strongly established performing arts programme which includes directing the school’s award winning Raukura



Choir. Elisha also works with young singers throughout the wider Rotorua community. A project dear to her heart, is helping provide our young Rotorua singers the opportunity to perform on the 'big stage' alongside accomplished singing stars, at event such as Opera In The Pā. Elisha is privileged to once again be the Artistic Director for Opera In The Pā 2023, where you'll see many of our young Rotorua talents shine.

Ellis Carrington – Star Local Performer – our future global star to watch out for!

Ellis Carrington is completing her Honours at the University of Waikato. Ellis has been offered a place at the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire for 2023. Ellis was selected to attend the prestigious New Zealand Opera School in 2022. Ellis made her solo opera debut in 2020 as Antonia in The University of Waikato Conservatorium of Music's production of The Tales of Hoffmann. And played the role of Lauretta in the university's production of Gianni Schicchi in 2022.

Ellis has been successful in many singing competitions throughout her years of singing in both junior and senior competitions. Ellis recently competed in the Tauranga competitions where she won the open competition. She also recently received 3rd place in the Dame Malvina Major Foundation Waikato Aria Competition. Ellis has attended the New Zealand Singing School three times.

Ellis performs regularly for charity and fundraiser events back in her hometown of Rotorua and has sung for many different charities. Ellis also has a passion for musical theatre and drama and has performed in many musicals and has attended the National Youth Drama School. Ellis plans to begin her audition process this year for overseas schools.

Ellis has enjoyed many workshops and masterclasses with many singers, vocal coaches and répétiteurs. Ellis' future engagements include; headline artist at Opera in the Pā 2023, the role of Lauretta in Gianni Schicchi at the Hamilton Arts Festival 2023, Guest performer at the Tauranga Opera Forum 2023 among others.



Turanga Merito – Master of Ceremonies

Born and raised in Rotorua, New Zealand, Turanga Merito played Simba in Disney's The Lion King before training at the prestigious American Music and Dramatic Academy in New York as a vocalist, dancer, actor, choreographer, and vocal coach.

Turanga is currently in his 9th year as the Head Choreographer for Coca-Cola Christmas in the Park, Music Director for TV3's award winning PUKANA and Head Composer for Maori Television's TAKARO TRIBE. Musical Theatre Credits include the Australian West Side Story National Tour (Chino) and Disney's High School Musical Live on Stage Australia (Chad Danforth). His vocal highlights include Marcia Hines, Guy Sebastian and Stan Walker.

His dance highlights include Jessica Mauboy and also choreographing the most viewed Te Reo Maori Music video ever – Maimoa Music's WAIRUA (9Million Views) He currently resides in and works between Rotorua and Auckland as the Director of The Merito Dance Academy and The Merito Talent Academy.



Opera In the Pā Youth Choir

Our inaugural *Opera In the Pā Youth Choir* showcases and celebrates some of our most talented young singers of Rotorua who proudly represent the Rotorua Accelerando Vocal Programme (led by Liz Carrington and Ian Campbell) and/or kura kaupapa Māori and secondary schools from around the region. Directed by Eisha Fa'i-Hulton and Tamati Cassidy, the audience is guaranteed to experience beautiful harmonic sound from our youngsters, which will only enhance the magic of the evening!

