

Unitec Creative Industries – Weekly Newsletter: 10-17 September 2018

Promotions for Creative Industries Academic Leaders

Congratulations to Academic Leader, **Leon Tan** who is now Associate Professors and Academic Leader, **Samuel Holloway** who has been promoted to Senior Lecturer. These promotions were a result of Unitec's 'Senior Academic Appointments and Promotions' process that started in September last year and involved a lot of work for all the applicants, including the submission of an ePortfolio, publication records and referees.

Reviewer calls Unitec grad play 'coming-of-age' for Asian Theatre in NZ

Proudly Asian Theatre's (PAT) *Orientation* explores the experiences of young Asians looking for love in New Zealand and ran at Q Loft last week. Playwright and director, Unitec grad **Chye-Ling Huang**'s second full-length stage work "is a coming-of-age for Asian theatre", writes NZ Herald reviewer Renee Liang. "Bluntly sexy, chock-full of contemporary name-drops and pop-culture references, it's both a bold assertion of Asian women as sex sirens and a renunciation." Cast members and Unitec grads **Natasha Daniel** and **Marwin Silerio** were recognised for their roles. Unitec Performing & Screen Arts supported this production through provision of rehearsal space for the company which was founded and mostly made up from past Unitec grads. Read the NZ Herald review:

https://www.nzherald.co.nz/entertainment/news/article.cfm?c_id=1501119&objectid=12120958



Waiting selected for Indigenous Film & Arts Festival, Denver

Unitec grad film *Waiting* (2016) has been selected for the Indigenous Film & Arts Festival, presented by the International Institute for Indigenous Resource Management, in Denver, Colorado. The Festival, now in its 15th year, presents film by and about indigenous peoples from around the world. The 2018 Festival will run from October 4-8, around the theme of Reclaiming Our Spaces. *Waiting* will screen on Saturday, 6 October in the 'Short Films from Around the World' programme.

More info here: www.iiirm.org

Unitec grads stage new play on mental health in NZ

A Lost Cause is a Black comedy written by **Loren Black**, directed by **Amber Liberté** and produced by **Elizabeth Turner** (all Unitec acting graduates), starring an all-female cast which includes Unitec grads; **Brianna Jude**, **Suzy Smith-Roy** and **Grace Augustine**. Stage Manager is Unitec grad, **Marianne Infante**. The play, which explores the brutal, harrowing and repressed notion that is Mental Health in Aotearoa, will be staged at Auckland's Basement Theatre from October 16 – 20. Please support their boostee campaign: <https://www.boosted.org.nz/projects/a-lost-cause>



Unitec grad among Tongan filmmakers featured at Okalani Film Festival

Unitec Screen Arts graduate **Maria Vai** (pictured far left) was among the filmmakers featured at the 3rd annual Okalani Film Festival which celebrates Tongan films and Tongan filmmakers based in Okalani (Auckland) and around the world. Her film, *I have curls* which she wrote and directed as her graduation project in 2016. The festival was held in conjunction with Tongan language week this month. The festival is supported by the Mangere Arts Centre and Te Oro and presented by Malosi Pictures, The Nuku'alofa Film Festival & G.I.F.T Productions.



Unitec dance talent at Short & Sweet

A large number of Unitec dance students and grads were involved in Short & Sweet 2018 which ran from 11-16 September at TAPAC.

UPCOMING UNITEC CI EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 2018

- 14-22 The Crucible – Directed by Alexandra Whitham. Year 2 Acting Students + PDM student crew
- 18 Gallery: Auckland Print Studio. Selected works from Auckland Print Studio Unitec. Curated by John Pusateri. 18th Sep – 12th Oct. Opening @ 5.00pm
- 19 Spring Graduation

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