<u>Unitec Creative Industries – Weekly Newsletter: 18-25 February 2019</u>

Design & Contemporary Arts (DCA)

Edith Amituanai

2005 Unitec Photography grad **Edith Amituanai** has spent years capturing the lives of people on the streets of her West Auckland neighbourhood. But when she saw the works of photographer George Crummer, she was struck by the similarity of their work - so much so, she knew she wanted to show her photographs next to his. In an upcoming exhibition at The NZ Portrait Gallery, ten of her works will be shown opposite 10 prints from Crummer, a businessman-photographer who documented life in the Cook Islands in the late 19th century. Edith won the inaugural Marti Friedlander Photography Award in 2007 was the first Walters Prize nominee of Pacific descent in 2008. More here.



Allan McDonald

Unitec photography lecturer **Allan McDonald** has a new exhibition *Mineral Museums of the Northern Waikato* from 24 February to 22 March at the Anna Miles Gallery in Auckland CBD.



Allan McDonald, Slaty Shale, 2018

Reece King

Unitec Master of Design student **Reece King** has an upcoming show *Silver* at Gallery 9 in Sydney from 27 February to 23 March. Reece graduated with a Bachelor of Design and Visual Arts from Unitec in 2012. Since then, King has exhibited regularly ever exploring a contemporary painting practice in NZ from a primarily formal modernist painting tradition view point.

Caption: Reece King, Silver



Performing & Screen Arts (PASA)

ACTING:

Navi Collaborative is back with its third original play from 1-3 March at Empire Studios as part of Auckland Fringe Festival 2019. *WHATIPU* is a mixed media journey through identity, immigration, and grief. Using puppetry, live music, spoken word, and film this is an interdisciplinary exploration of self-acceptance. Set on the wild windswept shore of Whatipu and featuring a number of Unitec grads in cast (Samuel James, Carla Newton, Matt Smith and Joshua Baty) and crew. More here.



United directing & writing grad **Sam Brooks** is just 28, but with a rising star reputation in New Zealand theatre circles, 20 professionally produced plays on his CV and multiple awards, his new play *Actressexual* in the Auckland Fringe Festival from 19 February to 2 March at Q Theatre's The Vault is a comment on sexism in New Zealand theatre. More here and here.



DANCE:

A new show created by Unitec dance grad **Rosie Tapsell** opens at Basement Theatre on 26 Feb until 2 March, as part of the Auckland Fringe Festival. *ROSEMARY* is a multidisciplinary dance work. A meditation on the elusive symbol of "Mother" Mary. Dance grads **Rose Philpott** provided choreographic assistance with costume design by **Tui Hofmann**.



Unitec dance grad **Christopher Ofanoa** is the featured choreographer in the upcoming show *The Blank Kanvas* which opens on 1 March at Auckland's Raynham Park. Free from rules & boundaries, 12 of Aotearoa's top choreographers will let loose on stage and paint the room with vibrant energy, music, and movement. Chris trained in both Hip-Hop & Contemporary Dance and competed at numerous local and international dance competitions such as Hip Hop International and New Zealand's Got Talent as a member of west-Auckland based dance crews Limit Break and Freshmans Dance Crew. He was selected as 1 of 50 dancers from around the world to be a part of Rolex protégé "Ohad Naharin", a programme that allowed him to travel and work in Israel.



Desperate Late Night Energy is a new show with a blend of colour, sounds, electronic beats and hypnotising dance moves by music group Boycrush and Unitec grad ensemble Dance Plant Collective. Boycrush were nominated for a VNZMA for Best Electronic Artist and for the Critic's Choice Award. Dance Plant Collective created waves earlier this year with their full length show 'MEAT', and were also recipients of the Best Newcomer (Company) Award at the Auckland Fringe awards for the double bill 'The Cost of Arms and Legs'. Presented as part of Auckland Fringe arts festival from 19 February - 3 March 2019. More here.



MUSIC:

Unitec Music lecturer **Age Pryor** (pictured left) is performing with Fly My Pretties, alongside John Butler Trio, Trinity Roots and LAB, in Nelson on <u>2 March</u> and at WOMAD with Congress of Animals on <u>16-17 March</u>.



UPCOMING EVENTS:

25 Feb – Semester 1: Powhiri @3:00pm 27 Feb-1 Mar – Year 1 Noho Marae (Ruakaka) 4-5 – Hatenkohro performs at Unitec @12pm Te Puna 7-24 Mar – Auckland Arts Festival 8 Mar – 2019 Career Advisors Day

ENDS/