

Unitec Creative Industries - Weekly Newsletter: 11-18 Nov 2019

New Zealand web series *Touch Wood* took out 3 awards at the NZ Web Fest Awards on Saturday., including Best Actor for Unitec acting grad (2018), **Jake Pitcher**. The series also took out Best Show (NZ Narrative) and Best Director - Renee Mahy. Read more about the awards [here](#). Watch episode 1 of *Touch Wood* [here](#).

NZ NARRATIVE AWARDS: BEST ACTOR



Jake Pitcher
Touch Wood

Current Year 3 BCE student **Oliver Cain** has won yet another significant award, this time receiving the Tuatara Ceramics Award (\$1000) as well as the overall ECC Supreme Award (\$2000) at the 2019 ECC NZ Student Craft/Design Awards 2019 at The Dowse Art Museum, in Lower Hutt, Wellington yesterday. The ECC Awards recognise and reward student artists and designers. "Was a big surprise. His award winning 'Banana Fruit Bowls', are described as "these playful works draw attention to the many experiences that are encountered by homosexual males, as well as openly questioning social constructions of shame, anonymity and sexuality, but in a way that can be viewed as whimsical and lighthearted". But amazing to have won it," he said. More [here](#).



After more than a decade away from her hometown of Palmerston North and fresh from presenting at last week's NZ Music Awards, comedian and Unitec acting grad (2012), **Laura Daniel** is returning to the stage in her high-energy musical show called *Two Hearts*, featuring in the Palmy Comedy Festival on November 20-21. Daniel and real-life partner Joseph Moore have performed the successful show for the past three years in Auckland, Wellington, London, Edinburgh, Melbourne and recently at the Sydney Opera House. Daniel, is a regular on NZ TV and comedy circuit having appeared on *Dancing with the Stars* earlier this year, and also became a household name on TV show *Jono and Ben*. Read more [here](#).



A passionate academic, a right-wing politician, and a reverend with a penchant for poetry walk into a room, and it's hate at first sight. From award-winning Kiwi-Samoan playwright and guest tutor, **Victor Rodger** comes the world premiere season of *Uma Lava*. The

irreverent comedy was inspired by the play *No Exit* by Jean-Paul Sartre, but "Samoanified" in its characters and humour.

Directed by David Fane and Vela Manusaute, the play was the first deliberate comedy Rodgers had written in 20



years. *Uma Lava* stars Unitec grad **Goretti Chadwick** (pictured left), Anapela Polata'ivao, and Mario Faumui, will open for the first time worldwide on November 23 until 7 December at Circa Theatre in Wellington. More [here](#).



Fresh from their successful 2019 North American tour, a number of Unitec dance grads; **Shane Tofaeono, Fenjay Sapon, Rodney Tyrell** and **Keana Ngaata** will feature in Black Grace's homecoming performance in Auckland with *One Night Only* playing at the ASB Waterfront Theatre on Saturday 23 November. The company, founded by artistic director and Unitec dance grad Neil Ieremia, will then go into planning for what is set to be a massive 2020 celebrating Black Grace's 25th Birthday year. More [here](#).

COMING UP

November

- 19 **Year 3 Acting Students Industry Day** - Screening Room B12 @10-12pm
- 19 **Year 2 Acting Showcase** - Pocket Bar, Grey Lynn @2pm & 7pm
- 19 **NZ Certificate Showcase** - 1071-006, 3pm & 7pm
- 20 **PASA Prizegiving**, Dance Studios @10.50am-2pm



20

Music at Unitec - Final Performance Showcase, Dance Studios @7pm



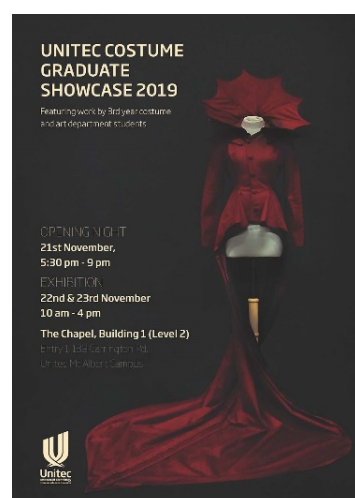
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Screen Arts: Grad Screening - Hollywood Cinema @6-8:45pm



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Year 3 Costume Showcase - The Chapel, Building One @5:30pm-9pm



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Inter-**GRAD SHOW 2019** - Building 1, Opening @6-9pm
Exhibit: @9:30am-4pm 22 Nov & @9:30am-12pm 23 Nov



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Semester Two ends