

NEWS

Unitec Screen Arts alumnae **Zoey Zhao** is one of seven participants selected by the Directors and Editors Guild of New Zealand (DEGNZ) for the 2021 Emerging Women Filmmakers Incubator. The Incubator is a year-long programme of five workshops intended to advance the projects and careers of female directors. Zhao is an Auckland-based filmmaker of Chinese descent who gained a Masters in Screen Production at the University of Auckland after completing her Bachelor of Performing and Screen Arts at Unitec in 2016. Her previous short film work has screened at NZ's Show Me Short Film Festival and internationally at the Miami Film Festival, WorldFest-Houston International Film Festival and the Rochester International Film Festival. Read more [here](#).



Unitec alumni were influential in the staging of the NZ production of *Single Asian Female* which closed last Saturday. The Auckland Theatre Company produced the show and worked closely with the Proudly Asian Theatre (PAT) company which



was founded in 2013 by Unitec acting graduates **Chye-Ling Huang** and **James Roque** to support Asian artists. It's described as the first play centred around the Chinese-NZ community performed by a premiere company. PAT's executive producer, Unitec grad **Marianne Infante** has been part of a growing group of

creatives within the Asian community pushing to not just create a space for their own stories, but get themselves heard by the industry's main players. More [here](#).



A new TV series directed by the internationally acclaimed filmmakers, Toa Fraser and current Unitec Screen Arts lecturer, **Sima Urale**, has rewritten ancient Pacific legends through a modern lens. New horror series *Teine Sā* tells the stories of five different female deities and their impact on young Pacific women facing the issues of the modern world - and it's the first time in years that Pacific legends have been brought to life on our screens. *Teine Sā* premiered last

Thursday on Prime TV and online on The Coconet website. More [here](#).

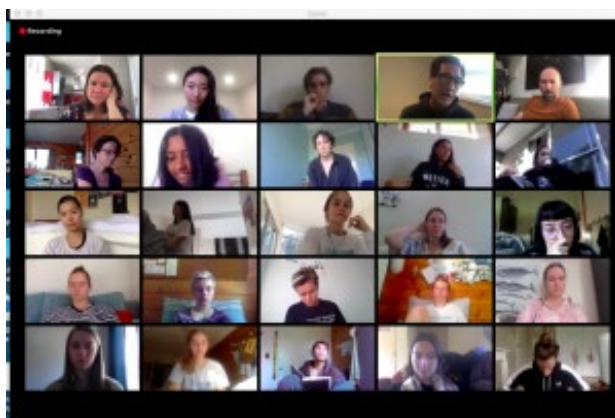
As the COVID-19 pandemic unfolded, moving lessons to an online platform was a challenge faced by educators worldwide. In many cases, it was relatively straightforward, but how do you teach a physical skill like dance in a virtual



Dance Team 2020 : L-R Katie Burton, Becca Wood, Charles Koroneho, Paul Young, Claire O'Neill, Yiling Chen

environment? This was the task facing Unitec's School of Creative Industries dance tutors as New Zealand's borders closed in semester 1 2020, locking out a cohort of students from the Beijing Dance Academy (BDA) about to travel to New Zealand to start their first semester at Unitec. BDA and Unitec have collaborated for

more than 10 years and in 2014 they agreed to develop a double degree undergraduate programme that has since been designated an Elite Scholarship Program by Beijing Municipal Education Bureau. The first cohort of 10 BDA students transferred to Unitec in July 2017 and graduated in 2019. Read more [here](#).



First year Unitec Performing and Screen Arts students (pictured below) had their Noho Marae at Te Noho Kotahitanga last week. The two-day program included an offsite museum visit, waiata/kapa haka lessons and a sleepover in the Whareniui.



Unitec Dance, New Zealand's leading contemporary dance and choreography programme, presents **Coexistence**; New works by year three Unitec dance students. These collaborative works highlight the artists, their thinking, and their curiosities as they interrogate and play with the notion of coexistence. The season runs from 23-26 June 2021 @7:30pm at the Unitec Dance Studios, Entry 1 via Carrington Rd. Get your tickets now from [iTICKET](https://iticket.co.nz).



EVENTS CALENDAR

MAY

29	2021 Whanau/Fanau Morning	9am-12pm	Bldg 180 Te Puna
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Check out more news on our social media channels, [Unitec's Art & Design Facebook page](#) or [Unitec's Performing & Screen Arts Facebook page](#).

For all other social media updates on Unitec's School of Creative Industries visit our [official facebook page](#) and Instagram & Twitter channels [@unitec_creative](#)

