

## Biography

Neke Moa 2023

Ngāti Kahungunu ki Ahuriri, Kai Tahu, Ngāti Porou, Ngāti Tūwharetoa

Neke Moa is an adornment and object artist, predominantly working with Pounamu (NZ nephrite jade) and found materials. She is based at Otaki beach, Aotearoa (NZ).

Her work explores our connections within the spaces of the seen and unseen, the place where wairua resides and creativity is sourced.

She collaborates with tohunga, atua and tāngata presenting visual stories that navigate Aotearoa's cultural, social, and political landscape.

Moa has exhibited widely and has been a part of the handshake project since its inception in 2010, exhibiting in Munich, London, Thailand, Australia, Netherlands, and Aotearoa.

She is a graduate of Te Wānanga-ō-Raukawa and Whitireia NZ majoring in Māori art and jewellery design.

Moa has taught shell craft in Fiji and Tonga from 2016 until 2020 and continues to teach and learn as part of her art practice.

### Artist statement

"I have a shifting, evolutionary art practice that uplifts mana motuhake. Capturing stories through material use and wairuatanga. I sit centre and allow the connections to atua, tāngata and tohunga flow through the collection of materials, research and making.

I honour the sacred and profane and the spaces in between. Reminding and remembering that we are all part of a greater plan.

### Select Exhibitions (2016 to present)

#### 2023

[Deep material energy](#), curatorial collaborator Heather Gallbraith, Suter Gallery, Nelson

#### 2022

[Ko Ngā Wawata a Hina](#), curated by Jade Townsend, Season, Tāmaki Makaurau

[A stone, an echo, a sign.](#) curated by Emma Ng, jewellery triennial, Objectspace, Tāmaki Makaurau

[Whānui, Handshake alumni show](#), The National, Otautahi

*Aotearoa Art fair*, Masterworks Gallery, The Cloud, Tāmaki Makaurau

[Hono](#) (with Jade Townsend), Season, Tāmaki Makaurau

[Art Matters: 30 Years of AVID Gallery](#), AVID Gallery, Te Whanganui-a-Tara

[Te Matapihi](#), curated by Stevei Houkāmau, Masterworks Gallery, Tāmaki Makaurau

[Whānau Mārama](#), curated by Jade Townsend, Commercial Bay, Tāmaki Makaurau

*Matariki Hanganui*, Māpuna Cabinet Art Gallery, Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom, Foxton

*Matariki Whakanuia*, Kiwibank Paraparaumu

[Pāua: A Contemporary Jewellery Story](#), Dowse Art Museum, Te Awakairangi

*Delimit*, Thistle Hall, Te Whanganui-a-Tara

## 2021

[Paemanu: Tauraka Toi – A Landing Place](#), Dunedin Public Art Gallery, Ōtepoti

[Carving Culture](#), AVID Gallery, Te Whanganui-a-Tara

*Wrapping Up Whitireia Visual Art*, Te Auaha Gallery, Te Whanganui-a-Tara

[Rākau whakarawe – Weapons for the everyday](#) (solo), Suter Art Gallery Te Aratoi o Whakatū, Whakatū Nelson

*CHAINreaction: HANDSHAKES at the Refinery*, Refinery Artspace, Whakatū

[Tira Haere](#), Waiheke Community Art Gallery, Tāmaki Makaurau

[Whiti Ora](#), Toi Matarau Gallery, Māoriland Hub, Ōtaki

[Tiaho Mai](#), Toi Matarau Gallery, Ōtaki, with Kiwibank Paraparaumu

## 2020

[MĀREIKURA – in conversation](#) (solo), Masterworks Gallery, Tāmaki Makaurau

*Hauhake*, curated by Jade Townsend, Objectspace, Auckland, Tāmaki Makaurau

[Toi Tū Toi Ora: Contemporary Māori Art](#), curated by Nigel Borell, Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki

[Te Kāhui o Matariki](#), Toi Matarau Gallery, Māoriland Hub, Ōtaki

[Ngā Hokohoko](#), Dowse Art Museum, Te Awakairangi

*Small Sculpture Prize 2020*, Waiheke Community Art Gallery, Tāmaki Makaurau

## 2019

[\*Puhoro ō mua, Puhoro ki tua\*](#), Waikato Museum Te Whare Taonga o Waikato, Kirikiriroa Hamilton

*Tāpiri*, Māngere Arts Centre Ngā Tohu o Uenuku, Tāmaki Makaurau

Toi Māori Art Market 2019, Te Whanganui-a-Tara

*HANDSHAKE 5: In Dialogue*, CODA Museum, Apeldoorn, Netherlands

[\*HANDSHAKE 5: in site\*](#), Te Uru Waitākere Contemporary Gallery, Tāmaki Makaurau

[\*Nō Te Moananui-a-Kiwa – Stories from the Pacific\*](#) (solo), Dowse Art Museum, Lower Hutt, Solo show, Nō Te Moananui-ā-Kiwa

## 2018

[\*IWA: New Zealand Makers\*](#), FRAME, Internationale Handwerksmesse, Munich

[\*Chain Reaction: New Zealand jewellers from the HANDSHAKE project\*](#), Atta Gallery, Bangkok, Thailand

[\*Let's Get Together\*](#), Masterworks Gallery, Tāmaki Makaurau

[\*The Language of Things: Meaning and Value in Contemporary Jewellery\*](#), Dowse Art Museum, Te Awakairangi

[\*Whitu\*](#), Masterworks Gallery, Tāmaki Makaurau

*Group show*, Galerie Marzee, Amsterdam, Netherlands

[\*Te Ao Hurihuri: Ever Changing World\*](#), The Crypt Gallery, London

## 2017

*On the Button*, Masterworks Gallery, Tāmaki Makaurau

[\*Handshake 3: Reflect\*](#), Dowse Art Museum, Te Awakairangi

[\*Iwi Toi Kahungunu\*](#), Hastings City Art Gallery Te Whare Toi o Heretaunga

Toi Māori Market 2017, Wharewaka, Te Whanganui-a-Tara

*Handshake 3: Concept and Conception*, FRAME, Internationale Handwerksmesse, Munich

[\*"It Will All Come Out in the Wash": Dialogue Collective Meets Handshake\*](#), Studio Gallery, Munich

## **2016**

[\*Ahi Kā: Keep the fires burning\*](#), Pātaka Art + Museum, Porirua,

[\*Handshake 3\*](#), Platina Gallery, Stockholm, Sweden

*Mahi ā-ringa* (solo), Quoil, Te Whanganui-a-Tara

[\*Tai Timu Tai Pari – Ebb and Flow\*](#), Masterworks Gallery, Tāmaki Makaurau

*Locals*, Quoil, Te Whanganui-a-Tara

[\*Mata Ariki\*](#), Kura Gallery, Te Whanganui-a-Tara

[\*Handshake 3\*](#), Objectspace, Tāmaki Makaurau

12th Festival of Pacific Arts, Guam Museum, Guam

## **Awards**

Highly Commended, R. T Nelson Awards for Sculpture, 2022

## **Collections**

[Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki](#)

[Auckland War Memorial Museum Tāmaki Paenga Hira](#)

Dowse Art Museum, Te Awakairangi

[Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa](#), Te Whanganui-a-Tara

## CONTAINED

Restricted

Poster information

**Ngaruru** – photograph by Sam Hartnell 2022 [Hono](#) (with Jade Townsend), Season, Tāmaki Makaurau

**Papāira** – photograph by Sam Hartnell 2022 [Hono](#) (with Jade Townsend), Season, Tāmaki Makaurau

**Pakohe manawa reka** – photograph by Neke Moa, [Whānui, Handshake alumni show](#), Otautahi

These are Atua, contained within the work is mauri, contained within the mauri are messages, desires, intentions, stories for now, for future. Tohunga have contained the mauri for atua to communicate with tangata. Tangata have contained atua and tohunga and no longer know mauri. The time is over to be contained.

Nā Neke Moa