



AUCKLAND ARTS FESTIVAL

2017 in review



OUR VISION
to be a leading international arts festival, celebrating Auckland's people and cultures, and promoting the social, cultural and economic well-being of Auckland

AAF 2017 was Auckland's ninth arts festival. It was:

- a major event on Auckland's arts calendar
- a celebration of Auckland's people and cultures
- 19 days of once-in-a-lifetime performances, artworks, ideas and events
- a cross-generational programme created by nearly 1,000 local and international artists that this year cost \$9.2 million to stage
- supported by stakeholders including local and central government, sponsors, funders and audiences (see over for details)
- made richer by contributions from private donors, foreign governments, industry partners, artists and the Festival staff and volunteers

"Promoting new NZ material like this is great."

AAF 2017 attendee

Auckland's Premier Arts Festival

Artistically Speaking

AAF 2017 was an opportunity for thousands to choose their own adventure in the world of arts

- It opened with the British artists' collective, *Power Plant*, taking us on a mesmerising nocturnal bush walk through Auckland Domain. It closed with standing ovations for ballet royalty, *Natalia Osipova & Guests*, who thrilled the audiences of three sold-out performances
- Complicite's five-star, technologically ground-breaking show *The Encounter*, Cirque Éloize's world-class, jaw-dropping, adrenaline fueled *iD* and Rough Magic's heart-warming *How To Keep An Alien* offered audiences unforgettable journeys into the Amazon, a high energy urban playground and a minefield of immigration bureaucracy

- Jamie McCaskill's *The Biggest*, Jason Te Kare's *Cellfish* and Renee Liang's *The Bone Feeder* all showcased the very best of NZ made theatre and opera
- Those who ventured into the magical Spiegeltent found themselves escaping into the outrageously hilarious and risqué world of *La Soirée*, marching to mariachi as Mexrrissey gave Morrissey a Mexico make-over and calling out R.E.S.P.E.C.T as four NZ power houses belted out Aretha classics
- Other adventures included watching gargantuan icebergs colliding with Auckland Museum, being immersed in a Great Indian Carnival on Sandringham Road, seeing the world through the eyes of children in photography exhibitions across the city and being scared witless and amazed at the same time at the haunted Civic

"I thought the offering/mixture was very well done." AAF 2017 attendee

Nearly 1000 artists

19 countries

118 ticketed performances

7 world premieres

24 New Zealand premieres

More than 78,500 tickets issued

5338 school students from **64** schools

More than 122,000 people at **300 FREE** events

23 venues across the city plus **128 White Night** sites

More than 130 locations across the Auckland region



Board Chair **John Judge**, Artistic Director 2016-17 **Carla van Zon** ONZM, Chief Executive **David Inns**

Board of Trustees 2016-2017 John Judge (Chair), Rick Carlyon, Angela Clatworthy, Evan Davies, Sarah Judkins, Tarun Kanji, Margaret Kawharu MNZM, Jim Moser, Ben Taufua, Fred Ward

Festival Executive Team David Inns, Chief Executive, Carla van Zon ONZM, Artistic Director 2016-17, Jonathan Bielski, Artistic Director 2017-18, Shona Roberts, Business & Finance Director, Thierry Pannetier, Marketing & Communications Director

1. *La Soirée*, *The Spiegeltent* / Daniel Grant. 2. *The Encounter*, ASB Theatre / Prudence Upton. 3. *iD*, *The Civic* / Cirque Éloize. 4. *Horror*, *The Civic* / GATE Photography. 5. *Power Plant*, Auckland Domain / GATE Photography. 6. *Natalia Osipova & Guests*, ASB Theatre / GATE Photography. 7. *RICE*, ASB Theatre / Gate Photography. 8. *Rufus Wainwright*, ASB Theatre / GATE Photography

Standing ovations to our 2017 Funders, Partners, Sponsors and Supporters

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Jim Moser
Sandelin Family
Louise and Scott Wallace

“Auckland Arts Festival is fantastic and Auckland wouldn't be complete without it.”

AAF 2017 attendee

Join us for AAF 2018 **9-25 March**

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