

Ngamako Rota

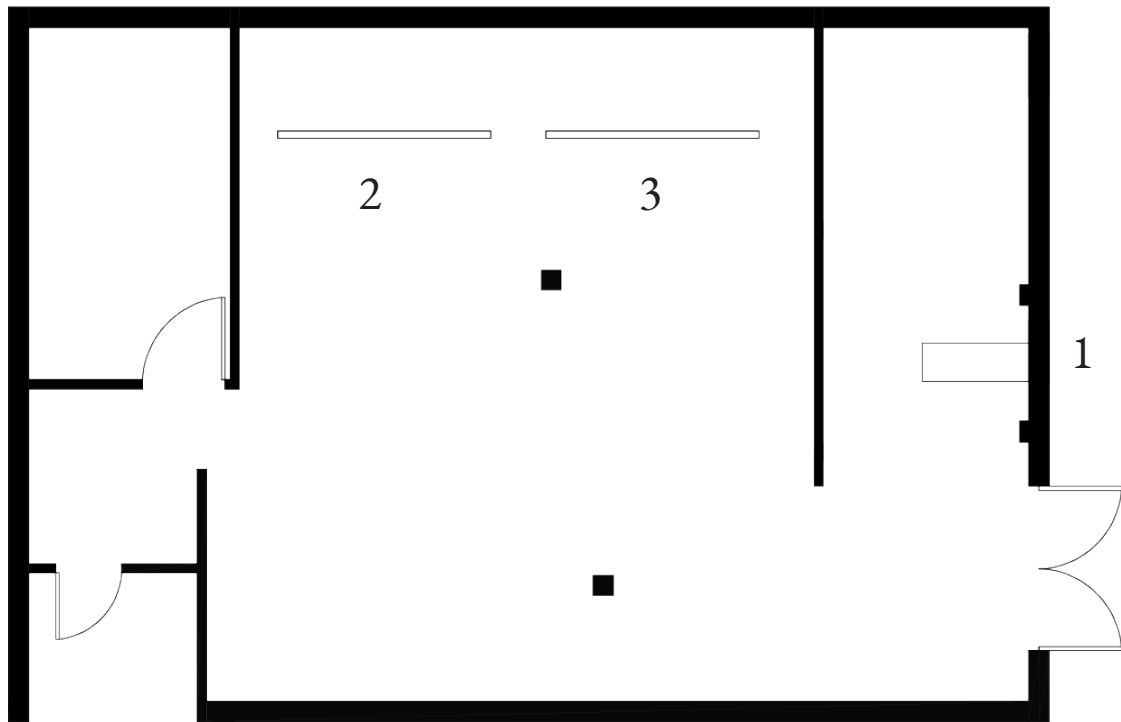
Te oorokohanga mai o te tangi o te mooteatea

23.05.2025–29.06.2025

In November 1863, warriors of the Kiingitanga defended Rangiriri against invading British colonial forces. In November 2023, Ngamako Rota assembled an all-wahine ensemble to welcome whaanau and guests at the trenches in Rangiriri. *Te oorokohanga mai o te tangi o te mooteatea* attends to the entanglement of waiata, te reo o te taiao, forms of mourning, and the ongoing violence of colonial histories in the contemporary.

The two films in the exhibition are records of this kaupapa at Rangiriri. Together, they build on the whakapapa of mooteatea, and connect its frequencies to the sonic motion of iro and ngaro. *Te Aao Maarama* and *E Rongo e* are simultaneous events. Ngamako receives her moko kauae in the manawa of the space; the performers, atop the trenches, etch the dirt and move as iro, then shed their outer layers to metamorphose into ngaro as another expression of meaning.

Ngamako Rota (Waikato, Ngaati Mahuta) is an artist, actor and director from Rangiriri. Ngamako holds a Bachelor of Performing Arts from Toi Whakaari (2019) and graduated from Elam School of Fine Arts with an MFA in 2023. She was the recipient of a Māoriland Pitch Award in 2021 and a Ngā Manu Pīrere Award in 2022.



1- Ngamako Rota, *E Rongo e*, 2023/2025. Sound, 52:52 minutes.

2- Ngamako Rota, *Te Aao Maarama*, 2023/2025. Digital video with sound, 28:53 minutes.

3- Ngamako Rota, *E Rongo e*, 2023/2025. Digital video, 52:52 minutes.

Filmed by: Julian James Brown (Pākehā)

Taamoko Artist: Patrick Takoko (Te Tairāwhiti)

Edited by: Ngamako Rota (Waikato, Ngaati Mahuta)

Produced by: Kasi Valu (‘Eua, Lapaha, Ma’ufanga, Tonga)

Performers: Kuini Ngawai Hono i te Poo Paki (Noo ngaa Iwi katoa o te motu), Rosie Belvie (Te Arawa Whaanui, Ngaati Rangitihi, Whakatoohia), Puahaere Vaka (Waikato, Ngaati Mahuta), Turia Schmidt-Peke (Ngaati Hauaa, Ngaati Tamatera, Ngaati Raukawa, Haamoia), Renata Te Wano (Ngaati Tuuwharetoa /Waikato), Ngakirikiri Kershaw (Ngaati Ruanui, Ngaati Tupito, Waikato, Ngaati Tahinga, Te Rarawa, Ngaati Tamatea), Rangitaa Nepe Pohatu (Waikato, Ngaati Mahuta), Ngamako Rota (Waikato, Ngaati Mahuta), Neen Kapea (Ngaati Hauaa, Ngaati Ranginui, Waikato, Ngaati Mahanga), Hana Rāwhiti Maipi-Clarke (Ngāpuhi, Waikato, Taranaki, Ngāti Porou, Ngāi Tahu), Tioreore Ngatai Melbourne (Ngaati Porou, Te Whaanau o Hinerupe)