

THE UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND STUDENT MAGAZINE

ISSUE 01

# CRACUM



ORIENTATION EDITION



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**WANT TO CONTRIBUTE?**  
WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM  
YOU! JUST SEND US AN EMAIL!

# #KNOW THE CODE

## Your experiences matter

**It can feel isolating to be at uni and to face problems.**

For example, you can't get your head around the process to make a complaint, or perhaps you are experiencing racism or discrimination.

This is where the Code for learner wellbeing and safety comes in.

The Code aims to ensure we feel a sense of belonging in classrooms and beyond, including in student accommodation. It supports students' wellbeing, voice and identity.

It also requires your uni to have culturally responsive support services to ensure your mental

and physical wellbeing are well looked after.

The Code is all about improving your tertiary education experience and creating opportunities to talk to your uni if you face problems or have ideas about how to make things better.

Also be encouraged to talk to local or national student associations who will do their best to represent you and amplify your feedback about what you're experiencing: the great, the good, the bad and the ugly.

**And if you are still facing issues, you can talk to NZQA.**



SCAN ME







**Mānawa mai te mauri tau, te  
mauri āio,  
Mauria mai te mauri ki te whānau  
o Waipapa Taumata Rau,  
Āio ki runga,  
Āio ki raro,  
Āio ki ngā mea katoa,  
Tuturu ōwhiti whakamaua kia  
tina  
Haumi e,  
Hui e,  
Tāiki ē!**

Nau mai, haere mai and welcome to Waipapa Taumata Rau, Auckland University. Our names are Mairātea and George and we are your 2023 Craccum editors! Think of us as older cousins with a bit of life experience—we've failed papers, failed out of jobs and have even failed a few relationships. So if you find yourself not living up to your own unachievable standards...Who cares!

The academic year has quickly reached us and like many of the trees around Auckland, O-Week has finally fallen upon the University!

Amidst the hustle and bustle of students getting back into the grind, the excited chirps of first-year chickadees start to make themselves present. Congregating on Alfred street this week a lot of us will be experiencing our very first O-week on campus! With an exciting lineup of events we want to remind you all to have

fun, check your drugs and know that while you can always take more later, you can't un-take something ever. Always remember to check on your (useless) drunk mates and be sure to stay away from 3+ years at Bar 101.

This week usually brings new friends, new experiences and a whole new view on life. It's where one of us got blackout for the first time and it's also where the other projectile vomited green liquid. (Ok it was only one of us, but you gotta guess who.)

O-week is also where George and I met. While it wasn't on the streets next to AUSA house, it was just as iconic, New World, Victoria Park. We bonded over screaming patrons and laughed together at tech illiterate boomers (turns out theres at least 5 different ways to fuck up paywave).

George was one of the first wanky JAFFA mates I made after leaving Rotorua. He taught me never to trust an AT bus schedule and gave me lessons on how to strut (never run) across a pedestrian crossing. With his help I have escaped my little country mouse hole and in turn I make sure to smash him back down to the ground every time he acts a little too Auckland-y.

We are super excited for the year ahead. While Craccum may look a little different this year—I mean our diversity hire is literally a white guy. Our goal is still the same. We are still here to represent you

and bring you a Craccum that's fun and exciting!

You can find us, and Craccums littered across campus; Or you can find Craccum on Twitter (@craccum), Instagram (@craccum) and of course, Facebook. If you'd like to contribute or just be nosy, hit us up! We want to hear all your ideas, so if it's important to you or the student body..Let us know! We have an open door policy at the Craccum office, so come find us on the fourth floor above the Quad.

We have an amazing team this year who have been working hard around the clock to bring you this first issue. We'd like to introduce you to Paris, Oliver, Talia, Sanskruti, Freya, Theepika, Ruby, Amanda, and returning favourite, Nancy, who've juggled jobs, study, and stress to put together this Craccum. So if you see them around say hi, they're super friendly.

We're continuing to grow and we're always hungry to hear more from you all. So if you've got an idea please don't hesitate to get in touch, we don't bite, *unless you beg*.

Anyways, we can't wait to see where the year takes us.

If you're unhappy email us at [editor@craccum.co.nz](mailto:editor@craccum.co.nz) or shove it up your arse. :)

Love ya loads,

**Mairātea and George**

# Te Whatu Ora

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# Welcome to Uni

Kia ora koutou katoa,

Welcome to the University of Auckland - Waipapa Taumata Rau, and welcome to the very first edition of our student magazine, Craccum, for 2023!

My name is Alan Shaker and I have the privilege of being your Student Body President this year at the Auckland University Students' Association (AUSA). AUSA does three key things: Student Voice, Student Support, and Student Experience. Student Voice is about representing the voice of 46,000 students on the highest decision-making committees at the University. Student Support is about providing support for our students, when and where they need it. Whether it be through our financial hardship grants, our free, independent and confidential advocacy service, or through our safe spaces for students - we are here to support you! Lastly, Student Experience is the cool s\*\*t we do! Whether it be O-Week, a party on Alfred Street, pub quizzes and bingos in Shadows (proudly owned by AUSA), or regular themed weeks - we are here to make sure your University experience is like no other!

To introduce myself a little bit, I am a 5th year student studying a BA/BSc

(majors in History, Politics, and Exercise Sciences). Prior to my role as President, I served on the AUSA Executive for two years as the Education Vice-President. I grew up in the mighty South Auckland and am everyday grateful for the sacrifices my family have made, fleeing a war-zone in their homeland, to make a better life for their kids. When I (eventually) graduate, I plan to become a secondary school teacher, so that I can inspire the next generation of youth to make positive change in society.

As President, my job is to lead our wonderful and diverse Executive team to make sure the student association is heading in the right direction and best serving YOU! I am incredibly privileged to be in my role, but I am even more privileged to see the hard mahi that the committed team at AUSA do for our students on a day to day basis.

We kick off O-Week with an amazing Orientation Festival and finish off Wednesday night with an amazing street concert right here on Alfred Street! We haven't had the luxury of having a "normal" O-Week for the last 2 years, so please make the most of it! The AUSA team has worked extremely hard for months and months to be able to put on this awesome week for you! My advice? Get involved! Get up on

stage for that challenge, sign up for that club, have a cheeky beverage in Shadows! University life can be very short, so my best piece of advice to any new students would be to get involved as much as possible! These can be the best few years of your life...

This year, with a Curriculum Transformation taking place, a Student Voice Framework being developed, international students back on campus, there is no doubt the University of Auckland will have a busy year! Make no mistake, AUSA will be doing our best to ensure that the University keeps students as the #1 priority across all of these exciting developments.

Don't forget, my job as AUSA President is to represent you! I have an open door policy, so if you want to pop into the AUSA House, come in and have a yarn! Similarly, if you have any suggestions for AUSA you are more than welcome to flick me an email on [president@ausa.org.nz](mailto:president@ausa.org.nz). Otherwise, you can catch me in Shadz!

Be safe, be kind, and enjoy yourselves!

Best,

**Alan Shaker**

Your Student Body President

# Andoo at O Week

Welcome to Andoo, the home of feel-good living.



✕ giveaways ✕ prizes ✕ food

At Andoo we provide a thoughtfully curated range of furniture and appliances so that you can find the perfect match for your needs. We aim to lighten your load when choosing how to furnish your home, from our services to our sustainability model. Our goal is to provide you with the best and most caring shopping experience in the world - for the world.



Come by our stall, find out more about us, and let us know what we can do to support you - the student community. We will have a prize wheel running, food from 12-2pm daily, and massive giveaways! We are so excited to be partnered with AUSA this year and can't wait to meet you all.

**andoo**  
feel good



\*Ts & Cs apply





# A Message from the Prime Minister

Kia ora everyone and welcome to what I'm sure is going to be a fantastic semester at the University of Auckland!

It's already been a busy start to the year, and especially so in Auckland. I know things have been hard with the recent severe weather, and I hope you've all managed to stay safe and look after each other through this time.

As classes get underway again for 2023, I wanted to briefly introduce myself, and wish you all the best for your studies.

It's been an incredible privilege to become the Prime Minister of Aotearoa New Zealand and, along with the rest of the Labour team here in Government, I'm focused on doing all I can to make life easier for Kiwis – including students.

It's been a few years now since I was at university, where I served as president of Victoria University's Students' Association, but I remember how much of a struggle it can be trying to juggle studies, part time work and social commitments. Much of my time at university was spent advocating for students, and it's something I've

continued into my working life and my job here in the Beehive.

Right now, I know things are particularly tough for many people. The cost of living is one of the biggest pressures students are facing, and I want to ensure you can focus on your education, without stressing about power bills or the price of groceries. Easing the cost pressures on New Zealanders is our Government's number one priority, and we're doing what we can to help.

I know many of you will have jobs alongside your studies, and you might be earning the minimum wage. To help ease the pressure, we've just announced an increase to the minimum wage in line with inflation, so you can expect a little more in your pay check from April.

Getting to class and to work can be another big strain on finances, especially if you don't live on campus. To make getting around more affordable, we've extended the fuel tax cut, road user charges discount and half price public transport until 30 June. Hopefully this will also help to make life a bit easier this semester.

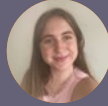
These measures are just a start, and I'm committed to continuing to support students and tackle those big issues like the cost of living. We'll have plenty more to say on this in the coming weeks and months, but I'm always keen to hear from you about the challenges you're facing, and the changes you want to see in your community. If you'd like to share your ideas, drop me an email at [chris.hipkins@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:chris.hipkins@parliament.govt.nz) or reach out on social media.

For me, there's no doubt that my student years were some of my favourites. There's nothing like that mixture of excitement, anticipation, and nerves that comes with the start of each university year – particularly so as a first time student.

As you get stuck into this year, I'd encourage you to take every opportunity that comes your way, work hard, take the time to enjoy yourself – and of course enrol to vote in this year's election! On our side, we'll keep doing everything we can to make things a little easier, so you can focus on the important stuff.

# “Chris v Chris”: A Last Minute Swap in the Ring

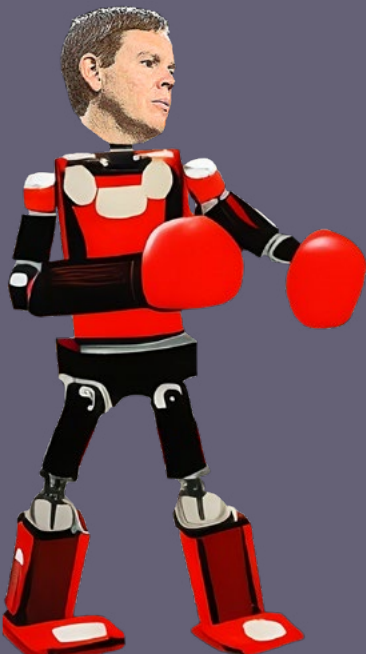
How the resignation of Jacinda Ardern as Leader of the Labour Party will shape the political year ahead for student voters



TALIA NICOL

On January 19, the 40th Prime Minister of New Zealand, Jacinda Ardern, publicly announced her resignation from the role, after leading the country through five and a half years of significant events. On January 25, Chris Hipkins was sworn in as the new face of the job, after being the sole nominee by the Labour Party caucus. This change in leadership marks a significant change in advance of the year ahead, with the election date scheduled for October 14. Jacinda will remain Member of Parliament for the Mount Albert electorate until late April, as to not require a by-election for the seat.

Prior to Jacinda's resignation, in late November 2022, the official 1 News-Kantar Public poll showed Labour support for the 2023 election sitting at 33%—5% points down from National (led by Christopher Luxon), at 38%. Now, in the wake of her resignation, the tables have turned: the same poll from late January shows Labour support has risen to 38%, with National support dropping to 37%—providing Labour with a 1% lead.



This change in Labour support makes sense, given Jacinda's preferred PM ranking in December 2022 sat at the lowest it had been since August 2017. There are several narratives explaining this declining support: public concern over the rapidly rising cost of living, frustration from some over Covid-19 protocols, and, of course, concern that a female just can't do the job as well. Remember, everyone, neither Chris Hipkins nor Chris Luxon get asked questions like, “Is it okay for a PM to take maternity leave while in office?” or “A lot of people will be wondering whether you two are meeting just because... you're similar in age... and you've got a lot of common stuff there...?” (in reference to Jacinda's meeting with fellow woman and Finnish Prime Minister Sanna Marin). Whether the steadily increasing support for Labour is due to a fresh face, Chris Hipkins's sharp cull of controversial Labour party policy, or misogynists redeclaring their love for red (see also: a white man with red hair), it's clear that there is now an election to be had.

With such a big change to the status quo only nine months out from voting, the upcoming election win could be either Chris's win in the ring. As an important (but oft-forgotten in the ongoing age of ‘phone-call’ polls—who owns a landline anymore?) demographic of the voting population, *Craccum* spoke to two students to see how the switch of faces at the helm of Labour will, or will not, impact their voting agenda.

Commerce student Daniel remarked, “I believe it was a good call to replace Ardern as Prime Minister. She was a good person to handle the many crises New Zealand faced in the previous years, however, the upcoming and current issues need a new PM to provide new perspective and response.”



However, he also told *Craccum* that the change in Labour's leadership will not change the way he votes, as “after having no say in the previous elections, being able to witness the results and outcomes of government decisions allowed me to choose the way I would vote regardless of any leadership change.”

In contrast, law student and fellow namesake, Chris, says the change in leadership will impact how he votes, saying it will make him “more policy focused... Chris Hipkins has cut out more controversial parts of Labour's reform, so it's a much closer set of policies between the two major parties.” When asked what he thought of the change in leadership, he commented, “I think it was a good call for a change in leadership. Jacinda was quite focused on reform, but generally people are more concerned with getting through the present moment, like with the floods, and Covid. Chris Hipkins seems to be keyed into this.”



# Tāmaki Makaurau Climate Strike

Now's your chance to make a sign about our planet being hotter than your favourite celeb while pissing off old men in wraparound sunglasses. The climate strikes for 2023 are back baby! School Strike for Climate, Fridays for Future, and Extinction Rebellion groups across Aotearoa will be hosting a national strike on **Friday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of March**. Fridays for Future Tāmaki Makaurau is hosting your local strike, which starts at **3pm outside Britomart Train Station**

The strike is demanding the government to treat the climate crisis like the emergency they declared it to be in 2019. More specifically, that the next government takes these following steps to fight the climate crisis in their first 100 days of power:

- No new coal mines
- Support regenerative farming
- Double marine protection areas
- Lower the voting age to 16 years old
- E-bike rebates to students and

lower income people

The Tāmaki strike will kick off at 3pm with a rally of DJs, songwriters, and speakers. Experienced activists will share their wisdom with the crowd, including **Mike Smith** (Ngāpuhi, Ngāti Kahu), Climate Spokesperson for the Iwi Chairs Forum and renowned Māori rights and climate change activist; **Bianca Ranson** (Ngāpuhi, Ngāti Kahu ki Whangaroa), Forest & Bird Ocean Campaigner and activist with Protect Pūtiki; **Te Aata Rangimarie Smith** (Ngāti Whātua ki Ōrākei, Ngāti Kahu ki Whangaroa, Tautu ki Aitutaki); and **Zane Wedding** (Ngāti Pikiao, Ngāti Kuri), arborist and activist with Mana Rākau.

At 4pm strikers will march along Fanshawe Street to Victoria Park, with some stops along the way paying visit to some of Aotearoa's worst polluters (hi BP, Air New Zealand, and Fonterra). A block party with DJs, songwriters, and an open mic will begin at Victoria



Park from 5pm once the march route is completed. Everyone is encouraged to join in as soon as possible if they cannot make it at 3pm!

Following a summer of flooding and extreme weather in Tāmaki, it's time to remind our government that we still want meaningful climate action!

QR code to event page on FB:



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# The Second Coming... of your local church group

I Can't Call it a Cult.



OLIVER COCKER

Welcome to the megachurch. No frescoes, but bold infographics on an Instagram page. No stained glass windows but concrete auditoriums, filled with trusses and light shows more reminiscent of a rave. No holy leader, just two “regular” pastors—Benjamin and Anna Carroll who post poorly focused reels on Instagram. Oh and who used to manage a church that brought in fifteen million in donations a year. Welcome to Passion AKL.

But actually, welcome to Arise. You may remember over the course of last year a series of stories broke about Arise, particularly after an investigation by David Farrier. Concerning intern exploitation—how they worked long hours while paying to be there, how they were bullied and about how one of the lead pastors at the time, Brent

**No holy leader, just two “regular” pastors—Benjamin and Anna Carroll who post poorly focused reels on Instagram. Oh and who used to manage a church that brought in fifteen million in donations a year. Welcome to Passion AKL.**

**But actually, welcome to Arise.**

Cameron, stripped naked in front of them. I know this seems like a normal summer internship for the average University student, but it should not have to be.

At the top of Passion AKL's leadership is Benjamin Carroll, Abigail Ayling, and Alistair Hill as trustees. Ayling owns a third of the shares in Arise Productions. Benjamin Carroll was a leader with Arise for seventeen years, and his wife for thirteen. The church officially split from Arise in October last year, but according to our informant, it is “the same people, the same coercive theology, and the same systems and culture of Arise.”

Consider the split simply PR. They were under investigation by the IRD and could have been deregistered as a charity. Paying taxes on their millions in donations is not exactly what they wanted. Thus, a whole new church was created—to remove the problems from the central leadership and bring in money from the biggest centre in New Zealand, again.

Know that Passion AKL want your money. These are never regular pastors, Peter and Bev Mortlock of the City Impact church sold their Coatesville Mansion for 10 Million dollars. It would take over 150 years for someone on the median wage in this country to make that amount of money. Make no mistake, the Church has always been lucrative, since its position as a charity allows them to be exempt from business, income, and capital gains taxes. Carroll, manager of the church's assets and effective employee of the church too, is primely positioned to take advantage of this extra wealth.

They are adherent to pentecostalism, which is to say, they emphasise the Holy Spirit and a direct relationship with

**They've been known to target high schools and attract University students into their prayer services through well-executed light shows and musical performances.**

God. They preach a very established doctrine: Prosperity. The more you give to the Church, the more the Church, and thus God will give to you. But this is not some mystical Ponzi scheme, if you get satisfaction from giving them money, that is all you receive in return. Maybe an invitation to a class on being a better Christian, but never more than that.

Arise, and thus Passion, has always been associated with a younger demographic. They are not the older generation of churchgoers we might expect. They've been known to target high schools and attract University students into their prayer services through well-executed light shows and musical performances. According to Josh, an ex-Arise member, there are “ministries for intermediate, high school, and university-aged people” all designed specifically to target the most vulnerable in the demographic.

But why is this important now? Why should you care? Because they want you! Or more specifically, they want your money and your time. According to our informant, they will be out there, O-Week and beyond, looking for you. They will be on campus. They will seize on your weakness, find the small



insecurity that you forgot about, and fill it with positivity. So much positivity. Jesus, the Holy Spirit, all the good and none of the bad. Toxic positivity, dysfunctional emotional management until you rely on them and their system for validation.

And it is so valid to be lonely, whether you're new or returning, to be stressed, to be sad, to be under a pressure with which you can not cope. AUSA, that's the Auckland University Students' Association for those of you who are new, has information about how to identify these groups. Often they will be aggressive, not hostile, but pushy. They will pile on pressure and guilt until you feel compelled. But you always have a choice. They will try to isolate you from people outside their group. It makes you more dependent on them. And they will often claim to have the "right way" about themselves. There is no universal way, there is only your way.

So find support, even if you want to join, find support. Friends, family, the Dessert Society, or the UoA

Maths club for all that it matters. Travel in groups and they'll be less likely to approach you. If you want to give money to a good cause, remember you are a student in the middle of a cost of living crisis in Tāmaki Makarau, which is not known for being cheap.

Benjamin Carroll has been approached for comment, and he has claimed that there are no plans for individuals to

come onto campus. He claims they are "focussed on getting going," and is it petty to point out that he made a typo? I care not. Should you see them and feel threatened or bullied, the University encourages you to report it.

Look after yourself foremost and stay vigilant.



**But why is this important now? Why should you care? Because they want you! Or more specifically, they want your money and your time.**

# True or False? UoA Stereotypes

The reality behind UoA's shiny reputation and its students, according to Craccum readers



NANCY GUO

We gotta give it to UoA's PR and Marketing team for demonstrating excellent work ethic. Every year without fail, they bust their asses delivering truckloads of glossy prospective student booklets to the career offices of high schools; making sure to highlight the Uni's abundance of QS Global rankings, and slapping the words of "New Zealand's world-ranked university" in big bold letters wherever space permits.

Sure, the Uni's team of girlboss PR and Marketing specialists work hard. But in our opinion, *Craccum* works harder. As a new cohort of bright-eyed and bushy-tailed first years make their way through the campus, they're not worrying about how many top rated researchers UoA has held captive. They're wondering about the uni culture and what the students are like. And to answer those very questions, we asked our readers for their opinions on the most common stereotypes of UoA students.

## "UoA Students Are Antisocial"

Despite the significant funding the uni pours into organising those "look at all these happy students laughing together in groups" stock photos for its advertising, you don't have to look very

**Some readers agreed that students tend to be reserved, but the supposed "antisocial" stereotype wasn't a unique feature of UoA students and instead just a result of the pandemic's consequences.**

far to see threads of complains about how allegedly "antisocial" students are on the UoA Meaningful Confessions page and Reddit. But what does the student body actually think?

**General Consensus: Yeah... this stereotype is kinda true LOL.**

Most of the responses we received seemed to agree with this stereotype. The top comment from readers seemed to be that UoA students tend to stick to their existing friendship circles.

One student found that after they transferred from Otago, they noticed that UoA students were much more clique-y as "they'd come knowing people from high school and were comfortable in their friendship groups already, making it harder for anyone new to make friends."

Similarly, another student said that the prevalence of high school cliques meant that "people don't feel like they need to make new friends."

Some readers agreed that students tend to be reserved, but the supposed "antisocial" stereotype wasn't a unique feature of UoA students and instead just a result of the pandemic's consequences.

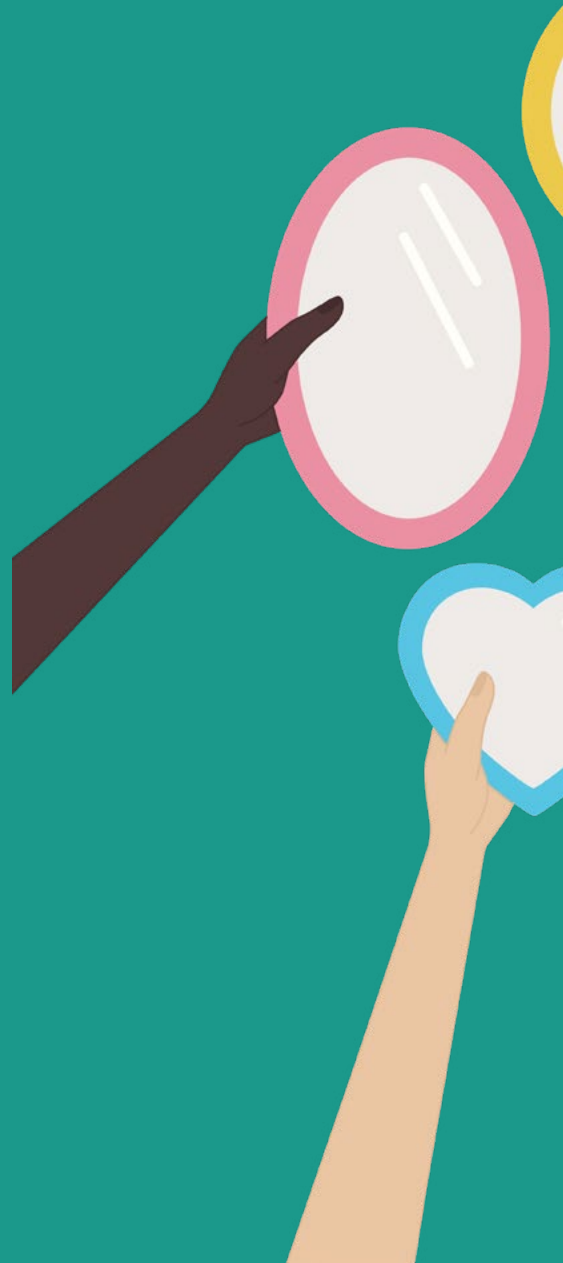
"After Covid, all students are less social than they used to be," observed one reader.

Others felt that because UoA is a commuter university with several campuses spread across Auckland, its scattered physical make-up doesn't lend well to creating feelings of community. Especially as students' commute times tend to vary greatly, one student said that it made it harder to "organise casual hang-outs."

However, students also felt that the

"anti-social" nature of students only held true in the contexts of lectures and tutorials, but in clubs, there were plenty of social peers.

**The Main Takeaway:** As the uni is composed predominantly of commuters who come from all areas of Auckland, UoA definitely lacks the feel of a "student village", which you might find in a place like Otago Uni. But hey, we'd compromise on "student culture"

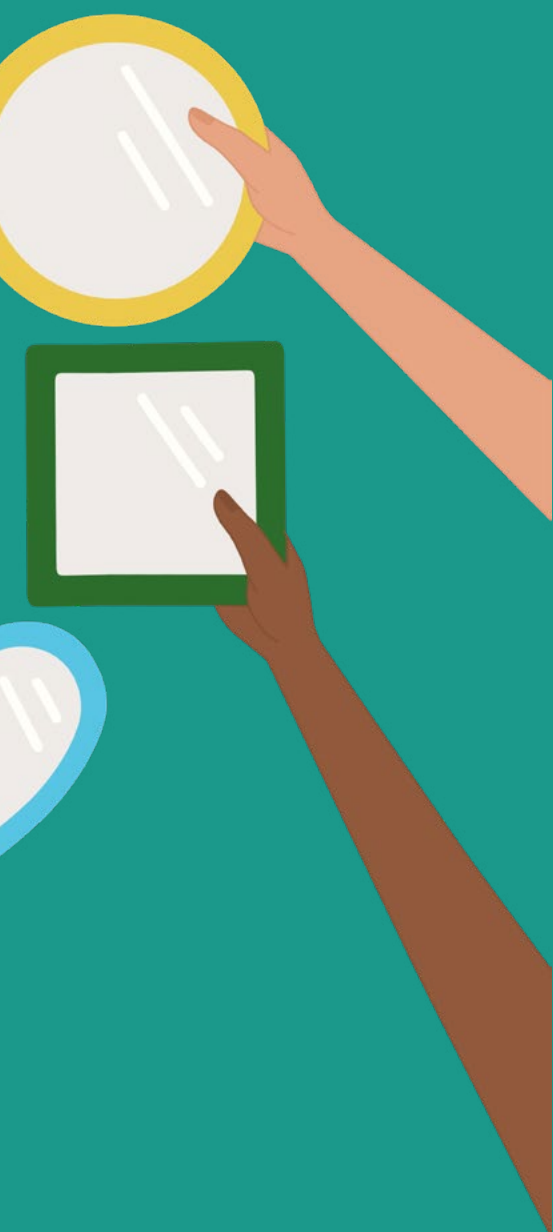




any day if it means we're not breathas with kitchen scissor-snipped mullets and Scrumpys taped permanently to our hands.

Our take is that at UoA, if you want to make friends, it's definitely possible—you've just got to make the first move and put in effort. Like other readers have said, your chances at success are probably higher at club events than during a lecture, where students are usually busy banging away at their keyboards, or just not present at all. And don't be afraid to break out of those damn high school circles! We promise that there are tons of interesting people who reside out of your school zone.

## “UoA Students Have a Superiority Complex”



If you ask us, this stereotype definitely originated from AUT. What did our readers have to say?

**General Consensus:** Sort of true, but especially true for Law and Business students.

Those that agreed with the stereotype said that they have personally encountered many “dicks” and “assholes,” many noting that superiority complexes were concentrated in the Law and Business faculties.

“Maybe if they are slightly younger, that out of high school vibe is a bit intense,” commented another reader.

We also received the response that “a lot of central Aucklanders attend UoA, and their privilege shows.”

However, some students argued that the stereotype seemed false from their experiences, or that UoA students weren't snobbier than any other uni students.

**The Main Takeaway:** Evidently, most students have their egos in check and some healthy level of self-awareness. And unsurprisingly, Law and Business students are cunts.

## “UoA Students Are Competitive”

As impressive as the Uni's marketers are at shoving its rankings down everyone's throats, this has helped contribute to the stereotype that students, particularly amongst *certain* faculties, are overly-competitive. What did *Craccum* readers think?

**General Consensus:** This one's a mixed bag, it depends largely on the degree.

The responses we received can be divided into two teams: the defenders and sceptics.

On the defence, students passionately cry: “yes, have you met a first year law student?”

Some even argue that the entire system at UoA is rotten and designed to make us “compete against each other, instead of cooperating.”

**But hey, we'd compromise on “student culture” any day if it means we're not breathas with kitchen scissor-snipped mullets and Scrumpys taped permanently to our hands.**

The sceptics said that only some degrees have competitive students, but many don't. Among the sceptical came sharp jabs, targeting specifically Engineering, Biomed, and Medicine students as guilty of this stereotype.

**The Main Takeaway:** We're inclined to agree with a comment we received that said “it's more likely that students are quietly competitive. Outwardly, people are friendly.”

For the most part, UoA students are chill, with the few exceptions of students from certain degrees, graciously pointed out by our readers. Maybe the Uni does to a certain degree appeal to students who are naturally competitive, but a lot of the “competitiveness” stereotype is likely caused by the GPA requirements and cut-offs in place for specific courses. When you're in these degrees that only allow a certain number of people to progress onto the next stage, you can't really blame students for feeling, or acting like uni is all about the survival of the “fittest.”

However, it's also important to remember that we, as individuals, make up the student body and student culture! Don't be that dick that refuses to cough up their lecture notes when your mate was away sick. Let other students have the opportunity to voice their opinion in tutorial discussions. Don't hog the lab equipment. You can still achieve your goals, without needing resorting to scheming up toxic ways to disadvantage other students.

# Minor Feelings: The Rude Sexual Awakenings of an Asian Boy

Exploring your sexuality in a world bent on culturally castrating you is challenging.



ISAAC LAM

A few years back, I would groan whenever I read an article by an Asian girl lamenting the perils of dating white boys with yellow fever. Even today, despite the quiet confidence that comes from surviving your sexual awakening, I can't deny that it sets off a nerve.

There is no doubt that the aggressive fetishisation of Asian women is real and dangerous. But it's also as far from the lived experiences of straight-passing Asian males as it can get.

We're more used to our ethnicity being a blatant and violent thorn in our quests for intimacy. So it's difficult to understand how it could be so bad, to be loved so much by the white people we all wish we were.

Asian boys grow up derogatorily stereotyped as nerds lacking masculinity, too short to satisfy both the height requirements of tinder bios and the G-spots of those behind them. We don't relate to drowning in cringey

and racist pick-up lines on the apps, because 90% of non-Asian women and 40% of Asian women swipe left at the sight of our skin. And not even progressive politics can save us—Asian men are often assumed too traditional and conservative to make good leftie boyfriends.

## Taste-Testing

In early 2019, the Involuntary Celibate (Incel) subculture was a hot topic. Incels are defined by their blackpill ideology, that there is a clear hierarchy of attractiveness in heterosexual dating that privileges certain physical traits like height, ethnicity and even wrist-size (Yes). The Incels believe that most women are only willing to date the top percentage of 'Chad Thundercocks' who embody the ideal qualities at the top of the hierarchy, dooming men below to eternal virginity and loneliness.

At the time, I'd started researching for my Arts Scholars project, looking

**The Incels believe that most women are only willing to date the top percentage of 'Chad Thundercocks' who embody the ideal qualities at the top of the hierarchy, dooming men below to eternal virginity and loneliness.**

at the representation of Asian men in Western media and popular culture. I'd quickly learn about the entrenched stereotypes of Asian men. Tropes of sexually inadequate and unattractive men have shaped how potential partners perceive Asian men and this has resulted in decades of detriment on the lives and mental health of Asian men. One paper did not shy from calling this what it was—sexual racism.

Like most, I'd initially rejected the blackpill as absurd, that there was no way human attraction could be rationally reduced to such a superficial process. But after learning about sexual racism, I wasn't so sure.

Something about the blackpill really spoke to my experiences of growing up as an Asian male whose mere capacity for romantic and sexual desire instilled virulent scorn in many girls during my teens. Contrary to common assumptions that Incels are only disenfranchised white boys, I'm not the only Asian who has been there.

When a 2018 study analysed posts on the now-defunct Incels.me forum,





they estimated that up to half of the users were Asian or Hispanic minorities. When the Incels subreddit did a demographic survey, only 54.8% of polled users identified as white—with East and South Asians the next largest groups.

## Intellectual Therapy

I steered my project towards exploring this link. I investigated the lived experiences, stereotypes, and popular culture images of Asian men in the United States and Aotearoa New Zealand, particularly romance and sexuality. I then tried relating my findings to what prevailing Incel ideology states about the place of Asian men.

I ended up finding many similarities between the leading critical scholarship on the sexual racism against Asian men and the Incels' 'racepill'. In my closing reflections, I was struck by how the Incels frankly did much better speaking to the reality of being a straight-passing Asian male than anything from the intersectional feminist voices I initially turned to for answers.

It's hard to speak sense of an invisible reality you haven't lived for yourself. And most Asian men aren't well-equipped to articulate their experiences in terms that feminist discourse would accept. Under the towering shadows of hegemonic masculinity and the model minority myth, we've been trained to bite our tongues and tough out anything that stings.

Just the idea that Asian men are marginalized is controversial. Many will assert that Asian men seem well-assimilated by every socio-economic metric. And if the tabloids have anything to say about it, all the Rolex-wrangling Chinese men said to have Auckland's property market in a chokehold may even be too well-off.

But even if that wasn't just old-fashioned racism, privilege isn't such a unilateral affair. You can't quantify well-being only by looking at income and education statistics. Look deeper and you'll find other statistics, like how Asian

men are twice as likely as Asian women to die from suicide.

## Love and Life

Contrary to what Asian parents might preach, social acceptance is key to living a fulfilling life. And it's much harder when your skin colour defaults the difficulty of the love game to 'Extreme'.

For many, love is fundamental to the human condition. Feeling so systematically unable to express love thoroughly affects your ability to live too. Until recently, I struggled to find the courage to express the pain I'd endured from heartbreaks in art and



writing. Even just to myself—because they felt inappropriate for a nerdy Asian boy to assert.

Anxiety of knowing you're inherently less attractive than your white and Asian female peers can be a lot too, especially in spaces where first impressions are everything. In my law school circles, I know many current and former students who described this fear as their biggest struggle in the discipline's superficial culture.

## The Bigger Picture

Like with Yellow Fever, this brings implications beyond hurt feelings. It is already birthing a strange spin on extreme misogyny known as 'Men's Rights Asians', who are passionate about speaking out against racism, but only through harassing Asian women who they see as having sold out to white men.

The issues Asian men experience also risk emboldening other extreme ideologies. Seeing Asian men wallowing in self-pity validates white supremacist ideas, justifying violence against people of colour. It is commonly believed that this dynamic motivated the 2014 Isla Vista and 2021 Atlanta Spa massacres targeting Asian Americans.

## Closure

We need to start talking about the sexual racism men of colour experience—even if it means admitting the inconvenient truth that women, including women of colour, can be agents of racism too. A blind eye isn't going to erase it.

During my years researching Incels, my goals rarely needed introduction to the young men of colour I spoke to—they all knew Incel ideology, and most intuitively understood the allures I was attempting to unscramble. Many appreciated how my reflective approach gave them the lexicon to articulate personal experiences they felt hurt by but could never rationalize, helping them heal.

I appreciate the charge the Asian girlbosses are leading against their fetishization. By cancelling cupid's arrow, they've called out the uncomfortable reality that romantic and sexual feelings aren't neutral.

But I also hope that soon, we'll talk more about how sexual orientalism isn't only manifested in the white men who believe the pornographic myths that Asian pussy is tighter, but also the girls who belittle Asian boys for looking nothing like the manufactured Hollywood heartthrobs they saw growing up.

# Feeling Scammed by The Summer Break? Because Same

What to do if you've been swindled by the summer holidays



NANCY GUO

Mysterious inheritances from distant “uncles”, DMs from MLM accounts asking you to join their flat tummy tea sister squad, and Elizabeth Holmes have nothing on the biggest sham of all—the uni summer break.

**Even though the academic year has barely started, let's be real: many of us are already feeling burnt out, unmotivated, and frankly, only one “tell the class a fun fact about yourself” icebreaker away from going into hiding from civilisation permanently.**

On the surface, the break seems like a long leisurely sprawl of sun-drunk days lazing by the beach and hazy tipsy nights with your best pals. It's the time to pot around the house in nothing but an oversized t-shirt, tinkering around with hobbies you had neglected during uni, or finally decluttering that exploding closet of yours. Maybe you'll even pick up a new hobby. With three months of glorious freedom ahead, nothing can interrupt your endeavours to crochet a knit sweater, write a collection of poetry, or learn one of Mozart's sonatas on piano?

But, if you ask any uni student what they got up to over the summer, the answer is nearly always, “Oh, I just worked.” Unless you're the lucky

beneficiary of daddy's trust fund, the summer break for the vast majority of students is the prime time to heal our battered bank accounts, hoard enough funds to survive another academic year, or smash through a couple of Gen-Eds in Summer School.

The cleverly-engineered scam that is the summer break usually begins long before we've slammed the submit button on our last Inspec exam. For some, the illusion of a warm and deliciously idle vacation is shattered during the first round of internship applications. Others scramble to beg their boss for full-time hours during exam leave, or rush to Student Job Search, mass distributing their CVs as if they're Shen Yun flyers.

There's also another problem—so many of us simply lack the ability to relax. When our days off eventually roll around, we often drift around on autopilot like NPCs, scrolling apathetically through quick-firing dopamine doses on the internet to recover from the work week, and actively avoid the discomfort many of us feel when doing absolutely nothing.

So, what's to blame? You could argue that we struggle to adequately unwind because our attention spans have been hijacked by social media algorithms, or being overstimulated by the sheer abundance of media that's instantly available at our fingertips. None of us are strangers to multitasking, just take a walk to the Gen Lib and you'll see tables





of students looking at lecture slides on their laptop, with music blasting through their headphones, while simultaneously texting a friend on their phone.

You could point fingers at capitalism and blame its cultivation of a culture that fetishises productivity so that being constantly "busy" is seen as a marker of success. Alternatively, you could also theorise that it's the rigid, unyielding structure of our education systems that have conditioned our brains to meet neverending deadlines, leaving us feeling frazzled when that structure is put on pause. Or, you could say that it's got something to do with being in your twenties—a time in your life where you're supposed to lay the foundation for your career, but still be wild and reckless enough to have crazy stories to tell at dinner parties when you're forty.

No matter what hypothesis you've formed, the sad reality is that a lot of us start the academic year with a depleted battery. The

good news is that not all is lost! It's not all doom and gloom. There are steps you can take to avoid going down a path that will inevitably lead to burnout and poor mental health.

Although this advice is probably not Dawn-Freshwater -endorsed, if you're feeling exhausted from the summer holidays because you haven't had the chance to catch a break, honestly just take the first week of university off. If you're a first year student, maybe don't. However, for those of us already familiar with the logistics of university life—lectures in the first week are usually just introductions or verbal regurgitations of the syllabus. It's much more productive in the long run to begin the semester feeling rested, than forcing yourself to plunge straight from a full-time schedule into uni life.

If you're the type to feel overwhelmed by looming deadlines. Or at the end of your degree and have noticed that your assignments, and their associated word counts, have almost doubled, taking the time to plan out your full year could make your workload feel more manageable. As cliché as it sounds, the simple act of creating a big picture of what your year truly does wonders in helping your future self know when to step on the gas, and equally important, when to take it off.

For those coming out of self-induced isolation, the beginning of the semester is also a great time to reconnect with people you didn't get to catch-up with. Braving the trenches is difficult, but it's less so if you've got great comrades by your side. Even better, get stuck into clubs to fill up the social cup and get stuck into a hobby you might've abandoned.

If you're feeling nervous about attending a club event, it's handy to remember that part of your uni fees goes towards funding club events, so may as well make the most out of your hard-earned money right? Also, you're not that special. Everyone there, including the club execs, will be feeling just as awkward as you do.

The start of sem is perfect for enrolling in therapy or counselling, which anyone and everyone can benefit from in some way. Summer can often be a difficult time. Students often move back home, start new jobs, see extended family, or just begin to process what the hell happened in the previous year, which can bring up challenging repressed issues and feelings. A great thing is that counselling is free at uni, and ridiculously expensive at outside providers, so don't be afraid to make use of this service specifically put in place to support your uni experience.

While many of us may have been scammed out of our hot girl summer, who says that you can't thrive outside of December to February? After all, prioritising your wellbeing and getting in regular rest and relaxation, even if it's imperfect and uncomfortable, is not seasonal.

**...this advice is probably not Dawn-Freshwater -endorsed, if you're feeling exhausted from the summer holidays because you haven't had the chance to catch a break, honestly just take the first week of university off. If you're a first year student, maybe don't**

# Ngā mata o Te Matatini: The many faces of Te Matatini

Learning to memorise moteatea lines and medical notes



MAIRĀTEA MOHI (TE ARAWA, TE WHANAU-A-APANUI)

Tāmaki Makaurau is set to host Te Matatini after three years of cancellations; three University of Auckland students share their thoughts ahead of the national competition.

For the past four years, Te Matatini has been sorely missed from the diets of kapa haka freaks and supporters nationwide. Tāmaki Makaurau, Auckland, has been given the pleasure to feed these appetites and is currently hosting the largest Māori performing at Ngā Ana Wai, Eden Park.

The Te Matatini festival was last held in Auckland 21 years ago, at Takaparawhau, Bastion Point. This years Tāmaki Herenga Waka, Herenga Tāngata festival will see three students battle head to head for the title of Toa Whakaihuwaaka, or supreme winner.

For many Māori kapa haka is an identity, it's a continuation of tradition and is a direct link to tupuna and ancestors. For student performers kapa haka is a way of life. It means driving three hours to make weekend practices, it means memorising your lecture notes as well as your

mōteatea lines, and it means sacrificing a party for practice.

Nikora Wade of Te Arawa descent and medical aspirations can attest to this, "It's actually been a really tough journey. This is the first time I've done hakas with so many other commitments in my life. Although I love kapahaka and it is a huge part of my identity, it has had a significant impact on mahi, finances, and my studies—as Matatini week is also the day I start med school."

Weighing up his options, the boy who grew up around Rotorua's kapahaka tourism industry knew that Te Matatini was of his priorities. Choosing to perform alongside Te Hekenga a Rangi he is now coming into his third stand on the Te Matatini stage.

"If I'm being completely honest, a huge part of why I've tried balancing [kapahaka] is the fact that it's been almost four years since the last Matatini. I've created a schedule that should keep my head above water. But overall, Matatini Herenga Waka, Herenga Tāngata is gonna be a banger of a Matatini!"

Hikawai Te Nahu, an arts and science student is set to perform for Ngāti Whakaue from his iwi of Te Arawa. Missing his tātua, belt, and piupiu for the last couple of years he expresses a great excitement to get back into the uniform. "It feels great! Pai kē atu! Kua roa nei te wā e noho māwehe ana mātou ko taku tātua, ko taku piupiu ano hoki!"

Another student excited to be back in pari and piu is Atamira Walker. Her first national stand will be alongside family in Te Whanau-a-Apanui. On coming back to to the uniform she speaks to the myriads of growth she has gone through since her regional stand in 2020,

"It's been quite an overwhelming experience being back in the Apanui pari. I wore the uniform at Mataatua Regionals



2020, and so much has changed since then. I have lost whānau, been through lockdowns, and all sorts of changes! Wearing the pari this year now comes with a newfound purpose, and I'm both nervous and excited to represent my whānau and make them proud."

As students who have lived in Auckland since the beginning of university, many of them have also taken on the role of host to incoming whānau members. They are particularly excited to share Dominion Road and the gems of Karangahape road to their arriving whānau.

Competition aside, the three performers are long time friends who have witnessed each other's growth while at uni. In the words of Wade, "To all my whānau and metes performing, I cannot wait to see you all light up the stage with your presence. Do all the mahi you can so that the performance becomes second nature. [Because] that's what it is all about, Māori expressing their passion and love for their ahurea, iwi, and most importantly, embodying their tupuna."





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## MUROKI

With a string of super chilled bangers under his belt including the platinum hit Wavy, Raglan's **Muroki** is delivering on the promise that saw his self released debut picked up by Bennee and played by Elton John on his Rocket Hour radio show back in 2020.

That track For Better Or Worse was an immediate taste of what **Muroki** had to offer— his voice a hypnotic instrument effortlessly caressing melodies over hazy, roots based pop.

Signing to Bennee's Olive Records label, **Muroki** released the Dawn EP in 2021 which included the notable Wavy, a song that hovered around the top of the charts on Spotify, radio and Shazam on both sides of the Tasman.

**Muroki**'s second EP came in 2022. Heading East featured the dancefloor heater Find Me and another tasty selection of roots pop.

That year he also made two tours to Australia, two more national tours of Aotearoa and numerous festival appearances.

His year ended on a true musical highlight as **Muroki** joined Jack Johnson and his band on stage in Auckland to jam Wavy with the Hawaiian based superstar.

**Muroki** blends his Kenyan and Coromandel roots into a brew that feels distinctly mixed in Raglan, the home town he mostly strongly identifies his music with – its sunbaked, sleepy seaside intimacy and pounding surf a defining backdrop to this 21 year old's sound.

Multifaceted silky and rhythmic grooves have strong ties to his surfing background, adding in sounds from South America to Africa and back to the west coast of Aotearoa.

A musician's musician, brimming with talent and soul far beyond his years, **Muroki** started learning as an eight year old, and with the guidance of his blind guitar teacher, he's been on a unique journey with his craft ever since.

Collaborations as diverse as Nasaya, Flowidus and Bennee show that **Muroki** can lend his natural vocal flow to any number of

styles.

On stage and record, **Muroki** is emerging as a shining talent, bringing a growing audience to his soulful sound.



## MASAYA

Groove Merchants **Masaya** was formed in 2019 when lead singer Reiki Ruawai needed to put together a band for a university assignment. He coaxed his sister, Kaea Ruawai to jump on the drums and friend Muroki to play bass.

Performing as a three-piece for a short time before they were joined by Jules Blewman (TOI) on lead guitar and Joe Kaptein on keys where they recorded and released Tales of Moonshine and then Reiki & Muroki headed overseas on a skate/surf escapade.

Writing songs along the way gave the inspiration for tracks like Elders & Wonders, Partake and Shake the Sun. The band returned to New Zealand and recorded their 2019 EP, TONGUE & GROOVE. Singles Soda Dreams and Jamma were released in 2020 and they started to play successful live shows and festivals. In late 2020 Muroki pursued his successful solo career with Nat Hathaway joining as their new bassist.

Since then they have released new singles Mung Bean, Ride wit Us and Attention. **Masaya** have just released their Debut Album "Chronicles of Youth" on their own imprint Rafiki Ltd via The Orchard/Sony. Their style is a mash of Indie/Groove/Soul/Roots music that emanates from their surf town home vibes in Raglan, NZ.



## NO CIGAR

What you get when a group of mates, with a shared love of song writing, religiously escape reality to create sounds together. Their music, which expresses a deep sense of storytelling draws from a vast array of influences.

Each performance is a journey guaranteed to envelop you in romanticism, to the ever-evolving backdrop of a thumping sonic experience. With elements of alternative, folk, and indie rock, they also utilise groove-based rhythms with psychedelic undertones to keep your feet moving & your shoulders rolling.

Their listenership on Spotify has snowballed in a short period since their first release in Dec 2019, growing to over 100,000 monthly listeners. Their music

has reached over 3 million streams on Spotify, with two singles making the Official NZ Hot Singles Charts.

Singles including "1999", "Some Nights" and "Say No More" have been played on rotation by Radio Hauraki, The Edge and ZM over the past two years, while other singles have also been selected by NZ on air for their New Tracks compilations.

Since the band's inception in 2019, **NO CIGAR** has grown a fiercely loyal fanbase, executing highly regarded performances across the NZ music festival circuit including Rhythm and Vines, Outfield Festival, Longline Classic and That Weekend, to name a few. So far, every headline gig they have hosted has sold out, at venues including Galatos, Tuning Fork, Leigh Sawmill, Pointers and Whammy.

Their 11-track debut album "Bienvenido" has been released in September 2022 – a product of a month spent recording earlier in the year in sunny, laid-back Mangawhai. The album features broad immense themes, delivered with their trademark chill guitar riffs and hooks, as well as infectious vocal harmonies.

It's an album that is designed to be experienced live and luckily for fans throughout Aotearoa, the band are playing a nine-stop nationwide headline tour throughout October with shows in Christchurch, Dunedin, Wanaka, Queenstown, Napier, Gisborne, Mount Maunganui and Auckland.

They have become known for their energy on stage and interaction with the crowd, introducing layers of exciting elements that really bring their live performances to another level.

## GEORGIA LINES

**Georgia Lines** won breakthrough artist at 2022 New Zealand Music Awards and was nominated for Best Pop Artist along side Lorde and Bennee.

**Georgia**'s triumphant self-titled debut EP (2020), was a collaboration with Texan producer Abel Orta Jr.

It placed on the NZ Top 40 Airplay charts and solidified her as an artist to watch. In 2021 her single 'My

Love' was translated into Te Reo Māori by Hana Mereraia and recorded by **Georgia** at Roundhead Studios. **Tōrere** was part of Waiaata Anthems Week and accompanied by a stunning Māori Mermaid lyric video. **Georgia** continues her Te Reo journey, releasing her gently captivating arrangement of Māori waiaata Hine E Hine in 2022.

For her latest five-track EP HUMAN, **Georgia** worked with talented writers/producers - Rory Noble (Kanye

West, Ruel), Djeisan Suskov (BENEE, Matthew Young), Joseph Faris (Ezra Vine, Ruby Frost), Nic Manders (Brooke Fraser, Stan Walker), and Xavier Dunn (Jack River, CXLOE, Carmada). With the release of new music, creative visuals, and a line-up of stand-out shows, **Georgia Lines** is a shining Aotearoa talent who is continually making an impact. Be sure to follow her journey by following her socials!

## WITTERS

Over the past few years Gisborne born producer **Witters** has become a highly respected name in New Zealand drum and bass. Forever praised by his peers, **Witters** has created a name for himself through releases including breakout singles 'Calibrate' and 'Burning Cold', as well as



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doing laps of the New Zealand touring circuit since 2020. From closing the mainstage at Rhythm and Vines in 2020, to supporting big names such as NETSKY, Wilkinson, and Dimension, **Witters** has won over fans on account of his humble disposition and commitment to delivering a hard hitting and precise show every time.

**Witters'** debut EP 'ReDefine' is a collection of songs that he has been working on for the better part of 18 months. The creative process for this EP has been strenuous, after being in and out of lockdowns unable to road test the tracks and the rest. But finally, **Witters** is very happy to be able to share his debut project and get these tracks out into dance floors, festivals and nightclubs around the world.

Calm and collected, patient and focussed, **Witters** is in the hot seat as one of New Zealand's finest prospects for the export of Drum and Bass Music to the world.

## JUJULIPPS

South African-raised, Aotearoa-based rapper **Jujulipps** has recently stepped onto the scene with her debut single in 2021. Citing Leikeli47, Nicki Minaj, and Rico Nasty as her blueprint, **Jujulipps** channels the assertive feminine energy of each rapper while commanding her own lavish allure.

When she's not working on her music, she's busy working towards her degree in Law.

With the introduction of 2022, **Jujulipps** sets forward to present a new tone of artistry to the Aotearoa rap scene with upcoming releases such as "Saucy" and "Airplane Mode"

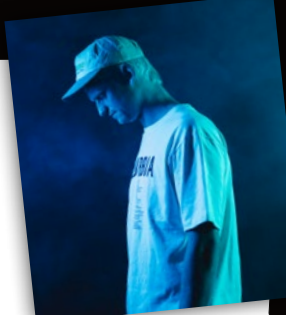
which drive individuals to see the best in themselves and to put that henceforth forward. **Jujulipps** is working on a body of works that will showcase her diversity as an artist and her vulnerability.

Just recently wrapping up a national tour with Synthony, (a show that combines a fusion of electronic dance music with the classical element of an orchestra), and a series of showcases and supporting shows (opening for US rapper 'Kakes Da Killa', and South Auckland rapper Feddy Reynold), **Jujulipps** is ready to take on the stage once again for the summer of 2023.

## KATAYANAGI TWINS

Who the hell are the **Katayanagi Twins**? Auckland born twins Rain and China grew up surrounded by music and DJing. Starting off as turntablists - these twins have gone from DJing in their dad's DJ room to every club in the city, every summer festival, and a few different places around the world.

Heavily inspired by hip-hop, these twins are also inspired by post-hardcore, R&B, the funky 80's, and eclectic 00's! It's guaranteed you will get amnesia from the mixed bag of collective music these twins have to offer. The 'Georgia' continue to look into the future for inspiration, and push the boundaries with new music with thoughts to inspire people of every gender, age and culture.



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[WWW.AUSA.ORG.NZ](http://WWW.AUSA.ORG.NZ)



[AUSASTUDENTS](https://www.facebook.com/AUSASTUDENTS)



[AUSA.UOA](https://www.tiktok.com/@AUSA.UOA)

AUSA PRESENTS  
**ORIENTATION**

27TH FEB - 1ST MARCH 2023





# MOANA PASIFIKA

# STUDENT

# MEMBERSHIP

# \$50 FOR ALL FIVE HOME GAMES



FEB 25TH



MAR 25TH



MAR 31ST



APR 29TH



MAY 19TH

## MEMBERSHIP ALSO INCLUDES:

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- 10% DISCOUNT WARRIORS TIX

[MOANAPASIFIKA.CO.NZ](http://MOANAPASIFIKA.CO.NZ)







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Oops...  
I'm late for  
Valentine's!

PHOTOGRAPHER: FLORA XIE (@floraescent)  
MODELS: KATHLEEN YANG & JALA HITCHEN



# nektar



**NZ Made Non-Carbonated RTD**

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# YOUR AUSA EXECUTIVE

**President - Alan Shaker:** Kia ora koutou! My name is Alan Shaker and I am the AUSA President for 2023. My role as President is to lead the association and the Executive in the governance of the association. I also work alongside the General Manager for the overall management and direction of AUSA. I represent AUSA and students in many settings, including University committees and national media. Everyday is different, but I am privileged to work alongside a beautiful group of student leaders.



I am currently studying a BA/BSc, majoring in History, Politics and Exercise Sciences (interesting combo, I know). I've been at University for far too long, but my plan for the future is to become a secondary school teacher. My hobbies include football, music and gym!

Look forward to what is going to be an amazing year! If you are ever in need of support, please don't hesitate to reach out to the AUSA team - we are your friend on campus 😊

**Amol Kumar - Treasurer-Secretary:** Hi I am Amol Kumar, the 2023 Treasurer-Secretary for AUSA. I am 6th year, and in my final sem of BCOM/BE(Hons) majoring in Mechatronics, Finance and Economics. I enjoy working out, listening to sad music and unfortunately collecting shoes.



My role as Treasurer-Secretary has two main components.

One is the Treasurer side, where I help oversee budgets, expenses and investments within AUSA.

The other is the Secretary side which consists of administrative work like organizing meetings, taking minutes and helping the president. I often get involved with, and help facilitate different VP projects. Every day is unique.

The Treasurer-Secretary role is one that brings a more technical perspective to the AUSA table. A lot of the work done is behind the scenes.

**Varsha Ravi - Education Vice-President:** Kia ora Craccum enthusiasts!



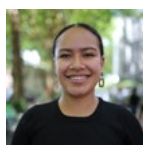
My name is Varsha Ravi and I am an international student from Botswana studying a conjoint in Global Studies and Laws. Avid Afrobeat and Amapiano lover, reader of many novels, Ubuntu and Botho are two of my profound values (google what they are or come yarn with me about them to get to know more).

EVP: Education Vice President - my role is to amplify the student voice by sitting on some super important committees around the University. I work to embody the opinions and issues raised through our mediums, including Student Council, subcommittees and Class Reps. Feel free to e-mail or come see me at the house if you have any concerns regarding your courses or teaching staff!

**Qun Ma - Welfare Vice-President:** Kia ora! My name is Qun Ma. I am from China. In Chinese, Qun Ma (maqun) refers to droves of horses running together like a community. I am so happy to be part of the AUSA community as Welfare Vice-President supporting your campus life. Hardship Grants and Period Poverty are our ongoing projects. Hardship grants can contribute to lifting you if you suffer from difficulties. The period poverty programme is advancing menstrual equity and confidence around our university. I look forward to unfolding two initiatives about financial literacy and online mental check-in this year. In addition to being your ally, I am also a doctoral candidate in Education and am interested in early childhood education. I enjoy jogging and eating food when I have spare time. The AUSA house door is open. Come to talk to us. We want to meet you 😊



**Folau Tu'inukuafu - Engagement Vice-President:** Kia Ora and Malo e Lelei Everyone!



My name is Folau Tu'inukuafu and I am studying BCom/BSci and I am the Engagement Vice-President for AUSA. As Engagement VP, I work with our Events Team to help deliver awesome events like O-Week and our AUSA themed weeks. I also help run AUSA campaigns for issues that matter most to students. I am 24 years old (ARRGHH) and I have nearly finished my degree and in all honesty - I can't wait to get tf outta here!!! But what really makes Uni worthwhile for me is.. AUSA!

I love to play netball, spend time with family and friends, EAT!! DRINK (a lot, I could possibly have a problem) and overall being around people.

P.S. To get to know me better, buy me a margarita and I'll spill all my secrets 😊😂

**Atakura Hunia - Māori Students Officer:** Mai i ngā kūrī a Whāreki

Tihirau, mai i Maunganui ki Tāmaki. Ko Ngāti Awa, Ngāti Whātua, me Te Aupōuri ngā iwi.

Ko Atakura Hunia ahau.

I am honoured to be co-tumuaki of Ngā Tauria Māori 2023, alongside my tungāne - Kauri Tangohau. Together, we also hold the Māori Students Officer position on the AUSA Executive.

We represent a legacy of generations of tauria Māori who chose to pursue higher education here at Waipapa Taumata Rau. We symbolise the strength and resilience shown by our elders in the late 1960s to create a kāinga for Māori here in the heart of central Auckland. We understand that it is our duty to uphold our responsibilities as kaitiaki, as ahikā, and as Māori, and we are grateful for the leaders of the past who paved the way forward for the future.

We are excited for the year ahead and look forward to working with students, partners, and staff of Waipapa Taumata Rau.



**Kauri Tangohau - Māori Students Officer:** Ko Kauri Tangohau taku

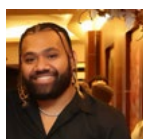
ingoa, he uri tenei no ngā iwi o Te Aitanga-a-Hauiti me Ngati Porou, a, he hononga ano aku ki roto o Te Whanau-a-Apanui, Ngati Konohi, Ngai Tuhoe, Te Whakatohea. He mokopuna ahau no ngā hapu o Ngati Kahukuranui, Ngati Oneone, Te Whanau-a-Te-Aotahi, Te Whanau-a-Tuwahakairiora.

I am one of the Co-Tumuaki for Ngā Tauria Maori and Maori Student Officers for AUSA alongside my mate Atakura Hunia. The main part of our role entails the empowerment and engagement of our tauria Maori here at Waipapa Taumata Rau | The University of Auckland to achieve excellence. Our role is also about providing cultural support and giving tauria a place to be unapologetically Maori; supporting their Taha Wairua (Spiritual), Taha Hinengaro (Mental & Emotional), Taha Tinana (Physical), and Taha Whanau (Family & Social).



**David Tuifua - Pacific Island Students' Officer**

Heyooo, I'm David Tuifua, and I am the Pacific Island Students' Officer this year. Basically this role entails acting as a liaison between AUSA and AUPISA, voicing concerns of Pacific students from all over the university to AUSA and vice-versa. Now the better part of this paragraph 🌟ME 🌟 hehe I am of Tongan descent from the beautiful villages of Ha'ato'u Pangai Ha'apai and Mapuhoi o Tevolo, or so I assume they're beautiful. I've never actually been there, or anywhere outside of New Zealand for that fact. Born and raised in South Auckland, currently residing in the crown jewel of the south side 🌟 Mangere Bridge 🌟 it's the crown jewel because I live there, don't argue with me on that. I am the 4th of 5 kids. I'm currently studying towards my BSc. Uhhh yehhhh that's basically me in a nutshell, 2023 pleaseeeeee be good 🍀



**Layba Zubair - Women's Rights Officer:** Kia Ora! My name's Layba, and I have the privilege of being your Women's Rights Officer for 2023. I'm a second-year law student, a huge Harry Potter nerd, and the way to my heart is boba :)

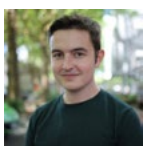


I've done a lot of advocacy around Consent Law Reform and have worked in the Sexual Violence prevention and advocacy area for over five years now.

As WRO, I'm responsible for advocating for all self-identifying women on campus, and other than that, I chair the AUSA Mana Wahine Subcommittee - which anyone who identifies as a woman can join. I also hold office hours in WomxnSpace, dedicated to providing a safe space for students who identify as womxn. WomxnSpace has oodles of pamphlets, free condoms, sanitary products, lollies, and a kitchen (with microwaves!).

I'm always keen for a chat, so feel free to flick me an email at [wro@ausa.org.nz](mailto:wro@ausa.org.nz).

**Theo van de Klundert - Queer Rights Officer:** Hello all! My name is Theo van de Klundert. I am AUSA's Queer Rights Officer, role that is



split between queer equity and AUSA governance. I am a politics and Law student in my fourth year and passionate about student advocacy and representation for the queer community in university level decision making. I hope to magnify the LGBTQI committees authenticity and support student in their incoming journey.

**Kelly Misiti - Postgraduate Student Officer:** My name is Kelly

Misiti and I am the AUSA PGO for the 2023 Year! I am in my final year of my PhD in Education and research the teaching practices and policies surrounding refugee background English language learners. I am passionate about advocacy and very excited for my second year in this position!



The role of the AUSA PGO focuses on a few different aspects, specifically focusing on PG students ranging from PG Dip and Honours, course and non-course based master's and doctoral students. As someone who has experience in all of these aspects, I feel strongly that I can help advocate on behalf of these students in a strong and meaningful way. Additionally, I chair a PG subcommittee that gives voice to many different PG associations and am always looking for new perspectives so always feel free to reach out if you're interested!

**Mahek Nagar - International Students Officer:** My name is



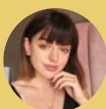
Mahek Nagar, and I am your current International Students Officer for AUSA. Apart from raiding the candy jar and the snacks cupboard, I spend a whole lot of my time on my desk in the exec room - always ready to help out, answer questions and have a chat. I am super excited about this year. We are prepared to welcome many international students through our Buddy Programme (Make sure to sign up to get a buddy or become one!) as well as plan and execute International Week in May and roll out the second annual edition of the International Student Magazine "Ubuntu" in the second half of the year.

I come from the boisterous city of Mumbai in India. And yes while Auckland is quieter in comparison but not at all boring. I am all around the city looking for spots to watch the sunset from and parks to read in. As a certified Disney adult and a part of almost all literary fandoms - I'm always keen to have a good conversation :)





# A Guide To Being A



PARIS BLANCHARD

Whether you're a local or utterly new to Auckland, navigating and integrating yourself into the city's expansive arts scene can be an extremely daunting task. To take some of the pressure off we've compiled a list of recommendations guaranteed to have you gallery-hopping, film-critiquing and moving through the city like the cultured jaffa you're destined to be.

## Film

### Academy Cinemas

Host of the Auckland New Zealand Film Society club, Academy Cinema offers more than just the latest blockbusters. Over time, regulars of this institution will find themselves becoming purveyors of good cinema, with an in-depth education in film to back up their refined tastes. Dip your toe in on their \$5 Wednesdays for a budget-friendly outing.

### The Capitol Cinema

The character-filled Capitol, conveniently located on Dominion Road, is another cinema that deserves a little extra recognition. Showcasing a wide variety of films, from blockbusters to classics, the Capitol caters to all cinephiles. Be sure to block out the last Friday of each month for the Capitol's \$10 Friday Night Frights showings.

### The Vic Devonport

Known for its intimate setting and lush interior, The Vic is a mainstay for North Shore Dwellers. Showcasing an array of films, The Vic is also host to the Rocky Horror Picture Show Shadowcast plays. Full of fun and camp delights it would be a crime to miss out on The Vic!

## Art

### Artspace

This contemporary gallery focused on platforming visual art with civic intent is located in the heart of Karangahape Road. If you're a gallery-perusing beginner, try starting out with one of their Thursday tours happening from 5 pm - 6 pm weekly. It's a great way to get to know the art intimately and satiate your desire for a much-needed culture fix.

### Gus Fisher Gallery

Another contemporary gallery showcasing the work of local and international artists alike, the Gus Fisher gallery has earned a name for itself due to its innovative approach to curation. The gallery boasts an extensive program, with performances, screenings, workshops and panels







# Artsy In Auckland

running alongside their exhibitions. Head over before the sixth of May to experience their latest installation 'The Sentiment of Flowers,' exploring the idea of queer ecologies.

## **Anna Miles Gallery**

The Anna Miles gallery is a must-see destination for art lovers looking for something a little bit different. Located on Upper Queen Street, this gallery showcases vibrant and unique art across a spectrum of different mediums. Be sure not to miss Cat Fook's exhibition 'Terrabella' which opens on the 18th of February.

## **Auckland Art Gallery, Toi o Tāmaki**

Tucked below Albert Park is the city's Art Gallery. With a plethora of revolving exhibitions and showcases, the gallery hosts something for everyone and any one. Recently, the gallery has chosen

to include a 'Queer History' blurb next to prominent pieces of LGBTQ+ significance. With over three floors of exhibitions and a cafe, one could easily spend the whole day here. Most exhibitions are free and the gallery is open everyday, except Christmas.

## **Theatre**

### **Basement Theatre**

As a theatre company committed to breaking down barriers, Basement provides a platform for independent creatives from all walks of life to share their craft with local theatre enthusiasts. Their lineup for February proves to be as fascinating as ever, with shows such as 'Concerning the UFO Sighting Outside Mt Roskill, Auckland' and 'Tea with Terrorists' hitting the venue later this month.

If you're passionate about creating

as well as consuming, Basement has you covered too. Peruse the 'For Artists' section of their website to see which of the opportunities and artist development programs they have on offer might apply to you.

### **Q Theatre**

Boasting the tagline "Auckland's home of independent performing arts," Q Theatre is another venue dedicated to the platforming of New Zealand's best and brightest independent artists. Like Basement, their February shows are all equally unmissable, however, be very sure not to skip Tusiata Avia's 'The Savage Coloniser Show' coming to Q from the ninth of March. It's no exaggeration to say you should be planning your month around this.







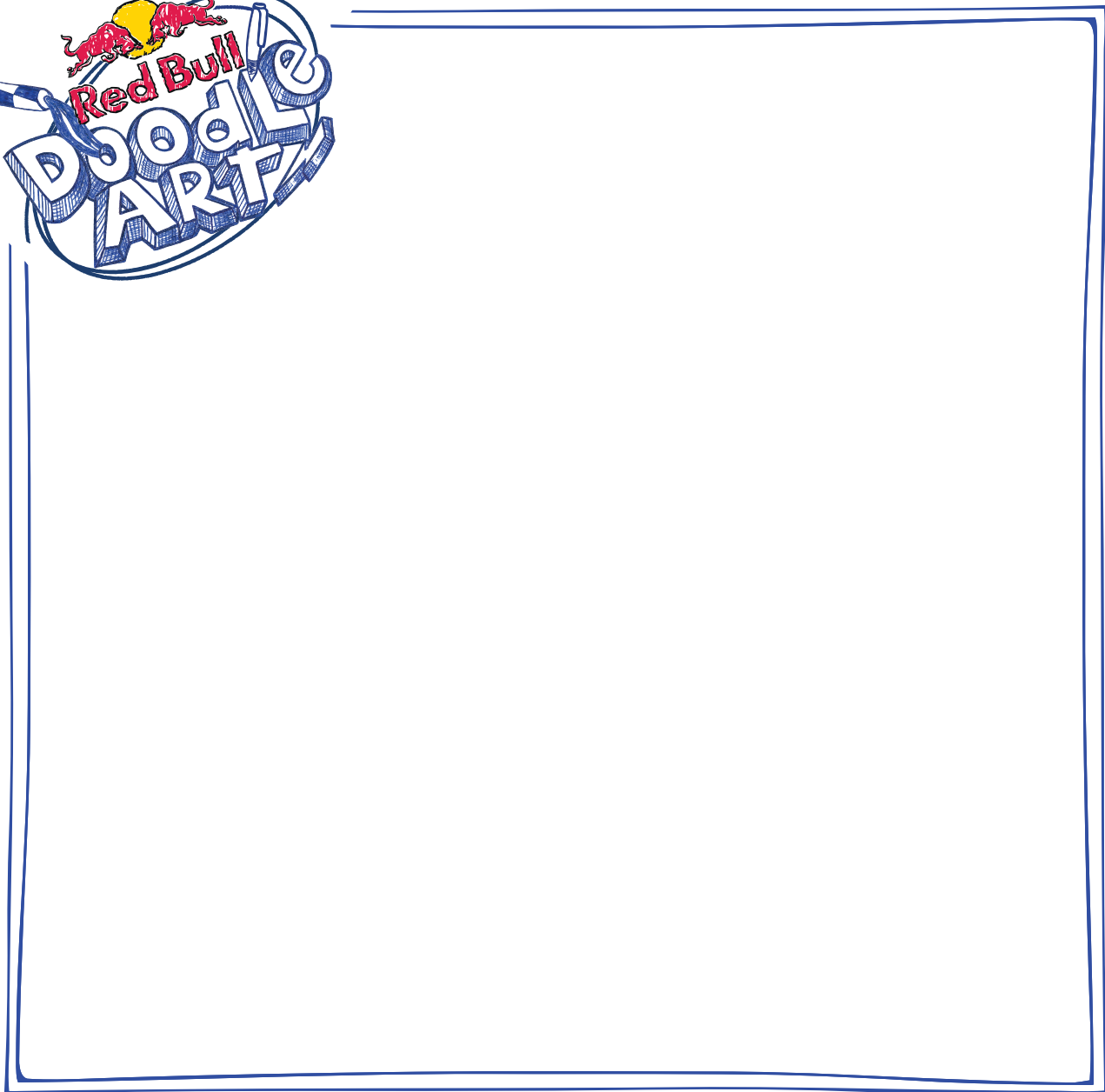
DOODLE YOUR WAY TO THE  
WORLD FINAL IN AMSTERDAM

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ON THE NEXT PAGE



**WHERE DOES  
THE MIND TAKE YOU?**



1



DRAW YOUR DOODLE WITHIN THE FRAME ABOVE

2



TAKE A CLEAR PHOTO INCLUDING THE FRAME

3



SCAN THE QR CODE, CLICK APPLY AND UPLOAD



When I was in the interview I saw myself as the mother's cook

Baby I saw myself as I saw your mother in the kitchen screaming at your father like all times your father collected the ones of all things

A Planet is far away screaming out at us listen to the tape

And a way to go

Who does the housework for me? When I was in the interview I saw myself as the mother's cook

She cut for us long sticks of Celery rubbing her hands in the sink

and I saw I saw myself as her again cutting you up into tiny little pieces

I saw you screamed out of my own teeth birthed from cavity

Just like when you bite the membrane polio into

I prepared you as a life for my supper

I am allowed to punish you

mangled by own placenta

or maybe I was born like this

Something is crawling something is rustling

deep inside

11



PARIS BLANCHARD

We were recently lucky enough to sit down with the radiant Ivy Weir, an Elam Graduate whose recent work, *Inside the Other*, provides a poignant commentary on the importance of our connection with the natural world. Speaking on her experiences both during and post art school, the sources of her inspiration and the development of her creative process, Ivy provides a raw account of the process of creating art under varying conditions.

**Tell me a little about your artistic process: where you find your inspiration, the reasoning behind your decision to work with so many different mediums etc.**

I guess I am always finding inspiration around me. I feel like I go around the world gathering and exploring—observing, taking notes, listening to songs, conversations. It can really be anything. Something from these moments will spark inspiration for me and I then take these beginnings of inspiration further with more research into the idea or 'feeling' it sparked for me. Research could mean focusing

on learning a new medium, learning about a research topic, looking at other artists, or even just surrounding myself with media that evokes the idea for me. Thematically in my work, I am interested in the gothic, the uncanny, psychoanalysis, myth, ecology and feminism. I find the intersections between these themes, and often return a lot to personal experience as a way of storytelling.

I work in lots of different mediums because I enjoy finding various material qualities to express the nature of the idea. My practice is very driven by the initial inspiration or 'story', but the medium of the work is what communicates the concept and enhances the quality of creating. Sometimes the medium inspires the artwork itself, but usually it is a further, but very significant, driver in the meaning and outcome of my work.

**Are there any specific artists that you look to as influences? What draws you to their work?**

One of my biggest inspirations is

Ann Shelton. I find her photographic practice very influential, especially her use of mirroring to create new realities and doubles. This is something I often feature in my own work—the idea of another reality, an alternate viewpoint into a concept. I am also drawn to her gothic subject matter, especially in the context of Aotearoa. The themes in her work have always inspired me and I have referenced her since high school. Another artistic influence is Ana Mendieta. I am continually interested in Mendieta's exploration and documentation of the body and the natural world, and how this translates into wider existential topics such as identity, reality, experience, etcetera.

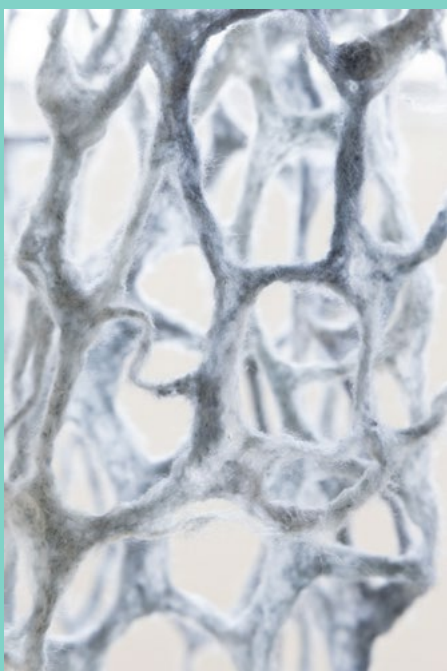
I am also influenced by music and specific artworks, as well as books and movies. Musicians and writers such as Ichiko Aoba, Warsan Shire and Carmen Maria Machado continually inspire me. These people are key influences across all my practice, but I also look at specific artists that encapsulate a certain project/idea at the time.



**As someone who studied fine arts at a tertiary level, what was your experience with the curriculum - do you have any thoughts on the way in which students have to tailor their creative practice to fit in with deadlines and marking rubrics?**

This is a complex question [laughter]. There are lots of things I did like about the curriculum such as the thematic or material challenges that confront your usual way of thinking/doing and 'push you'. Even if I might have resisted some of these challenges I think that they were beneficial to expanding my practice with making and thinking. I also think resisting/going against the curriculum is helpful for you as an artist. It helps you form your artistic identity and find what you like or dislike—even if you hated every part of art school that would help you go towards the things you do enjoy.

I truly think there is no good way to make art fit into a curriculum and marking rubrics. I think there can be better or worse ways of doing it, but I think in any institution the rigid nature of it can hinder you as an artist in some way. Although having frameworks and deadlines can be helpful in how it can push and challenge you; it can also lead to shaping your practice around pleasing a marking schedule or a lecturer etc. Art is always going to be a complex subject to fit into any academic curriculum - because how do you truly measure creativity,



innovation, skill, exploration, engagement, etc? There will always be elements of marking schedules that are arbitrary. I think it is important to remember this while at university, especially doing something creative, and try to stay true to yourself rather than true to the institution.

**And now that you've graduated, has your artistic practice changed at all?**

Following on from my last answer - on the flip side of this Elam has definitely made me almost self-consciously critical of myself since graduating. Being exposed to that kind of critical thinking and refinement can be so helpful but it can be hard to navigate working outside of art school when you now have the 'Elam voice' in your head. You get used to making art in an institutional framework and without the framework you can feel lost at times. However, I have been using this time since graduating to get back to my practice outside of the Elam framework. I am trying to embrace more freedom, and go towards the things I love. I am aiming to make art slowly and without deadlines or pressure.

**You work as a makeup artist too, do you also see this work as a creative outlet?**

I do! In my current work as a makeup artist, I always enjoy the engagement with my hands—making with colours, shapes, textures, and facial features.

As a makeup artist, I am often at the whims of the client so I don't have a lot of 'creative freedom', however, I still find joy in the collaboration between myself and the client to achieve a visual aesthetic—just like with art. I try to challenge myself to not get stuck in a routine and to find new ways to achieve a look and be inspired.

**Tell me about your latest project "Inside the Other." What was the inspiration behind this project and what do you want viewers to take away from it?**

*Inside the Other* is about the current epoch of the Anthropocene (The Anthropocene is defined as our current geological era marked by irreversible human damage), and how our bodies and experiences in the world are interconnected to our environmental landscape. It is also about the uncanniness of living in this era—the slow horror of the state of the declining natural world.

I would want viewers to take away what the title suggests- to be literally *inside the other*. Inside the other invites the audience to engage with the environment mentally and spiritually again, to see it as it is—inside us. As we can see with all these recent weather events, we humans are very much inside and a part of our ecosystem. We cannot consider ourselves as above or as having control over it. We must return to it.

# GET THE **PARTY** **STARTED** WITH JBL PARTYBOX SPEAKERS



**DARE**  **TO LISTEN**



## FEMME

I live in silk and satin.

The dresses dangle off me,  
Suspended by little miracles  
Made of platinum.  
The fabrics cascade  
From my shoulders  
Like flowing water.  
I let it slip along my curves  
Hug my waist  
Slide effortlessly as I walk.

A statuesque monument,  
An obelisk to this cage.  
Inlaid with jewells  
Divine beyond comprehension,  
Gather at my feet  
Worship in my light.

Keep me in your little glass box.  
An eternal flame too beautiful  
To allow to die.  
A bird in a cage.  
Lightning in a bottle.  
A spark in a polaroid picture.  
Suspend this moment and  
Steal me for yourself.

An entertainment,  
A light snack,  
A refreshment that one might  
Have on the side.  
I am a convenience to you,  
Please  
Allow me to be  
Convenient  
For you.  
Allow me the honour  
To bend and mold  
And crack and break  
And destroy myself  
Over and over  
So I can fit into your ideal  
Size six sculpture.

Here, cut my arm,  
Blood would pour  
Golden  
Down my wrist.  
Take it.  
Tears,  
Would fall as fat pearls  
Down my cheeks,  
Landing with soft *clinks*  
As they strike the floor.  
Pick them up.

They are for you.  
I do this all for you darling.  
I paint a smile on my face.  
The lipstick hides the  
Splits in my lips  
From when you bite them.  
Eyeliner,  
You say the way it streaks  
When you make me cry  
Is beautiful.  
Foundation and blush,  
A little contour for the bruising.  
You can be so rough sometimes  
Love.

I love you.  
You are so generous.  
You are so kind.  
I am so glad I get to be yours.

Tell me again,  
How much I need you,  
How much you do for me,  
How grateful I *should* be.

Thank you.  
Thank you.  
Thank you.



ZACK WELSH

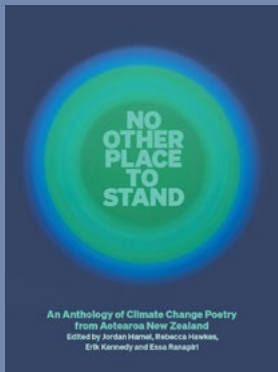
## NO OTHER PLACE TO STAND

AN ANTHOLOGY OF CLIMATE CHANGE POETRY FROM AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND



MADELEINE CRUTCHLEY  
(SHE/HER)

Tāmaki Makaurau and Aotearoa have endured a long series of summer storms and tragedies throughout the last month, with the extremities of Gabrielle leading to the declaration of a national state of emergency. The swell of voices that have risen in the aftermath point to climate change as a major contributor to the scale of destruction. *No Other Place to Stand*, released last year, is a timely poetry anthology that brings together writers from across Moana Oceania, who offer urgent perspectives on the climate emergency. The collection faces and mourns the devastations of climate change, while imagining the futures that could and should come from our following actions.



Heavyweights Jordan Hamel (*Everyone is Everyone Except You*), Rebecca Hawkes (*Meat Lovers*), Erik Kennedy (*Another Beautiful Day Indoors*) and Essa Ranapiri (*Echidna*) lend their expertise to edit the collection, and introduce the work of the 91 writers who document their witness to the emergency, many of whom are young (under 30) and Indigenous. The editors and poets quickly assert that any characterising of this crisis as new or surprising ignores crucial truths. The collection may feel timely now, but climate change poetry has been relevant for many, many years.

The book offers extensive, global reflection on various climate change disasters. Dadon Rowell mourns during the Australian Black Summer 2019-20. "You've stopped watching the news / because you can smell each strand of burnt fur." Sarah Maindonald expresses the horror that a Category 5 Cyclone wreaked in Rakiraki in 2016, "the arms of the clock / wave feebly / at the girl in the window / it floats towards the temple." David Eggleton captures

the destruction of the 2010 BP oil spill at Deepwater Horizon, "Drill, baby, drill; / never mind the spill; / but the top kill tanked; / the whole Gulf huffs the fumes." Hele Christopher-Ikimoto grieves in 'Dear Banaba' about the ravaging of the island through NZ and Australian phosphate mining, "I wish people knew about you / Maybe then the world would care about losing their home." The collation of these poems cements climate change not just as a future issue, but as one that has unfolded and is unfolding. It's a record that keeps track and doesn't forget.

The poems in *No Other Place to Stand*, like the many marches, petitions and protests that have filled our streets and screens, seek to call attention to systems of exploitation and issues of power that worsen the climate crisis. Sometimes this means cursing corporates, as Maddi Rowe writes "sometimes i look at a man in a suit and i / want to crush him between my fingers / like a rotten peach." Sometimes this means documenting a property manager's journey into disillusionment, as Carin Smeaton writes "takes off her high heels nestles her sore feet into the cool soft mulch she won't ever walk another step...". Crucially, this means naming and reprimanding colonisation—the exploitation and thefts it enacts are inseparable from climate change. Te Kahu Rolleston writes "How dare you!! / poison the swells and the realm of Tangaroa," Anahera Gildea imagines "would my temperature not rise?" if she felt a "puncturing" as Papatūānuku, and Laniyuk calls out the hypocrisy of strains of climate activism that fail to see consequences of colonisation, "And I'll go home to a house I pay rent for / On land that was illegally seized / Listen to someone lecture about long showers."

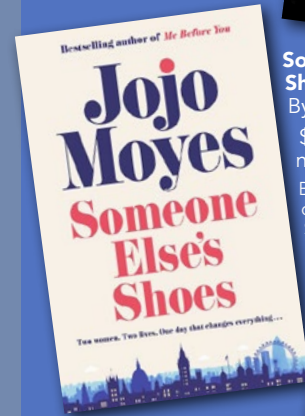
In *No Other Place to Stand*, the responses to climate change are not repetitive or monotonous. The voices process and protest with common sentiments, but the poems are singular and unique. It's a collection to read with care, to treat as an education, and to find the phrases that inspire the urgent next step.

## NEW IN STORE

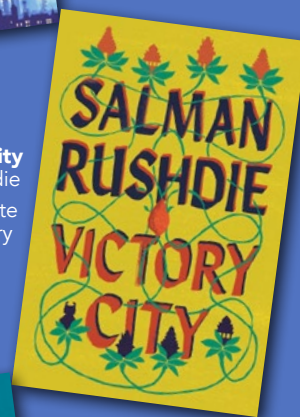
**Birnam Wood**  
By Eleanor Catton  
\$38.00 - In store now



**Someone Else's Shoes**  
By Jojo Moyes  
\$37.00 - In store now  
Buy a copy of *Someone Else's Shoes*, and go in the draw to **WIN a trip for two to Queenstown**  
More information in store.



**Victory City**  
By Salman Rushdie  
\$37.00 - In store late February



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# My landlords a dickhead, what do I do?

How to make a deal with the devil...And win.



GEORGE BROOKER

I used to have a washing machine. It was pretty great, but I didn't realise that at the time. Like so many of us I didn't realise just how good I had it. We first met on the ground floor of an unassuming townhouse in Grey Lynn. It waited patiently on the ground floor, always waiting to be fed the cheapest laundry power, and happy to work hard into the night. I took it for granted, and after several months of abuse it finally decided enough was enough. I heard it chime one last time. It was not the shockingly long and complex melody I was used to hearing but 3 sad short beeps. It was at this moment I was gripped by a terrifying realisation: my landlord was actually going to have to do something for once.

This sudden death kicked off three months of high stakes negotiations between myself and the good—and legally distinct—people of *Shmey Shmite* (use your imagination.) I wanted my washing machine back but they had other ideas. They battered me with unbeatable arguments such as, "I actually don't know how that washing machine got there" and "look the owner is just not going to budge on this, alright?" It was only through hours of scholarly study, while avoiding my actual studies, that I was able to

**It turns out that when a landlord advertises a flat as including a washing machine and they go so far as to put it in your contact... they might actually owe you a washing machine.**

discover something I was shocked they'd missed. It turns out that when a landlord advertises a flat as including a washing machine and they go so far as to put it in your contact...they might actually owe you a washing machine.

In the end I did what any self respecting law student would do...I threatened legal action. Like any reasonable person in the face of an overconfident twenty-something year-old, the landlord immediately folded and I had a shiny new washing machine the next day.

## SO HOW CAN YOU ACHIEVE THESE GREAT RESULTS?

It's simple! Just follow my 6 step guide and you'll be the slammed car door to your landlords penile head in no time (ouch!)

Before we begin the fun it's disclaimer time! Nothing in this 6 step guide is legal advice, if you want answers to a legal question ask a lawyer. I guess while I'm also here...To all you baby lawyers in residential halls: **the residential tenancies act does not apply to halls!** So if you try any of this on your RA it will be *very* embarrassing for you.

### Step 1: Do your research!

A bad landlord is much like an angry cat, they puff themselves up and hiss about, but at the end of the day they're more scared of you than you are of them. It is crucial you build yourself up as a savvy renter who knows the score. Actually knowing your rights is a crucial part of the process. Start with the tenancy services website and go from there. In a pinch don't be afraid to read the actual residential tenancies act. You will find it a lot easier to read than you'd expect! Once you've nailed down what the legalese for your problem is it can

**The Citizens Advice Bureau and the Tenancy Tribunal can both help with most questions you might have and you can make the decision from there.**

quite easily be googled.

### Step 2: Evaluate the situation

You're probably going to be dealing with your landlord for at least six months. If this is your first interaction you need to set an example. Don't be a kiss-arse but also don't be a dickhead. This may be a hard balance to strike for the law students among us, but it can be done! Remember, your landlord is running a business, and any half decent one should act like it. Open the email with a warm greeting, explain what you want, and make sure to sign off with a polite closing. If you're lucky enough your journey may end here. For those of us who receive the dreaded "nah" email it's on to step 3.

### Step 3: DON'T PANIC

It's highly likely your landlord will attempt to bury you under a pile of confusing legalese. Don't worry because you're about to do the exact same thing back. That being said, once you go down this road, there is no coming back. You need to make sure you're completely convinced of your argument. Carefully study your landlord's objections and take a day or two to do more research. If you're still convinced they're fucking you over. It's time for the fun part

### Step 3: Direct your frustration and anger into a truly vicious email

I don't just mean any email, I mean the kind of email that makes your average property owner shit bricks. First you must remain calm, nothing says 'I don't know what im talking about' than an angry panicked email. Open with a polite hello then state the relevant law being breached in a detached and cold manner. For example, in the case of my washing machine; I stated the landlord was in breach of their responsibilities, explained what I thought the breach was (not repairing the washing machine) and then stated why I considered that a breach (we signed a contract that included a washing machine, repairs of the premises are the landlords responsibilities).

Once you've written this up, start adding in as many scary law words as you can. Make extensive use of 'parties', 'contractual agreement', 'lawful obligation', and any other technical term. Be careful to use these correctly so as to not undermine yourself. Your goal is to appear informed, in-control and unphased, done well this should make any budding slumlord think twice.

### Step 4: Playing chicken with a cockhead

Now the real fun begins. You and the landlord now get to play an extended game of chicken with the fate of your living situation hanging in the balance! Rest assured though that the landlord cannot evict you in retaliation for even a rather nasty email. The landlord is going to try to make this next stage as annoying as possible. The name of the game is to be as stubborn and annoying

as possible, while still being polite on the surface. Your goal is to make the landlord come to the conclusion that fighting you simply isn't worth their time (they're trying to do the same to you). Neither of you actually want to go to court but both of you want to try and scare the other with the possibility.

### There's this one easy trick to end this phase however:

issue your landlord a 14 day notice to remedy. These are a magical device that makes all but the most stubborn landlords jump to attention. Basically just repeat your previous email but add on "this is an official 14 day notice to remedy" and now if it isn't fixed in two weeks you can go to the Tenancy Tribunal. You might find threatening legal action intimidating but crucially it's still just a threat. You don't have to go if you don't want to, and most bad landlords crumble at the mention of the tribunal alone.

### Step 5: Going to the tenancy tribunal

If you get to this point it's probably time to stop reading Craccum and start making some calls. The Citizens Advice Bureau and the Tenancy Tribunal can both help with most questions you might have and you can make the decision from there. It is less scary in practice than it sounds, it's not a formal court and it's designed to be accessible to everyone.

### Step 6: Winning

Congratulations on defeating the greatest evil that plagues students outside of the dreaded 8am lecture. Celebrate your newfound talent by helping your friends finally give their terrible landlords a taste of their own medicine.



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## Will You Be My Valentine?

Roses are red, violets are blue...let's hear some valentines thoughts from YOU!



SANSKRUTI BANERJEE

Valentines Day...Origin? The 14th century - yet here we are in the 21st. Overrated and a pure menace or underrated and secretly wholesome? We interview students to get their hot takes on this notorious holiday and delve deeper into whether this is a social construct or something to be celebrated.

Ah yes the self proclaimed day of love, more commonly known in our generation as *"a slumber party on the*

*Highway!*" What piques the interest is the realisation that this holiday keeps each generation in a chokehold... whether it's an instagram story of roses, a handmade card or a dinner date. It's a day to honour a person or pinpoint attention to yourself through a brown fluffy teddy shaped facade. Regardless, it's the ONE time you can't be judged or labelled a 'SIMP'. I guess everyone is encapsulated with the concept of being loved...and proving to others we are loved. We may not realise it...

but that's what it is. But, if we truly love someone, must we prove it through a dozen stems? Or is it something that should be implicit in our day to day life..?

I personally love the excuse to go out to dinner with my girls for Galentines— or maybe I'm just secretly salty because I lowkey wanted that Lego flower bouquet. Anyways, here's what you had to say.

## Valentines Day ♥

**Noun** - the day where everyone indulges in the feeling of being wanted and validated simultaneously.

**Smells:** like red roses and spoiled milk (if you're single and envious)

Humans are kinda funny, no? - **NOOR RANDHAWA**

Valentines is honestly just like any other holiday. Whether romantic or platonic based love, it isn't something that necessarily has to be put on a pedestal, neither should it be denounced. It's whatever makes you and the people closest to you happy! Galentines is certainly underrated though.

My high school had a Valentines concept where you paid \$1.00 to get chocolates or flowers sent and EVERYONE did it for their friends (not just partners!). It was meaningful because everyone received something - and what a wholesome way to show the quieter people in your classes some love! - **EVANA CHAN**

Valentines? Underrated. Especially by us single people who spend too much time criticising the day. A lovely chance for us single people to appreciate our friends AND ourselves. To understand that a significant other is not essential for us to live a happy

and fulfilled life. It's something to look forward to - celebrating one day with the right person. I think it should just be a wholesome day full of love, acceptance and joy. - **WILL**

**Other noteworthy one-liners from students;**

*"Bro my ex was born on valentine's so I'm perpetually reminded of him"*

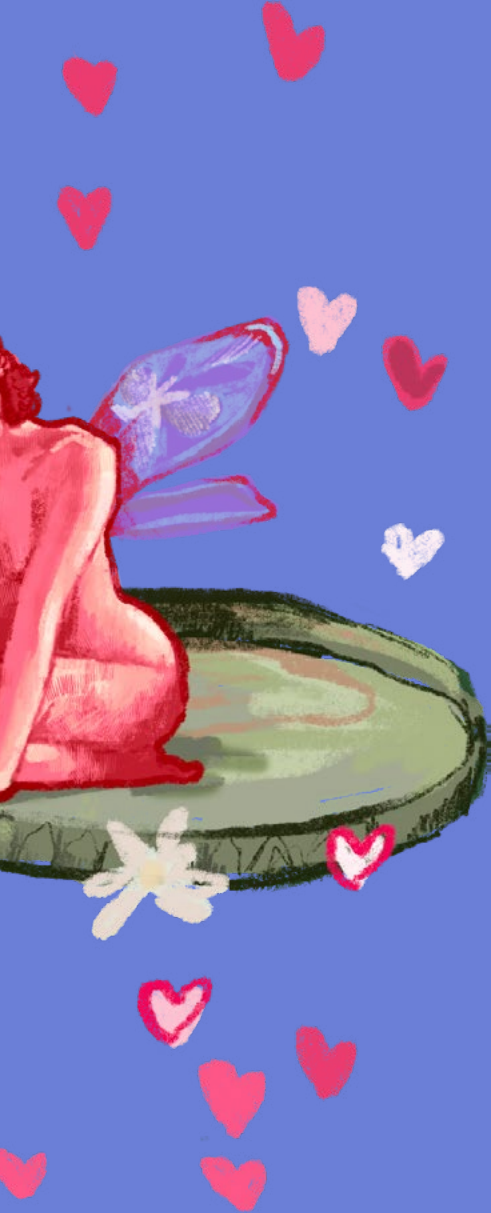
*"The concept of love in society. Driven by materialism."*

*"Valentine's day? More like capitalism."*

So I guess there's a small fragment of Valentines in every single day - the little ways we show the five love languages to our friends, family and partners; a handpicked flower from a field, scheduling a coffee between a class or even having arms open for someone when they need it most. I leave with a wise quote from none other than Winnie-The-Pooh...

"How do you spell love?" - Piglet

"Oh, you don't spell it...you FEEL it." - Pooh



## The 95bFM February Playlist

Featuring tracks from **underground artists** across Aotearoa!

Hybrid Rose - Take Me Out (Young Gho\$t Flip)  
 Neil MacLeod - Mouthshut (Proteins of Magic Remix)  
 Haz & Miloux - What U Do ft. Diggy Dupé  
 Borrowed CS - Method of Groove  
 Crystal Chen - let's kiss, not fight  
 Revulva - This Town  
 KÉDU CARLÖ - Endless  
 Mikaela Cougar - Outwit You  
 Roy Irwin - Clover



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# SEX AND THE UNI

## What Does a Girl Have to Do to Get Romanced Around Here?

*Life can't always be like Sex and the City, especially when you're busy doing an assignment or cramming for an exam, but fear not—we're here to help! You didn't ask for relationship or sex advice, but we're giving it to you anyway. Between the two of us—Samantha Bones and Cuntly Bradshaw—we're gonna make sure you have the best dates of your life and look good doing it!*

### Dear Cuntly and Bones, how soon is too soon to celebrate Valentines?

**Samantha Bones:** If there's anything wlv have taught me, it's that there's no such thing as "too soon". Hell, have your first date on Valentines! Why not? The patron saint of horniness will be blessing your union. Though if it's a recent fling, and you're really scared of looking too desperate and needy, tell them you'll celebrate Valentines "ironically", then propose to them at a restaurant and see if you can get some free dessert. After all, Valentines is the best day to eat out.

**Cuntly Bradshaw:** Unless you take the occasion super seriously, I'd agree with Samantha—it's never too soon if you're both just wanting to have some fun! Go wild—celebrate it every day if you want. It's just a date and time is a construct or a state of mind or whatever. Valentine's Day can be really expensive depending on what you do, and often places like restaurants can be booked out months

in advance for the day, so play it smart. Maybe you'll get a bit of FOMO on the day but also, you'd miss out on the busy crowds if you celebrate another day.

### I wanna show my date a good time ;)—what's a spicy date idea?

**Samantha Bones:** Oh, y'all are freaky nasty huh? Honestly, any date can be a spicy date if you're brave enough. Go to the zoo and fornicate in the lion's enclosure; finger them at the movies; go for a walk and slap cheeks alfresco; grab a drink and dip into the bathrooms. The possibilities are endless!

**Cuntly Bradshaw:** To continue that list, do it in the backseat of the car, *Titanic* style. Car sex is a bit underrated because everyone thinks it's a bit teenager-y, but so is 69 and people still do it—sometimes it's just what you need to hit the spot. Would say that having sex in a restaurant bathroom on

date night is pretty spicy though. Just need to be careful about how you go about it. I'd recommend picking a place where the bathrooms aren't that close to the dining area and also probably a place you wouldn't mind not visiting again (in case you get kicked out lol).

### Getting my date flowers seems a bit cheesy... any other ideas?

**Samantha Bones:** Wrap yourself in a bow. You're the present xo.

**Cuntly Bradshaw:** Buy them a ring. Just kidding! But seriously, don't splash out on a gift unless you have the moolah (in which case, why not get them a ring?). It's really the thought that counts. Get them something small that reminds you of them, do some DIY, take them on a spontaneous trip, the list goes on. You can turn anything from cheesy to sweet and personal by just giving it some thought, so get to know your date well before you open your wallet!

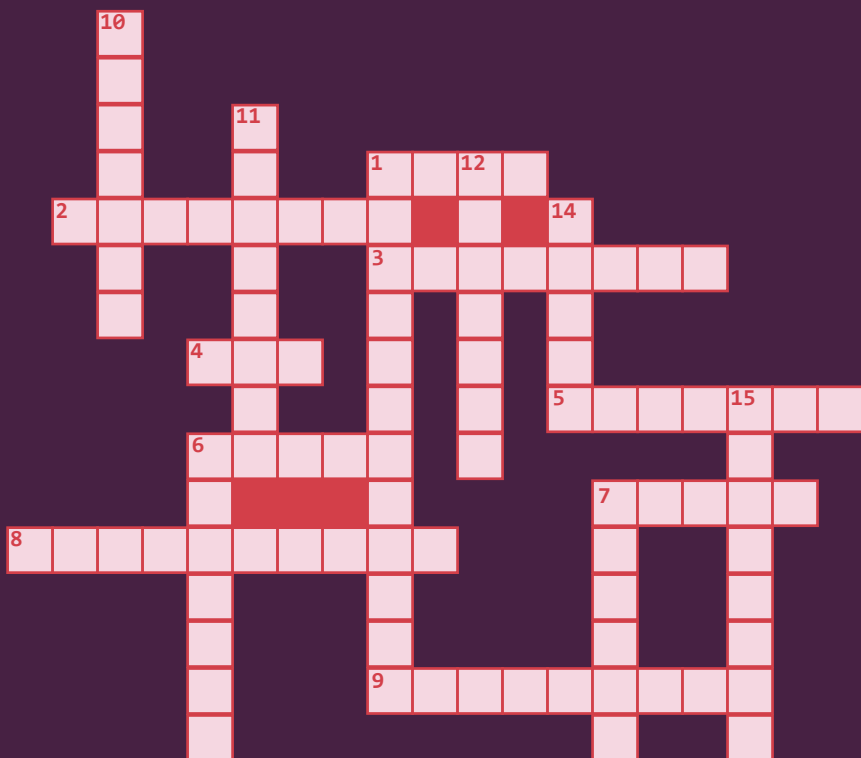
# Wear Plants, Not Plastic

Meet The Plant Pacer

*allbirds*



# CRACCUM CONUNDRUMS

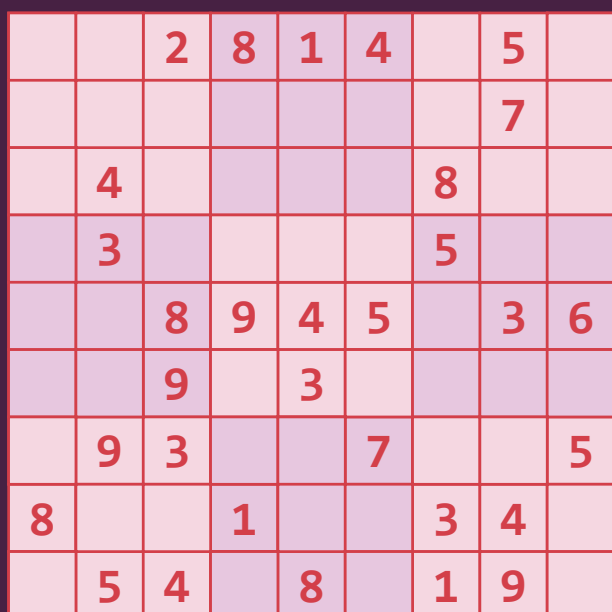


Across:

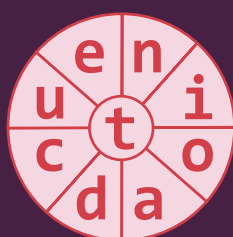
- 1 - creative activities
- 2 - to work to bring about
- 3 - Activity of buying and selling
- 4 - statute
- 5 - Behind in payment
- 6 - NZ Pop Star
- 7 - Small Car
- 8 - Location of higher learning
- 9 - Systematic Instruction

Down:

- 1 - Practice of designing buildings
- 6 - Centre of NZ Politics
- 7 - A person's condition
- 10 - Study of Natural and Physical World
- 11 - What we all speak
- 12 - Powerful storm
- 14 - Collection of news agencies
- 15 - Tāmaki Makaurau



KUIUFLECTURERFB  
COPCECOURSEIVGJ  
YRVUEWUOULIGDSL  
MSAMUNCHYMARTNO  
BPECUMASTERSEEG  
GRBMCBAFREEZER  
WRTMEUORSXBZLVB  
SZAXFSMAZQMHPGZ  
USHDVL TJGEULKAE  
MTZCUBAEPZBLOGU  
MUA KHAETRP IZNPR  
EDIZASTVT KQHFEW  
RELBLYYELIBRARY  
XNGLLG FQVKNZEMZ  
NTQLSLGZZWJGCWY



Word Wheel

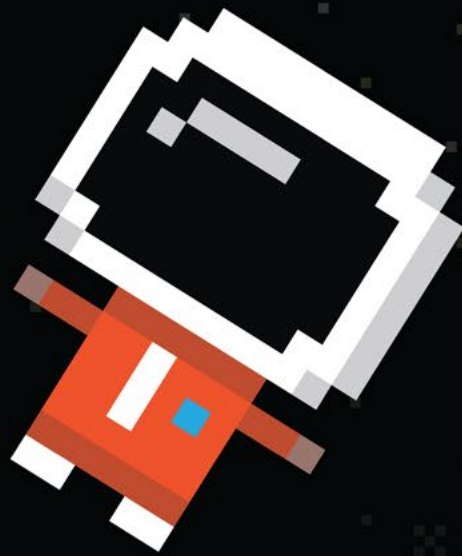
- 10. Thanks for playing
- 20. Solid Effort
- 25. Clever
- 30. Genius
- 35. Expert
- 40. Wizard

Munchy Mart Lecturer Semester Halls  
Graduate Library Flatting Ubiquitous  
Masters Freezer Craccum Fee  
Course Student Summer  
OGGB

The aim is to create as many words of 4 letters or more, always containing the centre letter, never reusing a letter.

There is at least one word using all letters.

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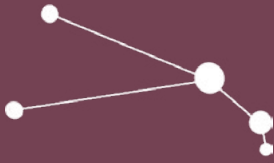
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# HOROSCOPES

Hard to hear truths for O week

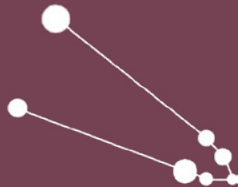


ARIES

MAR 21 - APR 19

## Time to stop playing devil's advocate in lectures:

The lecturer has in fact devoted their life blood to studying and teaching this course and neither they, nor your long-suffering fellow students want to hear your controversial 'hot take' of the week. Keep your head down and keep grinding. (Save it for the finsta aye)



TAURUS

APR 20 - MAY 20

## As per your last email, let's once again address your issues with passive-aggression:

I know, I know, you have 23+ things to attend to on that pesky to-do list of yours and the inane life forms around you aren't making them any easier to blow through. Slow down, smell the cotton-candy flavoured vape on campus and maybe put on some 'Guided Meditation for Positive Energy, Relaxation, Peace and Good Vibes' 🙌 (Your last email made someone cry).



GEMINI

MAY 21 - JUN 20

**Having 14+ unopened messages doesn't make you a star:** Call your mum back. Please. We're both begging you. Put down the rager O week agenda you've planned for yourself (nice) and use the next 5 minutes to reply to all your loved ones, let them know you're safe in this shit weather and that you'll see them for dinner soon!



CANCER

(JUN 21 - JUL 22)

**Honour thy time to meal prep:** hey babe, your insta story has been suspiciously full of amano lunch breaks with the lads recently...how's the bank account looking?? Take this as your sign to cut up some carrot sticks and make yourself a damn sandwich before you're out the door tomorrow. A reminder that student living costs do in fact have to be paid back - and one meal on campus with friends per week is enough!!



LEO

(JUL 23 - AUG 22)

**Piss people off:** Yeah you heard me. It's been a tough couple of months for you, so feel free to run your mouth on campus to blow off some steam! Ask an economics major why we can't just print more money? If they bring up Quentin Tarantino, tell the film and media students you've never actually heard of him? He can't be that good? Swing by the music block and pronounce Bon Iver incorrectly in front of an indie student just to feel something. Don't rub in that their library got shut down though - the arts are underfunded and it's a serious uni-wide issue.



VIRGO

AUG 23 - SEP 22

**Are you sleeping enough?** That was a rhetorical question. The oracles (and a quick google search) told me that you require a minimum of 7 hours per night. The new influx of work + uni + being the 'mum' of your friendgroup is not an excuse to take care of everyone / thing but yourself. Set some damn boundaries (and a later alarm) and catch up on them zzz's. (We love you though, thank you for your service.)





SEP 23 - OCT 23

**You flirt, you!** And you know what I commend it! Get out there this week and tell the person you've been eyeing up in lectures that they're cute. Slide into 20 different tinder dms and use Cyclone Gabriella as a thinly veiled means of checking up on them. Sure, sure, hooking up with people in your cohort might make things a bit awkward in the years ahead - but you stay radiating main character energy! It's all for the plot.



OCT 24 - NOV 21

**Yesss girl, start your day at 4 pm!!** No, I'm obviously taking the piss. I know you say you're open to constructive criticism and then cry when you get it but seriously: Get your vitamin D deprived butt out of bed earlier and go on a walk or something. Hell maybe even get a few lecture recordings in. Talk to the person sitting next to you in class. And while you're at it, drink some water!! Coke no sugar is not a valid substitution.



NOV 22 - DEC 21

**Stop watching tarot tiktok videos on your fyp!** Your ex is indeed, not coming back and they're not your twin flame either - just a bit of a dick. You've already wasted too much of this week using manifestation audios. Time to stick to those 5 'new year, new me!!'-esque tweets u posted and read your prescribed reading list as religiously as you're reading they-who-shall-not-be-named's instagram page.



DEC 22 - JAN 19

**No more comparing and contrasting on LinkedIn:**

Stop freaking out that the girl from highschool biology won the Prime Minister's scholarship and is off in France eating good bread and representing our country. We've been through plagues, floods, cyclones, and the world's ending anyway! Get yourself a croissant from Countdown, maybe some cheese, and calm down. You have time to accomplish everything that you want to.



JAN 20 - FEB 18

**Get over yourself:** Well, well, well, I see that despite your unyielding insistence that star signs are stupid and you can't 'stand those star sign chicks' *ala* Jessie from MAFS, here you are - finding your allotted section and reading away. Things aren't looking up for you. Mostly because the author isn't a huge fan of your star sign, but hey, the magic crystal ball picked me to write this section and not you. Despite years of astrology telling you that you're different and special - no you're not. Put down the radiohead record you're playing on your alty recordplayer and go do something nice for a loved one.



FEB 19 - MAR 20

**Cut down on those vices!** Repeat after me: nicotine and energy drinks do not constitute a full meal. Substitute some of those unhealthy coping mechanisms with healthier ones - make yourself a warm meal and take a nice hot shower! If a tree fell on your power line this week, I've heard cold showers are super revitalising too! (I'm sorry) All in all, hang in there and stay curious about all the incredible things you are sure to do with your life! And no doomscrolling for 2 hours on tiktok tonight (you heard me).



Hey, keen to win  
some AirPods?



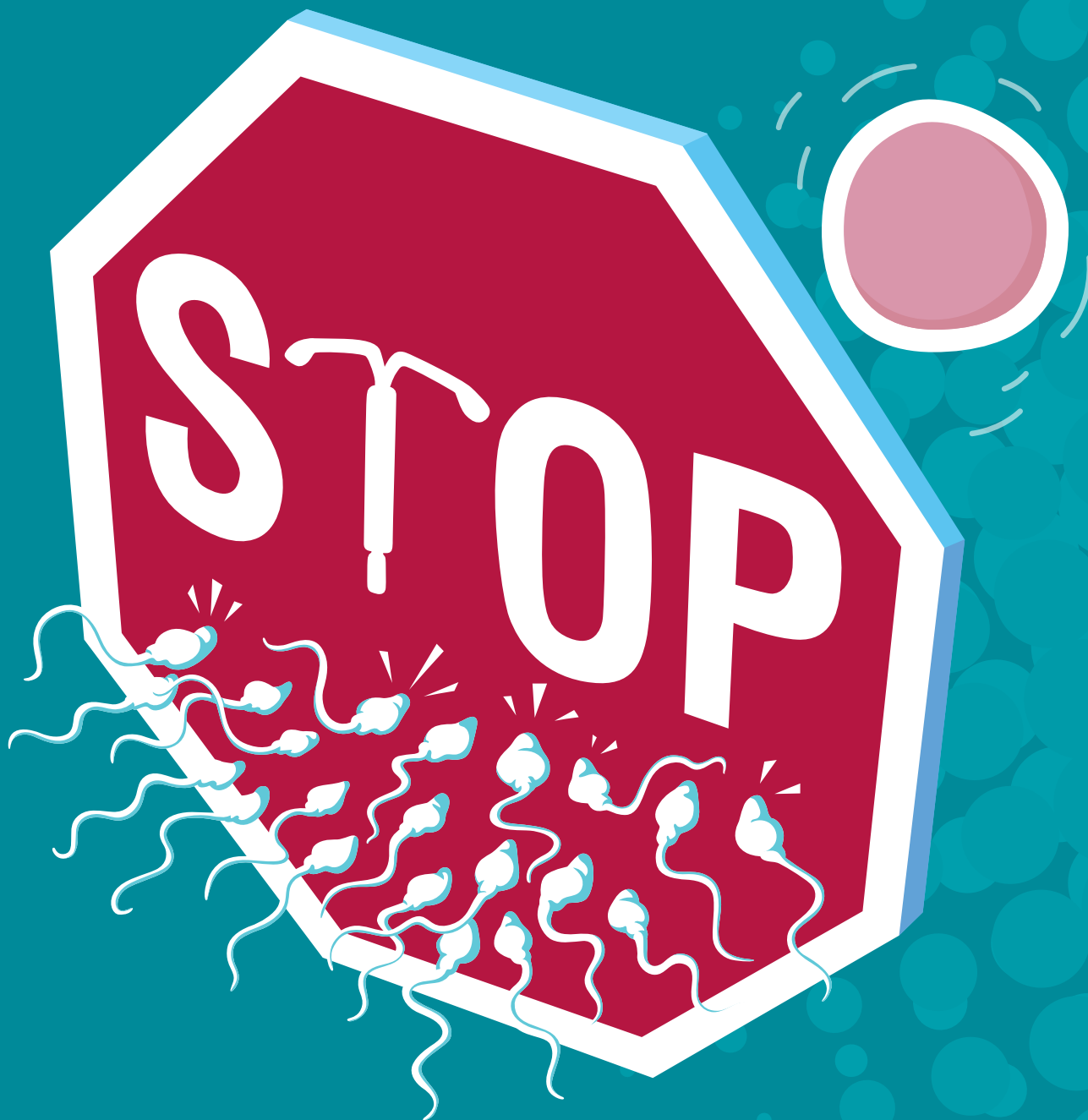
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