

Jamie Berry

Ngāti Ruanui, Ngāti Porou, Te Aitanga-a-Māhaki, Rongowhakaata, Ngāpuhi

URU (Glover Park installation)

Digital video and soundscape (11 mins)

The outdoor installation will be a focal point for 113 Taranaki and feature three pou firmly rooted in Glover Park. This will mirror the concept we are developing for the indoor area just outside, which will be easily accessible to the public. Visitors can relax by the sculptures during the day, and feel the vibrations of sound travel through each pou, and as night falls, moving images and lights will be projected onto the pou to create a warm ambiance in the area.

The project is accompanied by immersive audio soundscapes that vibrate the pou and captivating visual projections, all interwoven with the presence of wai, or water. We have streams that travel under the city landscape and were the essential life force for Māori during pre-colonial times.

The ultimate result is the intentional establishment of a space dedicated to healing, where the wai (travelling under the city landscape) serves as a channel for us to connect with and nurture ourselves and our broader environment. Water is synonymous with life. In the Maori world, wai, or water, is considered the essence of life, akin to the blood of Papatuanuku. It holds a crucial place in our existence and physical bodies, reflecting its significance in the natural world.

The artist has taken the profound concepts of wai/water, acknowledging its intrinsic value, its transformative qualities as it absorbs and reflects its surroundings, and its ability to amplify energy. These ideas have been intricately woven into an artwork that encourages us to attune ourselves to the messages of the whenua, urging us to embrace our responsibilities as guardians and offering opportunities for healing interactions with sound frequencies, and the multisensory artwork.

Drawing inspiration from Dr. Masaru Emoto's work, the intention is to project healing vibrations back to the whenua, wai, and audience, revitalised, potentiated, and imbued with positive energy. This display of reverence and ritual represents an intuitive reconnection with the practices of our ancestors, who revered and protected our wai/water with great care and love.

The base foundation of the soundscape is structured around Jamie Berry's DNA, the chromosome sequences coded to natural elements, taonga puoro, and sound frequencies attuned to healing. The sound of Tīpuna (ancestors) being present directly connects to wairua (spirit), to the past, present, and future. The visual content is a narrative of acknowledgment of the past, being in the present, and utilising what is now, as well as bringing landscapes and visuals from home. A virtual call is created through all these layers, a virtual turangawaewae is made... a safe space, a place to be and remember, connect, and ground.

Showing from 14 - 27 April | Connected to Taranaki St installation | [Details here](#)