



# *Ātārangi Whenua - Shadow Land*

*a pacific conversation of ancient remembering...*

A Touring exhibition by painter **Penny Howard** and Poet **Doug Poole**

## **Whangarei**

Arts Promotion Trust

13th - 27th October 2009

## **Auckland**

Artstation Toi Tu

11th - 26th November 2009



# Introduction

Kia Ora, Talofa Lava, Welcome indeed, Penny Howard and Doug Poole first collaborated for the inaugural "Metonymy Project" in 2008, which joined selected Visual Artists with Poets. The project ran for 6 weeks, the only brief being for the visual artist and poet to work together in creating a piece of art.

Penny invited Doug to view her exhibition "Souvenirs from my Monkey Mind", at Letham Gallery in Ponsonby, Auckland. This meeting introduced Doug to Penny's art and the Buddhist teaching of the "monkey mind". Doug responded to Penny's art producing a poetic work he entitled "P I C T U R E C A R D S", endeavoring to create cinematic stanza's the "monkey mind" can explore and discard for the next. Penny responded to Doug's poetry, creating a series of 12 paintings

incorporating her own dialogues throughout the work. The connection to family ever present, Penny included her daughter Sybella, son Finn, and Doug's daughter Waipapa in the work. Families are of importance within Penny's art, as are the flora and fauna that live within it.

The work produced became "Atārangi Ahau – Shadow Me", the collaboration was highly

commended and shared first equal as the best collaborative project of Metonymy. Judged by an esteemed panel of judges, who were John Pule, Evan Woodruffe, Simona Albanese, CK Stead, Genevieve McClean.

The work "Atārangi Ahau – Shadow Me", was purchased by Dr Renee Liang and generously donated to the Waitakere City Council, and is on display on the first floor of the Waitakere City Council building.

This second collaboration "Atārangi Whenua" continues the dialogue and creative process employed in the first collaboration. The concept, a conversation, a meeting of two cultures, became a meeting of many, Maori, Samoan, Irish, Scottish, & English.

The works produced both poetic and visually are an expression of two different artist's dialogue of finding ones cultural identity. A dialogue of Whanau/ Aiga, Whakapapa/ Gata are expanded in this second collaboration "Atārangi Whenua". The works are a voyage in the Va and follow a continuum of time. Commencing from an unknown date somewhere early in the history of the pacific and pulling forward into the present time.

Penny and Doug's dialogues explore the loss and longing for ancestors and grandparents. Explore family histories of each artist discussing early ancestors, effects of the pacific Diasporas, colonisation, a murder ballad and lament the war in Samoa of 1899. The series of painting and poems trace very personal memories for each artist and attempts, metaphysically, to reconnect the past to the future. Penny Howard is a qualified and experienced arts practitioner in fine arts, her technique of painting on cut out silhouettes is innovative. Penny places images on metaphoric silhouettes. Folds within the "Va" (the spaces between us all) to launch from. Recreating the emotive forces of memory & reality; metaphor & motion.

Doug Poole's poetry speak of his "place to stand", his Aiga and his unique view of "Afakasi Culture". Being labeled an "Afakasi" (half caste) his journey is to validate the stories and deep love for all things Samoan. Doug's poetry uses a mix of poetic and prosaic form to tell his unique stories.

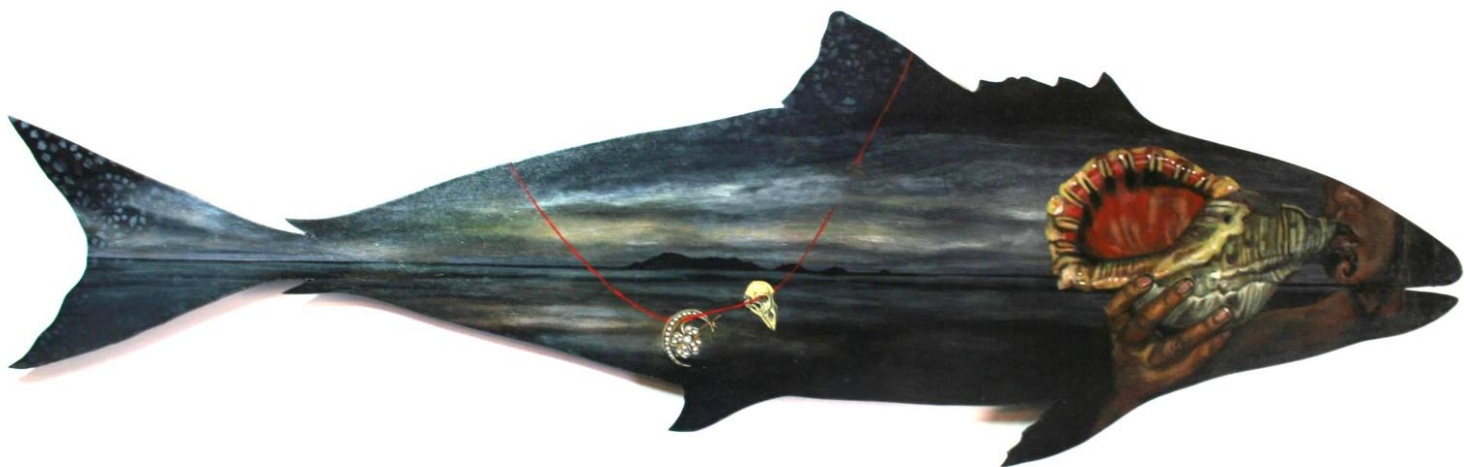
Penny Howard would like to acknowledge, Chief Moka Te Kainga-Mataa, Marea Kuri Te Wao Moka, Tom Cassidy, Molly Hewitt, and very special thanks to Barry, Sybella, Finn. Special thanks to Brad and Karina.

Doug Poole would like to acknowledge, Peter Christian Ulberg , Edwina Ulberg-Stowers- Poole, Sogafai Ulberg, Henry Ulberg, Peter Ulberg, Caroline Ulberg and Albert Fries. Very special thanks to Anja, Jarah, Waipapa, Parone.

Penny & Doug would like to acknowledge the support from Kathryn Tsui & the team at Artstation Gallery, Sandy-Lee Bell & team at APT Gallery & Okai Oceanikart Gallery, Marilyn Kohlhase, Bridget Marsh and Jen Fuamana & Brent Kerehona.

Ahiahi, sundown  
The hanging-up of weapons and transformation to Taonga  
Change, shape shifting, slippage, stutter,  
The space between  
This is the space of dreaming, nightmares, pouliuli,  
Te po roa (the long night)  
Anchor and drift - haiku and tere  
Rest and restless





**A Pacific Conversation of Ancient Rembering**  
Penny Howard 2009

The monkey mind  
The surfacing of past and mingling of future  
Shapes in the shadows  
Portals for Va and Ma  
Bloodlines  
Loss and longing, a grandmother's wisdom  
Pre-dawn promise  
The first gulls cry  
Follow the red thread...





**Manutukutuku O Tagaroa**  
Penny Howard 2009

Gather up the bloodlines  
Fight for them, as gulls would  
Reclaim them, pull them from  
the dark recesses, our bones, our teeth

Gather up the bloodlines  
Fight for them, as gulls would  
Reclaim them, pull them from  
the dark recesses, our bones, our teeth







**Tai Pari O Maraia**  
Penny Howard 2009

Katiti became Cassidy

Watered down

Watered down

Watered down

Gather up the bloodlines  
Fight for them, as gulls would  
Reclaim them, pull them from  
the dark recesses, our bones, our teeth

*send me my Waka Tipuna*

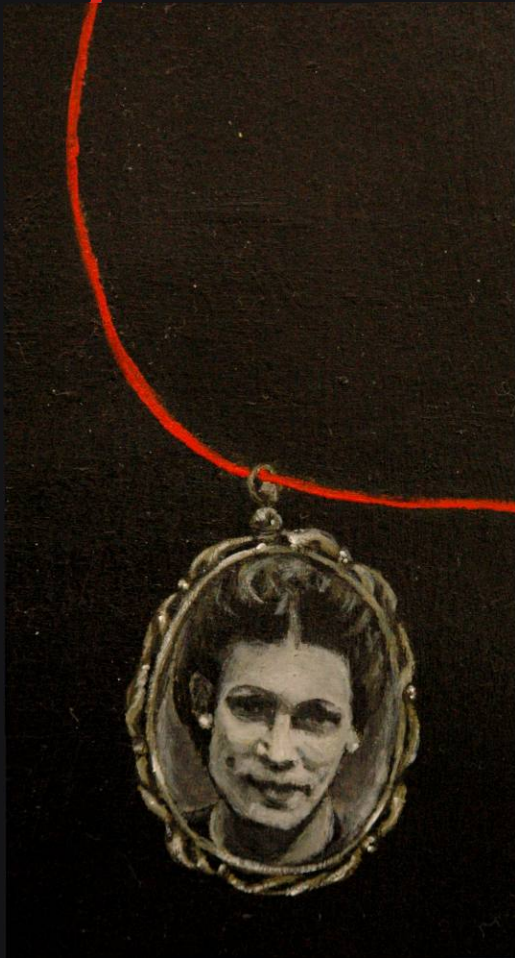




**Posala and Gogosina**  
Penny Howard 2009

The twin screws  
unfurling wail  
*Posala awaits me*  
*that is my dream,*  
*I saw him by Hibiscus*

*& he saw me.*







**The War of 1899**  
Penny Howard 2009

We lived on my land in Tulaele.

A dwelling house (Papalagi), a copra house, kitchen & a large Samoan house.

Tables chairs, don't remember how many; one big mirror, two big clocks & lots of other things. Three bedsteads, boxes of clothes, wash stands; some fine mats, but only two were taken.

It was all lying about broken and destroyed, so was the crockery

No, I don't remember any more.





**He Manu Aroha Te Miromiro**  
Penny Howard 2009



*Haere takū miromiro*

Look beyond the black  
Bring me home my lover  
Bring my lover back





**Moka's Utu**  
Penny Howard 2009

Moka replied:

*That is good O governor, That is straight. But let me see?*

*Where is Baker, where is the fellow?*

*Ah, there he is—there standing!*

*Come, return to me my lands.*





**Molly's Tide**  
Penny Howard 2009



*Molly's towel swoops the tide  
Penny Pops the apple of her eye  
Scuba masked & snorkeled takes  
a lungful of Grandmother's pride*



Atārangi Whenua  
Penny Howard 2009



As dawn alights internal middens  
quietly wait to be transformed into Taonga

*I nga wa o mua*, we must remember  
We must teach our tamariki  
It is the past which will guide our future

Foraging, evading, exploiting  
Quiver little sparrow,

Dad's steady bone knife hand  
flattens, shucking pipi's & cockles  
*alive alive aue, alive alive aue*

The chickens sleep too &  
I wonder if they know  
we are leaving next week?



I felt it as a kid  
before I even knew my history  
I had chosen my mountain  
Pataua Mountain

# Art Exhibition

## **Whangarei:**

Art Promotion trust (Northland) - Whangarei

Saturday 10th October – Wednesday 28th October 2009

Opening Night: Monday 12th October 2009 5.30pm till 7.30 pm

Official welcome 6.00 pm **sharp**

Arts Promotion Trust (Northland)

The Old Library Building . 7 Rust Ave .

PO Box 959 . Whangarei . New Zealand .

Phone: +649 430 6432 Fax: +649 430 7475

Email: [info@apt.org.nz](mailto:info@apt.org.nz)

Web [www.apt.org.nz](http://www.apt.org.nz)

## **Auckland:**

Art Station - Ponsonby Road, Auckland

Wednesday 11th November – Thursday 26th 2009

Opening Night: Tuesday 10th 5.30 pm -7.30 pm

Official welcome 6.00 pm **sharp**

Art Station

1 Ponsonby Rd,

Newton, Auckland

Ph +649 376 3221 Fax +649 307 7645

Email: [artstation@aucklandcity.govt.nz](mailto:artstation@aucklandcity.govt.nz)

Web: <http://www.aucklandcity.govt.nz/whatson/arts/artstation/default.asp>

# Biographies

**Penny Howard** (b.23 November 1973) in Whangarei. Penny is Ngapuhi, sub-tribe Mahurehure, canoe Ngataki-Matawhaorua and ancestor Rahiri. Also of Irish and Scottish Descent.

In 1992 Penny left Whangarei to study at ASA school of art in Auckland. Penny was in the first group of students to receive their Bachelor of Visual Arts degree (majoring in painting). Throughout the 4 years at ASA Penny exhibited regularly in the ASA gallery, in various group exhibitions. The two tutors who influenced her most over this time were John Reynolds and Julian Dashper.

Employed part time at Auckland Regional Council as an illustrator and graphic artist. Her role at the Auckland Regional Council became Creative Director and after a few years she took on the roles of Sponsorship and Internal Communications Coordinator, during this time she was also selected for an Emerging Leaders Programme.

Penny worked at the Council for 7 years in a team that created groundbreaking environmental campaigns for Auckland. These include 0800 Smokey campaign, Enviroschools and The Big Clean up Campaign.

In 2005 Penny held her first solo show titled "My Monkey Mind" at the Auckland Botanic Gardens Visitor Centre, 'Hua Kiawaka'.

In 2007 Penny held her second solo show. "Souvenirs From My Monkey Mind", held at Letham Gallery in March 2008.

In 2008 Penny was a finalist in the Waitakere art awards and one of 6 finalists in the Walker and Hall National Two dimensional Art award.

In 2008 **Atārangi Ahau** (the work produced for the Metonymy project) was bought and in 2009 it was gifted to Waitakere City Council, it is now hung in the Council as part of their permanent loan collection.

In 2008 Penny's journey has led her to become represented by "**O'kai Oceanikart** gallery" in Auckland.

Her passion will always be family and Art. She is keenly interested in finding the stories from her own family history and the effect of colonisation on the Pacific, both environmentally and politically.



# Biographies

**Doug Poole** (b. 2 November 1970) is of Samoan and English descent.

He is descendant of the Ulberg Aiga of Tulaele, Apia, Upolo.

Doug is the creator and editor of blackmail press, an online poetry journal. Which he has self funded and produced since June 2001. His journal Blackmail Press has become a highly regarded online poetry journal.

Doug has been featured in poetry journals around the world, the most notable being, Trout issue 11, Stalking Tongue Volume 2: Slamming the Sonnet, Fugacity 05: nzepc feature, OBAN 06 – nzepc feature, Paper tiger media world poetry CD 3 and published in print Niu Voices: Contemporary Pacific Fiction 1, Huia Publishers 2006.

Doug has performed his poetry at Auckland City Library, Samoa House. Read at Auckland Universities Strata 7, and Translate3, series of readings. Performed at Poetry Live, Montana Poetry Day, and been interviewed on Radio Bfm, Kiwi FM and National Radio.

Doug appeared with Selina Tusitala Marsh, Serie Barford and DJ Kamali at the Auckland Readers and Writers Festival in Auckland 2007, as part of Niu Voices, Contemporary Pacific Writers discussion panel.

Doug's latest projects include:

2008 Atārangi Ahau (the work produced for the Metonymy project) was bought and in 2009 it was gifted it to Waitakere City council, it is now hung in the council as part of their permanent loan collection.

2008 "POLYNATION" a CNZ Funded, (from the Pacific Arts Committee) performance poetry show that headlined at Queensland Poetry Festival (QPF), August 2008 and Going West Readers and Books Festival, September 2008.



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