

## KEREAMA TAEPA BIO

Kereama Taepa has a Masters degree from Massey University in Māori Visual Arts from Palmerston North. Taepa's involvement in the arts have been broad and varied including bronze technician at the Dibble Arts Foundry and participating in various national Māori arts symposiums, workshops and hui, and design work.

Taepa has worked as a kaiako in arts and design at tertiary level, lecturing within Toi Ohomai Institute of Technology's Bachelor of Creative Industries Degree and Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangi's Te Toi Whakarei Paetahi degree in the Bay of Plenty.

Kereama Taepa has exhibited his work nationally and internationally, and is held in important collections across New Zealand and abroad. His design work is seen across Aotearoa also through brands and specialist campaigns.

He recently exhibited within Nuit Blanche, Toronto 2022 and was also included in the major Contemporary Māori Art exhibition "Toi Tu Toi Ora", Auckland Art Gallery, 2021. He has multiple public works across Aotearoa and unveiled his last public work "Tohorā" on the Kāpiti Coast, 2020. He is a Supreme Award winner of the Rotorua Art Awards 2017, the Molly Morpeth 2D Art Award in 2008 and recently received the Runner Up Award at the National Art Awards 2018.

For the last decade, Taepa has sought to establish himself as Aotearoa's most leading contemporary Māori digital artist. This has been cemented with his 3d animated work "Poupou Matihiko", being the first digital artwork acquired in New Zealand's Parliamentary Collection. His work explores themes of digital culture and its impact on Māori culture, and how Māori use technology to further serve the generations of the future. His work utilizes emergent technologies such as projection, 3D printing, augmented Reality and virtual reality to tell narratives of the past and the present.