

Visions of building Pacific representations through the arts

An Oceanic Imagination:
A Tribute to the Life and Mind of 'Epeli Hau'ofa
University of Otago, October 2009
Luisa Tora

The Rebirth of Cool: Through the Gendered Looking Glass

- **Preface:**
- **Meeting 'Epeli**
- **USP in the 90s**

Meeting 'Epeli



USP in the 90s



USP cont'd





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The Rebirth of Cool

- **Oceania Centre for Art & Culture – a new era of Pacific art**
- **“The Centre for me was home”**
- **“If it wasn’t for ‘Epeli and Oceania Centre...”**
- **Asserting our place in the new era**



Through the Gendered Looking Glass

- **Viewing art, literature and the media through a gendered lens**
- **Where were the women?**
- **Re-writing history**



24 September 2008
Oceania Centre for Art & Culture

46 artists

**Fiji, Rotuma, Vanuatu,
Solomon Islands, Amerika
Samoa, Kiribati, New
Zealand, Australia and the
US**



Poetry, prose, film, painting, multimedia, photography, sculpture, print-making, fashion design, dance and music



Patroness: Prof. Konai Helu-Thaman

**Curators: Frances C. Koya, Ann Tarte,
Jakki Leota-Ete, Luisa Tora**



Aims: to promote the arts as employment option, to source funding and conduct training, to promote quality art education, to increase the visibility of women in the arts.

Vasu: Pacific Women of Power publication



Partnerships: Oceania Centre for Art & Culture, USP, SPC, Fiji Museum, Fiji Women's Rights Movement, NZAID, Creative NZ, Alliance Française, French Embassy, Fiji Times, Legend FM, Kriz Signs, Oceania Printers, Traps Bar, Carpenters South Pacific Ltd.



**“All the mausis are at
Oceania Centre!” - Stephen
Saigal Singh**





RIP 'Epeli 'George' Hau'ofa