

Department of Languages & Cultures
2018 Research Seminar Series

A Talk by Dr Moira Fortin Cornejo
Department of Languages and Cultures

**The interplay of ‘traditional’ cultural elements in the
production of contemporary Rapanui, Māori, and
diasporic Samoan theatre**



In Rapa Nui there is a general reluctance in the performing arts to deviate from ‘tradition’ or to declare work as ‘contemporary.’ The reproduction of ‘traditional’ styles and stories is one response to ongoing colonialism in Rapa Nui, and to the ever present demands of the tourist industry.

Māori and Samoan theatre practitioners in Aotearoa have developed theatre forms and processes that are based in cultural values and epistemologies while also being integrated with European theatre techniques, creating innovative approaches to ‘contemporary’ themes and understandings. These developments in the creative arts are supported by the availability of a wide range of theatre education opportunities. Culturally reflective and situated approaches to theatre education have enabled Indigenous theatre practitioners in Aotearoa to use theatre as a forum to express ideas and issues to the community weaving in a variety of different cultural influences, and techniques.

Tuesday: April 24, 2018

2:00pm

A3N7 3rd Floor Arts Bldg.