



TELLING OUR STORIES:
CONTEMPORARY PACIFIC WRITERS
IN A GLOBAL WORLD

Chalan Santo Papa, Reflection Center, Suite 106, Hagåtña, GU 96910

T. 671 472 4460/1 | F. 671 472 4465 | E. info@humanitiesguahan.org | www.humanitiesguahan.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - June 3, 2022

Humanities Guåhan Presents:

Sångani i Taotao ni Estoriã-ta, Telling Our Stories: Contemporary Pacific Writers in a Global World

Poetry • Workshops • Readings • Performance

featuring Hinemoana Baker

8-12 June 2022

Hagåtña, Guam—Humanities Guåhan is pleased to present *Sångani i Taotao ni Estoriã-ta, Telling Our Stories: Contemporary Pacific Writers in a Global World*, an upcoming series of poetry workshops and a community event featuring Māori and Pākehā poet and performer Hinemoana Baker.

The series will take place from June 8-12, and is funded by a grant awarded to Humanities Guåhan from the Mellon Foundation in partnership with the Federation of State Humanities Councils. The series is part of the nationwide “Democracy and the Informed Citizen” initiative.

Hinemoana is an award-winning poet and musician from Aotearoa New Zealand, and currently a doctoral student at the University of Potsdam, Germany. In addition to publishing four poetry collections and producing five albums of her original music and poetry, Hinemoana has delighted audiences with her solo stage shows, which include sonic art, lyric poetry and family storytelling. Her most recent poetry collection, *Funkhaus* was shortlisted in 2021 for the Ockham New Zealand Book Awards, the premier literary honors for books written by New Zealanders.

While visiting Guam, Baker will teach poetry workshops for youth, college students, community organizations as well as an advanced workshop for published poets and writers. She will also perform original music and read from her poetry collections during a community presentation on Friday, June 10, 6:00 pm at the Guam Museum, Indoor Theater. Register for this free event at: hinemoana-in-guam.eventbrite.com

“It is significant that our project, *Sångani i Taotao ni Estoriã-ta, Telling Our Stories: Contemporary Pacific Writers in a Global World* focuses on the craft of storytelling within poetry, music and performance as Guam shares in a rich oral tradition found throughout Pacific communities,” said Humanities Guåhan Executive Director, Dr. Kimberlee Kihleng. “We hope the poetry tour with this wonderful artist and scholar will inspire our community to share their stories through creative writing, poetry or music in local, regional and global media and publications, helping to ensure that voices from Guam and wider Micronesia are heard.”

Humanities Guåhan is a nonprofit organization that provides foundational support and educational programs for the people of Guam. The mission of Humanities Guåhan is to foster community

engagement and dialogue, inspire critical thinking, celebrate diversity and enrich the quality of life of island residents through the power of the humanities.

For More Information:

Kimberlee Kihleng, Executive Director, 472-4463, kkihleng@humanitiesguahan.org

Leslie Reynolds, Grant Manager, 472-4462, lreynolds@humanitiesguahan.org

Further Reading:

Funkhaus (Te Herenga Waka Press, 2020)

Waha | Mouth (Victoria University Press, 2014)

Koiwi Koiwi | Bone Bone (Victoria University Press, 2010)

Matuhi | Needle (Perceval Press & Victoria University Press, 2004)



###