

Ka mua, ka muri

The Great Aotearoa History Show

a Hī Hā school production

CHOREO DANCES (see videos): Kererū (Aro); Riroriro (Aro) *or* your own Kapa Haka item *or* Row, Kiwi, Row Your Boat (Pio Terei); Pūkeko (Aro); Anei Ngā Taniwha (JGeeks & the Geeks); Peke (Te Nūtube: Atareta Milne & Te Haakura Ihimaera-Manley) *or* source & sing E Oma Rāpeti; The Wreck of the Diddle (Fatcat & Fishface); Tahī, Rua, Toru, Whā (Anika Moa); Korimako (Aro) *or* source & sing a suitable song of your choice, e.g. Pepeha by SIX60.

STORYDANCES (tamariki move freely to audio, as guided by the story): ‘Gondwana & the Land of the Birds’; ‘Arrival of the Māori’; ‘Europeans, Musket Wars and Te Tiriti’; ‘The NZ Wars, part 1’; ‘The NZ Wars, part 2’; ‘The Making of a Pākehā Colony’; ‘From War Time to Boom Time’; ‘From the 60s Into the Future’

CHARACTERS:

DANCE GROUPS:

Manu/Birds (includes Kererū)

Kapa Haka (includes Kaihautū/Steerer, Kupe, Kupe’s wife, Māori settler, Moa)

Moana/Waves (includes Samuel Marsden, Traders 1&2, Fashionistas 1&2, Hongi Hika, Te Rauparaha, Tāmāti Wāka Nene, James Busby, Edward Gibbon Wakefield, William Hobson, Henry Williams, Rangatira 1&2, Crowd Members 1,2,3,4,5)

Muramura/Flames (best for oldest tamariki; includes Wiremu Kīngi Te Rangitāke, Governor George Grey, Duncan Cameron, Rewi Maniapoto, Te Whiti o Rongomai)

Rāpeti/Rabbits (best for youngest tamariki; includes Farmer(s))

Castaways (includes Sarah Courage, Colonist Reporter, Canterbury Times Reporter, Kate Sheppard, Henry Wright)

Hipi/Sheep (includes Richard Pearse, Ernest Rutherford, Jack Lovelock, Elizabeth McCombs, Jean Batten, George Sellars the Parachuting Santa, Michael Joseph Savage, Oswald Mazengarb)

Flower Power (includes Peter Snell, John Walker, Whina Cooper, Nana, Kid)

OTHER CHARACTERS:

MCs: 1&2

Martians: 1&2
Shrek the Sheep
Potato
Goldrusher
Security Guards
Teacher (a real member of staff! Sits briefly in front row then exits)
European Explorers: Abel Tasman, Jean de Surville, Marion du Fresne, James Cook, Jules Dumont d'Urville

COSTUMES: Choose from super-simple or spectacular!

Super-simple: All dance groups wear t-shirts and caps (for sale from hiha.co.nz or use your own); Martians: Martian headbands (see instructions); Shrek: sheep mask (see video); other characters choose historical clothing if desired

Spectacular:

Dance Groups:

Manu/Birds: bird masks (see video)

Kapa Haka: traditional Māori costumes

Moana/Waves: blue with blue streamers attached to wrists

Muramura/Flames: red with red streamers attached to wrists

Rāpeti/Rabbits: rabbit ears, tails

Castaways: ragged sailors' clothes

Hipi/Sheep: sheep masks (see video)

Flower Power: 70s hippy fashion

Martians: Martian headband (see instructions)

Potato: a sack

Other characters: historical clothing as appropriate

SOUND EFFECTS: jazzy music; a spaceship landing (both optional); a mobile phone ringing

PROPS: Spaceship (could be a digital image); 2 water pistols; NZ flag

Director's note:

If space permits, keep the cast up- and side-stage during the show; if not, a smaller group of children could enter the stage to recite the opening/closing words.

StoryDances: tamariki move freestyle as guided by the story. You should aim for continuous movement throughout, e.g. if you hear 'March!', keep marching until you hear a new action. The lines of all characters in the StoryDances (except Kererū, Mōa and Kaihautū) are recorded as part of the audio. Tamariki should say their lines along with the audio if possible; if not, they can mime or simply act.

Very small cast? Use the 'super-simple' costume option and combine dance groups. Characters within StoryDances can be played by the same person; MCs can be played by a single person, as can Martians.

Music for performances may be streamed directly from our website, but we recommend avoiding any internet connection problems by downloading the songs on Spotify or similar (search for the song titles or artists' names). Please note, music rights for public performance are not included. Schools should hold the standard One Music Schools Licence (most schools already have this.)

'Ka mua, ka muri' refers to the whakatauki/proverb: 'Kia whakatōmuri te haere whakamua': we walk backwards into the future, our eyes fixed on the past.

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[Opening karakia of your choice]

ALL CAST *[performing suggested actions]:*

Time's a story, time's a dance
Can we choose or is it chance?
Rocking, rocking, side to side,
Face the past or run and hide?
Turning, turning, round and round,
Rise up high or hit the ground?
Will we change? Will we learn?
Forward, back, twist, turn,
Forward, back, twist turn,
Forward, back, twist, turn.

[Jazzy music (optional). Enter MCs]

MC 1: Kia ora koutou! Nau mai, haere mai, welcome to [name of school's] Great Aotearoa History Show! Before we start, we have two warnings. Warning number one: please switch your mobile phones to silent, or we'll be forced to call security.

[A mobile phone rings.]

Security!

[SECURITY GUARDS enter. TEACHER with mobile phone in the front row is marched off.]

MC 2: Warning number two: this show contains violence, death and themes which may offend, including unfair treatment of sheep and potatoes. If you are sensitive, we suggest you leave.

[SHREK sitting in front row of audience stands and exits, baa-ing.]

MC 1: And now, without further ado, let us transport ourselves back in history, to a time when – Wait, what’s going on?

[Spaceship lands. Enter MARTIANS with ‘laser guns’.]

MARTIAN 1: Hooga hooga hooga beelop beelop. Whoop!

MC 1: Are you... Martians?

MARTIAN 2: Zoogie zoogie bom bom bom.

MC 1: Sorry, we don’t speak Martian. Do you have a translation app or something?

MARTIAN 1: Oh yeah. *[Looks at mobile phone.]* Hello. Is this parliament?

MC 1: No, it’s a school production.

MARTIAN 1: Oh. Our maps aren’t very good yet. Never mind. We are Martians. We have come to take over New Zealand.

MC 2: You want to take over New Zealand? Security!

SECURITY GUARDS *[entering]:* We don’t do Martians. We’re not paid enough. *[They exit.]*

MC 1: You can’t just take us over!

MARTIAN 2: Yes, we can. You’re a tiny country at the end of the world. You have no identity. You’re practically part of Australia.

MC 2: We are NOT part of Australia! We haven’t been part of Australia for 85 million years.

MARTIAN 1: So what? You have no history worth talking about.

MC 1: No history worth talking about? We have an incredible history! Stay and watch our show! You’ll soon find out.

[Manu Dance Group enters, flapping.
StoryDance: Audio 1: Gondwana and the Land of the Birds
Manu Dance Group dances freely, as guided by the story]

AUDIO 1: Once, long ago, the land that would become Aotearoa began to move. Slowly, it twisted and turned. It stretched out its arms. 85 million years ago, it split apart from the great southern continent, Gondwana. This is the beginning! In swooshes the Tasman Sea. It waves from side to side, side to side; up and down, ki runga, ki raro, ki runga, ki raro. It swirls and whirls and twirls: hurihuri, hurihuri. New Zealand is never still. Earthquakes shake and shiver the land. Volcanoes make it jump. Rivers twist and wriggle like eels, mountains shrug their shoulders, trees stretch tall to the sky. And then come the birds: flap, flap, flap. Tūi fly, pīwakawaka twirl, kererū guzzle berries till they're dizzy. Flap, flap, flap. Some birds walk, or else they hop; why bother flying? No people, no predators. Just the sea waving from side to side, up and down, ki runga, ki raro, the trees stretching to the sky, the whirling, twirling wind: hurihuri, hurihuri. Flap, flap, flap. From the fish in the sea to the berries on the trees, New Zealand belongs to the birds.

KERERŪ: And especially to me: Kererū!

MC 1: You've eaten too many berries, you greedy guts.

KERERŪ: It's a hard job, but someone's gotta do it.

*[Choreo dance: Manu dance group performs Kererū by Aro, exits.
Enter SHREK]*

SHREK: Baa! Sorry I'm late!

MC 2: Late? You're early, Shrek! Sheep don't arrive for another thousand years. Security!

[SECURITY GUARDS enter, drag SHREK away]

MARTIAN 2: What *is* that thing? It's terrifying!

MC 2: It's just a sheep.

MARTIAN 2: We need reinforcements. Time to bring in the other Martians.

MC 2: The other Martians? How many other Martians?

MARTIAN 2: Only a few million. Don't worry, we'll do a treaty or something.

MC 2: Um... why don't we just watch the next item?

... to be continued