



**NATALIE MARIA** (prev. Surname Clark)

**Contemporary Dance Creative**

Bach. Performing & Screen Arts (Contemporary Dance)

UNITEC New Zealand 2009-2011

[www.nataliemariaclark.com](http://www.nataliemariaclark.com)

+64 (21) 0272 1026

[hellonataliemaria@gmail.com](mailto:hellonataliemaria@gmail.com)

Based in Aotearoa New Zealand | Born Rotorua NZ

## ARTISTIC OVERVIEW

**Key Skills:** Contemporary Dance Technique; Improvisation; Choreographic Direction; Partnering; Contact Improvisation; Interdisciplinary Performance; Rehearsal & Assistant Direction; Voice; Creative Writing; Dance Administration; Life Model.

A versatile artist with a diverse, multi-disciplinary body of performance work anchored in contemporary dance & choreography, Natalie's practice is currently interested in:

- the ability for the body's language to transcend everyday human exchange
- embodying & integrating metaphysical concepts and alternative wellness / healing methodologies
- physical / subtextual power dynamics, social structures and relationships
- utilizing the (female) body as a 'live & loaded' political symbol
- reconciling masculine and feminine energies within the dancing and holistic body
- collaborating with like minded artists across disciplines to create performance events

She's performed with:

NZ Fashion Week, Red Leap Theatre, Auckland Arts Festival, Malia Johnston w/ Auckland Live, Splore Festival, Young and Hungry Theatre Trust, The Performance Arcade, and Charles Koroneho / Lilibeth Cuenca Rasmussen for Living Room Festival.

Natalie has created more than eight independent choreographic works, which have continuously supported by various funding bodies and presented all around Aotearoa. She has been commissioned to choreograph work for Footnote NZ Dance, T.H.E. Dance 2nd Co. Singapore (via an Asia:NZ Foundation and Creative New Zealand residency) and music videos for Candlelit Pictures.

In 2018, Natalie undertook professional development at International Dance Week Budapest including with tutors from Gaga/Dancers (Natalie Iwaniec), Akram Khan Company (Ching-Ying Chien) and SUB:LAB (Peter Juhasz); and in 2019 at Footnote NZ Dance's annual Chorelab, learning Depth Movement with Edivaldo Ernesto.

Natalie is proudly a 2011 graduate of UNITEC and continues to collaborate with former classmates and teachers, contracting occasionally with the institution as a technique assessor. She has taught professional classes for Foster Group Dance (Sarah Foster-Sproull) and Okareka Dance Company (Tairoa Royal and Taane Mete), and has teaching / choreographic relationships with St. Peter's Cambridge, Rutherford College, Westlake Girls' High School and Colenso College Napier.

## Training & Further Education

- **Bachelor of Performing & Screen Arts (majoring in Contemporary Dance)**  
UNITEC New Zealand, 2009 – 2011
- **International Dance Week**  
Budapest, 2018
- **Annual Choreolab - Footnote Dance Company**  
Wellington, 2019, 2018, 2016, 2013 & 2012
- **Secondment with Lucy Guerin Inc.**  
Melbourne, 2015

## Awards & Achievements

- **Asia:NZ Foundation Choreographic Residency: T.H.E. 2nd Company (2018)**  
Supported by Creative NZ, creating new work for M1 Asian Festival Exchange, The Esplanade Theatre, Singapore
- **Edinburgh Festivals Intensive (2018)**  
Supported by CNZ to attend and research / network at Edinburgh Fringe & International Festivals, including representing NZ at the International Culture Summit
- **Nominated: Best Music Video, Vodafone New Zealand Music Awards (2014)**  
Choreographer: *Stranger People* by Doprah
- **Winners: Best Dance & Best Newcomer, New Zealand Fringe Festival Awards (2013)**  
Choreographer & Dancer: *How To Make Friends and Still Appear Normal*
- **Shortlisted for Footnote Dance Co. (Company Dancer) (2011)**  
November 2011 application round
- **Various Funding Grants (2011-2018)**  
Received from Creative New Zealand, Asia:NZ, Auckland Council and other entities over the past eight years

## Dance Performance Highlights

- **CHAOS - Jason Lingard**  
New Zealand Fashion Week, Auckland 2017
- **The Art of Colour (WOW remount) - Rifleman Productions (Malia Johnston)**  
Auckland Live Summer in the Square, Auckland 2015
- **Chorespond - Lucy-Mary Mulholland**  
Splore Festival, Auckland 2015
- **Elephant in the Garden - Phoenix Performing Arts**  
Cutting Edge Conference, Dunedin 2014
- **Demigod/Half-Human - Shani Dickins**  
Short + Sweet Dance Festival, Auckland 2013
- **How To Make Friends and Still Appear Normal - Black Sheep Productions**  
Auckland, Dunedin & Wellington Fringes 2013; Christchurch Body Festival & Tempo Festival (Fresh Cuts), 2012
- **Faux Pas - Black Sheep Productions**  
Dunedin Fringe Festival 2012 & Auckland 2013
- **The Performance Arcade: Circular Persuasions - Serene Lorimer & Elise Chan**  
Wellington Waterfront, 2012
- **Never Again - Sarah Foster-Sproull**  
Unitec Graduation Season, Auckland 2011
- **Living Room Festival: "The present..." - Charles Koroneho & Lilibeth Cuenca Rasmussen**  
Auckland, 2010

## Choreographic Highlights

- **Transit - T.H.E. Dance 2nd Co. [Singapore]**  
The Esplanade, M1 Contact Contemporary Dance Festival 2018 - Asia: NZ Foundation and Creative NZ residency
- **Old Tricks New Dogs - Black Sheep Productions**  
Basement Theatre, Auckland 2017
- **Everything Anyone Ever Wanted - Black Sheep Productions**  
Q Theatre MATCHBOX season, Auckland 2016 - funded by Creative NZ and co-presented by Q Theatre
- **Revilery - Footnote Dance Company**  
'NOW' season: Wellington, Auckland & Hamilton 2015 [commissioned]
- **{presence} - Black Sheep Productions in collaboration with Joe Citizen**  
Hamilton Gardens 2015 - funded by Creative Communities Waikato
- **Apt Y Idos - Black Sheep Productions**  
Q Theatre, Auckland 2014 - funded by Creative NZ and Arts Alive (Auckland Council)
- **How To Make Friends and Still Appear Normal - Black Sheep Productions**  
Auckland, Dunedin & Wellington Fringes 2013; Christchurch Body Festival & Tempo Festival 2012
- **Faux Pas - Black Sheep Productions**  
Dunedin Fringe 2012 & Auckland 2012 - funded by Creative Communities & Dunedin Fringe Funding

## Directing Highlights

- **ORCHIDS - Foster Group Dance (Sarah Foster-Sproull)**  
Assistant Director & Producer | Q Theatre Auckland & Circa Theatre Wellington 2019; Tempo Dance Festival, Auckland 2017
- **Sisters of the Black Crow - Foster Group Dance (Sarah Foster-Sproull)**  
Assistant Director | Tempo Dance Festival, Auckland 2016
- **Mana Wahine - Okareka Dance Company**  
Rehearsal Director | New Zealand Tour, 2014 & International Remounts 2016 & 2017
- **K' Rd Strip - Okareka Dance Company**  
Choreographic Advisor | Edinburgh Fringe remount, Auckland 2015
- **Assistant Director / Rehearsal Director: Demigod/half-Human**  
Shani Dickins, New Zealand tour 2013-14

## Screen Choreographic Highlights

- **Stranger People - Doprah [Music Video]**  
Candlelit Pictures, Auckland 2014
- **Golden Town - Suren Unka [Music Video]**  
Candlelit Pictures, Auckland 2014

## Other Career Highlights

- **Creative Producer: Foster Group Dance**  
For Choreographer Sarah Foster-Sproull for *ORCHIDS* (2014-2019); *Double Goer* (2018-9); and *Gender Panic* (2019).
- **Co-creator and Performer: 2am Phone Call**  
in collab with The Liquid Sunlight Collective, Basement Theatre Auckland 2017, BATS Theatre NZ Fringe (Wellington) 2018
- **Devising Collaborator and Dancer / Performer: Little Child of Miracle**  
with Christopher Stratton, Auckland 2016

## Current Project(s)

- **blut [Berlin & Auckland, 2020]**  
A new multidisciplinary solo work supported by Creative New Zealand, looking at inherited psychosomatic experiences, particularly within female genealogy.