

**BLACK TIES**

## ILBIJERRI THEATRE COMPANY AND

**TE RE-HIA THEATRE** | **AUSTRALIA**

AND **AOTEAROA/NEW ZEALAND WORLD PREMIERE SEASON**

Photo: Garth Oriander

**BLACK TIES**



**ILBIJERRI THEATRE COMPANY** AND **TE RĒHIA THEATRE** | **AUSTRALIA** AND **AOTEAROA/NEW ZEALAND WORLD PREMIERE SEASON**

SYDNEY TOWN HALL 10–18 JANUARY

150 MINS INCLUDING INTERVAL

#### Written by John Harvey & Tainui Tukiwaho Directed by Rachael Maza & Tainui Tukiwaho

**Set Design** Jacob Nash

**Composition & Musical Direction** Brendon Boney

**Lighting Design** Jane Hakaraia **AV Design** James Henry **Sound Design** Laughton Kora

**Costume Design** Te Ura Hoskins

#### PERFORMERS

Jack Charles Mark Coles Smith Lana Garland

Tawhirangi Macpherson Lisa Maza

Tuakoi Ohia Brady Peeti Tainui Tukiwaho Dalara Williams Dion Williams

#### BAND

Brendon Boney Mayella Dewis Laughton Kora

**Producers** Nina Bonacci, Amber Curreen, Laila Thaker

**Production Manager** Nick Glen

**AV Mentor** Sean Bacon

**Audio Engineer** Jake Luther

**AV Operator** Sean Bacon, James Henry

**Stage Manager** Casey Norton

**Assistant Stage Manager** Nazaree Dickerson

**Company Manager** Jamara Maza **Technical Consultant** Paul Lim **Design Assistant** Hannah Murphy

**ABOUT THE SHOW**

Two families, two cultures... too much!

For Maori corporate hotshot Hera and Aboriginal consultancy entrepreneur Kane, it was love at first sight. Ambitious and career focused, Kane and Hera have their perfect future all mapped out. But there is one thing they can’t control… their families!

As the biggest mob get worked up for the blackest wedding ever, reality is sinking in. Fast! Will this international love story bring two strong cultures together? Or will it blow Hera and Kane’s world apart?

**ILBIJERRI THEATRE COMPANY**

ILBIJERRI Theatre Company is Australia’s longest established First Nations theatre company. ILBIJERRI creates, presents and tours powerful and engaging theatre creatively controlled by First Nations artists that gives voice to culture.

**TE RE–HIA THEATRES**

Established in 2012, Te Re-hia Theatre is a proudly

Ma-ori theatre company, championing Ma-ori playwrights, tikanga Ma-ori arts practice and the presentation of

diverse stories.

**THANKS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Original concept developed by: Kamarra Bell Wykes, Albert Belz, Amber Curreen, John Harvey, Rachael Maza & Tainui Tukiwaho.

Special thanks to the Turnbull Foundation for their support, and to the following collaborators who contributed to the creative developments for *BLACK TIES*: Nelson Baker, Suri Bin Saad, Mark Coles Smith, Erina Daniels, Kristel Kickett, Miriama McDowell, Jennifer Medway, Ngaire Pigram, Jarod Rawiri, Melodie Reynolds, Rickylee Russell-Waipuka, Iain Sinclair, Regan Taylor, Maria Walker & Tyler Wilson-Kokiri.

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Te Rewarewa Marae.



*BLACK TIES* was commissioned by AsiaTOPA, a joint initiative of the Sidney Myer Fund and Arts Centre Melbourne; and has been assisted by the Australian Government’s Major Festivals Initiative, managed by the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body, in association with the Confederation of Australian International Arts Festivals Inc., Sydney Festival, Perth Festival, New Zealand Festival of the Arts, Auckland Arts Festival, AsiaTOPA Festival and Brisbane Festival. *BLACK TIES* is also supported by Creative New Zealand and The Wilin Centre for Indigenous Arts & Cultural Development. ILBIJERRI Theatre Company is assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body, and by Creative Victoria and City of Melbourne.

ILBIJERRI Theatre Company and Te Re-hia Theatre Company acknowledge and pay respect to the Country that we travel through and share stories on. We acknowledge and pay our respects to the Traditional Owners, Elders, Ancestors, and young leaders. We acknowledge, with full respect,

the strength of First Nations people and communities, continuing to practice culture, and connection to Country. We acknowledge, with full respect, the power and excellence of First Nations people and communities fighting to protect and look after Country, Community, Language and Lore, in the face of ongoing colonial interruptions

and cultural genocide. Always was, always will be, sacred Indigenous land.

**ALSO A**



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**THEATRE**

# OPENING

**NIGHT**

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