

SOMETIMES LOVE CAN'T CONQUER ALL

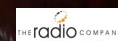
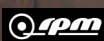
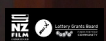


*Pūmanawa*  
THE GIFT

*Directed by*  
**POATA ERUERA**



TAUIHU MEDIA presents in association with THE NEW ZEALAND FILM COMMISSION, NGĀ AHO WHAKAARI and FALA MEDIA  
NGAHUIA PIRIPI RAWIRI PENE 'PŪMANAWA: THE GIFT' NICOLA KAWANA KEPORAH TORRANCE  
cinematographers DAVE GARBETT, ANDREW MCGEORGE music by GARETH VAN NIEKERK editor PETER ROBERTS production designer LYN BERGQUIST  
costume designer LOUISE DAVIS makeup designer LEVONNE SCOTT video post RPM audio post CRAIG PERRY SOUND ex. producers WHETU FALA, KAREN SIDNEY  
producers TUI RUWHIU, POATA ERUERA writers MARIE THOMPSON, WAYNE TE TAI director POATA ERUERA  
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TAUIHU MEDIA Presents  
In association with  
THE NEW ZEALAND FILM COMMISSION, NGA AHO WHAKAARI and FALA MEDIA

*Pūmanawa*  
THE GIFT

TAGLINE:

Sometimes Love Can't Conquer All

LOGLINE:

A mother shares her own tragic past to stop her daughter repeating the same mistake.

SHORT SYNOPSIS:

Learning that her daughter is serious about a Christian boyfriend, a mother fears it will threaten a spiritual gift both women have inherited. She takes her daughter back to her own tragic past to show how loneliness, hope and faith can turn love into turmoil. Finally, the daughter must consider the meaning of love and the value of her precious gift.

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<b>Director</b>	Poata Eruera
<b>Producers</b>	Tui Ruwhiu
<b>Executive Producers</b>	Poata Eruera Whetu Fala Karen Sidney
<b>Cinematographers</b>	Dave Garbett Andrew McGeorge
<b>Written by</b>	Marie Thompson Wayne Te Tai
<b>Editor</b>	Peter Roberts
<b>Production Designer</b>	Lyn Bergquist
<b>Makeup Design</b>	Levonne Scott
<b>Costume Design</b>	Louise Davis
<b>Original Music by</b>	Gareth Van Niekerk

## PRODUCTION NOTES:

<b>Production Company</b>	Tauihu Media Limited
<b>Country of Production</b>	New Zealand
<b>Date of Completion</b>	October 2013
<b>Shooting Format</b>	SONY F65
<b>Exhibition Formats</b>	DCP 2K (Scope 2.39 2048 x 858) at 24, subtitles burned in HDCAM letterboxed to 2.35 at 23.98, subtitles burned in HD 4:2:2 Compressed ProRes 4:2:2 at 23.98, subtitles burned in HD 4:2:2 Compressed ProRes 4:2:2 at 24, clean (no subtitles) HDCAM SR letterboxed to 2.35 at 24, subtitles burned in HD 4:2:2 Compressed ProRes 4:2:2 at 25, subtitles burned in
<b>Screening Formats</b>	H.264 QT at 24 Blu-ray at 23.98 PAL DVD at 25, Region Free
<b>Aspect Ratio</b>	Letterboxed at 2.35:1
<b>Duration</b>	13 mins 28 secs 17 frames

**Colour / 13.48 mins / New Zealand**

## LONG SYNOPSIS:

1970. While teaching the sacred bread making ritual, Pare sees the crucifix given to her daughter by boyfriend Tommy. Her daughter believes it would make no difference to Tommy's love if he knew of her 'gift'. Mom doubts it. In flashback she shares her own childhood experience of star-crossed love.

1955. Pare, seventeen years old is ostracised by all but teenage neighbour and suitor Moses. She lives alone in a ramshackle hut. Spirit children are visiting to warn her of the impending crucifixion of her beliefs. Pare ignores them. Moses tells his pious parents he wants to marry Pare. Their refusal is adamant. Moses takes Pare to church. In front of his heavenly father he proposes. She joyfully accepts. Praying for God to bless their union he asks for her darkness to be expunged and not suffer the shame like her mother. Pare runs. When caught by Moses, the struggle at the fence tangles her head in a crown of barbed wire thorns.

1970. The scars of the barbed wire rest uneasy with the daughter as she takes the bread from the oven. With no more to be said, mother and daughter watch as the Spirits of past ancestors materialise to ritually accept a loaf of spirit bread then leave. With one loaf remaining, Pare takes it and dematerializes, leaving her daughter alone to decide her own fate.

## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT:

At dawn one Sunday morning my father went to get his axe from the chopping block. An owl was roosting on it. In Maori culture the owl is a messenger of doom. Ignoring the omen, Dad went to work for a European farmer clearing bush for pasture. Three hours later, my only sister was in an ambulance making a mercy dash to Auckland Hospital's Intensive care unit with serious head injuries. Auckland was two hundred miles away.

Over the following months my sister was in a coma. A stream of Maori shaman visited trying to wake her. Finally, and in desperation, my father turned his back on the shaman, on his culture. He faced God with an apology for working on the Sabbath and the promise to serve Him if his daughter be spared. After nine months in a coma, my sister opened her eyes.

Over the years I watched my father struggle between the Maori and the Christian spirituality. I also witnessed

## CAST:

<b>Young Pare</b>	Ngahua Piripi
<b>Moses</b>	Rawiri Pene
<b>Spirit Pare</b>	Nicola Kawana
<b>Daughter</b>	Keporah Torrance
<b>Spirit Tame</b>	Harlen Hoani
<b>Moses' Father</b>	Stephen Ure
<b>Moses' Mother</b>	Marie Thompson
<b>Spirit Girl</b>	Kaycee Hotu
<b>Spirit Boy</b>	Zane Hotu
<b>Spirit Man</b>	Tui Ruwhiu
<b>Spirit Woman</b>	Milaan Scott-Hart

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devout Christians sneak into the shadows to seek advice and help from a shaman.

*Pumanawa: The Gift* explores a conflict that still exists in many communities.

## **DIRECTOR'S BIO:**

### **Poata Eruera**

Poata began in film as a screen writer, but soon decided to also assist on projects to understand the nuts and bolts of filmmaking.

To develop his skills as a director, Poata travelled the Pacific between 1989-1994 directing TVC's for local markets.

In 1994, he directed his first drama narrative short film *Mananui*, funded by the New Zealand Film Commission (NZFC). *Mananui* went on to be selected for the Claremont-Ferrand, Hawaii and New Zealand film festivals.

Poata's next dramatic project was in 2000 when he directed *The Length of A Memory*, a one-hour historical docu-drama of New Zealand life between 1812 – 1860.

To further upskill, Poata attended the prestigious Binger Film Lab, in Amsterdam in 2004 - 2005, graduating from its Director's course.

Directing, script consulting and executive producing took a back seat in 2011 with the birth of his son. For the last two years, Poata has been the stay-at-home parent.

*Pūmanawa: The Gift* signals Poata's return to film making.

Poata is from the Ngati Whatua, Ngapuhi, Te Aupouri tribes of the indigenous Maori people of New Zealand. He lives in Auckland with wife Susannah and son Pūmanawa.

*Mananui* can be viewed here. <http://www.nzonscreen.com/title/mananui-1995>

## **PRODUCER'S BIO:**

### **Tui Ruwhiu**

In 2007 Tui turned his attention to film after more than 15 years as a writer, director, line producer, producer and executive producer in video, television and commercials, and then 10 years in marketing and communications managing a boutique, full-service agency. He embarked on a multi-year, self-education programme that included film writing, directing and producing workshops from Arista, Script Factory and others, to masterclasses with filmmakers including Rolf de Heer, Christine Vachon, Ted Hope, and Nadia Tass.

Tui received a New Zealand Film Commission grant in 2010 to attend the Rotterdam Producers Lab in The Netherlands. The following year NZFC supported his travel to Beijing, China for the MPA/CICE Film Workshop. A year later, a feature film project in development that Tui is co-producing was selected for the Beijing International Film Festival Foreign Coproduction Pitch & Catch.

From 2010 – 2012 Tui served as an executive producer on the NZFC Short Film Fund Premiere Shorts, involved in selecting and overseeing the production of four short films for this high-end initiative. He has maintained strong links with the NZ short film community, working as a reader, mentor and or selector on various projects, initiatives, workshops and panels.

In 2013, Tui wrote, directed and produced his first short, the comedy *Booger*, which was a finalist in the Tropfest New Zealand and Wairoa Maori film festivals. *Pūmanawa: The Gift* is his second short as producer. The same year he completed a weeklong script editor training programme as a mentee with Australian screenwriter and script editor Keith Thompson (*The Sapphires*, *Clubland*) on the NZFC's First Feature Film Lab.

As a film producer, Tui has a slate of feature film and TV drama projects in development with producing partner Bradford Haami under the Tauihu Media banner.

## CREW:

<b>Production Manager</b>	Dena Kennedy
<b>1st Assistant Directors</b>	Annie Frear
	Whetu Fala
<b>2nd Assistant Director</b>	Ashley Glover
<b>Continuity</b>	Kathleen Thomas
<b>Art Director</b>	Richard Cooke
<b>Key Grip</b>	Daimon Wright
<b>Assistant Grip</b>	Te Ra Whitinui Te Hei
<b>Gaffer</b>	Giles Coburn
<b>Best Boy</b>	Sam Jellie
<b>Gene Op./LX Assistant</b>	Anthony Waterhouse
<b>Lighting Assistant</b>	Tom Sorrell
<b>Sound Recordist</b>	David R Green
<b>Focus Puller</b>	Alyssa Kath
<b>2nd Assistant Camera</b>	Manon Lafitte
<b>Video Split/Data Wrangler</b>	Fergus Burnett
<b>Unit Manager</b>	Nicki Tremain
<b>Unit Assistant</b>	Jordan Puati
<b>Makeup Artist</b>	Vernetta Gulliver
<b>Makeup Assistant</b>	Merin Williams
<b>Wardrobe Assistant</b>	Tove Bennett
<b>Art Department Assistants</b>	Rochelle Gosling
	Donna Stout
	Holly Johnson
	Jordan Puati
<b>Stills Photographer</b>	Sharlene Ferguson
<b>Cultural Consultants</b>	Wayne Te Tai
	Brad Haami
<b>Cow Wrangler</b>	Tim Judd
	Donna Stout
<b>Chaperone</b>	Maata Hotu
<b>Catering</b>	Luscious
<b>Coffee Supplier</b>	Karajoz
<b>Production System</b>	Showtools
<b>POST PRODUCTION</b>	
<b>Colourist</b>	Peter Barrett
<b>Sound Design</b>	Gareth Van Niekerk
<b>Foley Artist</b>	Amy Barber
<b>Sound Engineer</b>	Craig Perry
<b>PRODUCTION SUPPORT</b>	Imagezone, RPM Picture, Craig Perry Sound, North-west Digital, K.I.S.S Theatre, Cinefocus New Zealand, Motion Slickness, South Seas Film and Television School, Focal Point Photos, Location Services West, Andy Schurr, Angela da Silva, Derek Townsend , Greg Wilken, Harry Harrison, J & L Van Stipriaan, Jef Grobben, Kevin Donovan, Michael Jemison, Nancy & Fred Alder, Rua Howe, Sam Fordham
<b>LOCATION SUPPORT</b>	Angela & Daniel Gray, Carly Frances, Clayton Tikao, Fran & Colin Dove, Hobsonville Church & Settlers Cemetery, Mrs Sparks, Sean Tracey Brown, Tim Judd

## SPECIAL THANKS

Waihou Marae, Nga Tupuna o Hokianga, Lavinia Kingi, Noa Campbell, Chris Hampson, Ella Henry, Leela Menon, Hone Pene, Johnny Neuhauser, Kath Akuhata-Brown, Kimana Eruera, Lisa Chatfield, Liz DiFiore, Maile Daugherty, Michael Bennett, Merina Henry, Susannah Limbrick, Tim White





