

# Te Ao Kapurangi

(Warrior Woman)

Presskit



TEL: 64 4 382 7680 FAX: 64 4 384 9719 PO BOX 11 546 WELLINGTON

LEVEL 2 THE FILM CENTRE 119 JERVOIS QUAY WELLINGTON NEW ZEALAND  
[www.nzfilm.co.nz](http://www.nzfilm.co.nz) [marketing@nzfilm.co.nz](mailto:marketing@nzfilm.co.nz)

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# Production Notes

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Writer/Director Tama Poata  
Producer Robin Murphy  
Production Company Te Hokioi Film & Publishing Co Ltd

Colour 9 minutes Beta SP 1:1.85 Dolby Digital

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## Log Line

Firearms are no match for the intelligence and courage of *Te Ao*

## Synopsis

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Upon her father's death, *Te Ao* takes on the responsibility of saving her tribe from the invading Ngapuhi. Although the battle seems weighted in their favour, *Te Ao* proves that firearms are no match for her intelligence and courage.

## Director/Writer Tama Poata

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*Te Ao Kapurangi* is a New Zealand period film depicting an episode of the 'musket wars' between indigenous Maori tribes who take advantage of new warfare technology supplied by British colonialism.

*Te Ao Kapurangi* is a New Zealand short film that illustrates only one visual of several 'musket wars' which quickly sprang up throughout the country as tribal access to white colonial muskets became easier.

Some Maori tribes recognised the newly acquired fire-power as more than a means to gain equality with traditional foes, but a golden opportunity for political and economic ascendancy. The armed invaders were able to settle old scores with a brutal passion. However, many pockets of resistance often displayed an un-sheakeable bravery in defence of their dwindling numbers.

Maori women were recorded as leaders in their own right and often fought alongside their men-folk in defence of their children.

*Te Ao Kapurangi* is one such woman who is dramatised from a true event in the annals of New Zealand's historical archives.

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# Credits

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## Cast

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<b>Te Ao Kapurangi</b>	Stephanie Grace
<b>Pomare</b>	Lawrence Wharerau
<b>Nga Puhi Chief 1</b>	Himiona Grace

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## Credits

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<b>Writer/Director</b>	Tama Poata
<b>Producer</b>	Robin Murphy
<b>Director of Photography</b>	Fred Renata
<b>Art Director</b>	Steven Jessup
<b>Editor</b>	Heather Small