

Sionemaletau Falemaka

born: 1/1/1962

Artist, Sionemaletau FALEMAKA is a triple citizen of Polynesian descendant, Born Niue in the year of the Tiger, educated in Niue, New Zealand and Australia, currently lives, studies, and works in Sydney, creating beaded work that incorporates feathers, seeds, beads, yarns, textiles and other mixed media. Sione was vigorously taught Polynesian weaving techniques as a child. The Falemaka art practice provides a contemporary insight and presentation and of maintaining and extending traditional Polynesian body adornment practice

Title and statement for the body of works presented:

Lalanga / Tuitui KAHOA FIAFIA (GARLANDS of JOY and naturally gifted)

Kahoa Patuiki, Kahoa Mitaki, KahoaTupe, Kahoa Liogi, Kahoa Tapu, Kahoa Feke Kahoa Taane, Kahoa Fifine, Kahoa Fuluola,kakia,manava ,sino katoa ,Kahoa Okioki, Kahoa Monuina, Kahoa Kohoa,Kahoa Fakaangaangaa ha Mele, ha Fakapoloto, ha Tata, ha Hakumaani, ha Matilafoafoa, ha Muetauseini a god who taught all the tagata tufuga fenua ,and Kahoa Loloa (the very long and never-ending kahoa)

Tuitui/ Lalanga Kahoa Fiafia made of glass beads, silk, linen, cotton and nylon yarns, buttons and other mixed media. The Niue Polynesian word Kahoa includes the meanings of “to be my supporter friend/ companion/ comrade”. These kahoa’s plays a distinctive role in personal adornment, as a marker of identity and usually given to welcome visitors and frequently gifted to show honour and regard to the recipient and traditionally passed on, acquiring mana, goodwill, prestige, and status as they moved from person to person