

Whānau Mārama

New Zealand International Film Festival At Home — Online

Pietra Brett Kelly & Joanna Paul
— Filmmakers, Tāmaki Makaurau

“Jo and I have decided all our discussions about the film we’ve just watched are going to be in te reo Māori. I know I will struggle to express myself as I’m still studying. It’s going to be this wonderful adventure.”

NZIFF.CO.NZ



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Amanda Jane Robinson
& Tom Augustine — Mt Eden, Auckland

"We think of the NZIFF as our Christmas every year. In the middle of winter, it's a time to gather around and enjoy the best thing in the world – films and filmmaking." — Tom

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Marty Duda — Eden Terrace, Auckland

"I moved to New Zealand from the USA in June 1994. I was on my own in a foreign country where I knew no one and so I discovered NZIFF. I remember being immersed in films like *What's Eating Gilbert Grape* and *Arizona Dream*."

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Dolina Wehipeihana, Huia, Iarere
& Te Marino Rawiri — Mt Eden, Tāmaki Makaurau

"Film-watching is a regular whānau activity in our house. We set the mattresses up in the lounge. I love the film festival. My absolute favourites are the *New Zealand's Best* and *Ngā Whanaunga Māori Pasifika* short films. I just love seeing the creativity, whakaaro and bravery of local short filmmakers." — Dolina

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Brodie Croucher & Mei-Lin Te Paea Hansen
— Kingsland, Auckland

"I love, love, love the film festival. I've grown up with it.
The films I've seen have saved my life, changed my life,
and brought romance, tragedy and beauty to my life." — Mei-Lin

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Richard & Janine Swainson — Hamilton

Met while Janine was an usher and Richard was a film reviewer. Married at the Regent Theatre (Te Awamutu) in a film-themed wedding. "We pore over the programme with highlighters, then match up the films we want to see together. Personally, the dance film is an annual must see." — Janine

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Mat Daniel (left) & Dakota Gibbs
— Upper Riccarton, Christchurch

“The film festival is my favourite time of year. Mat and I attend around 30 films – it’s a wonderful time of great cinema with a tinge of chaos as we run between screenings, and at some point the festival blurs together into one majestic celluloid memory.” — Dakota

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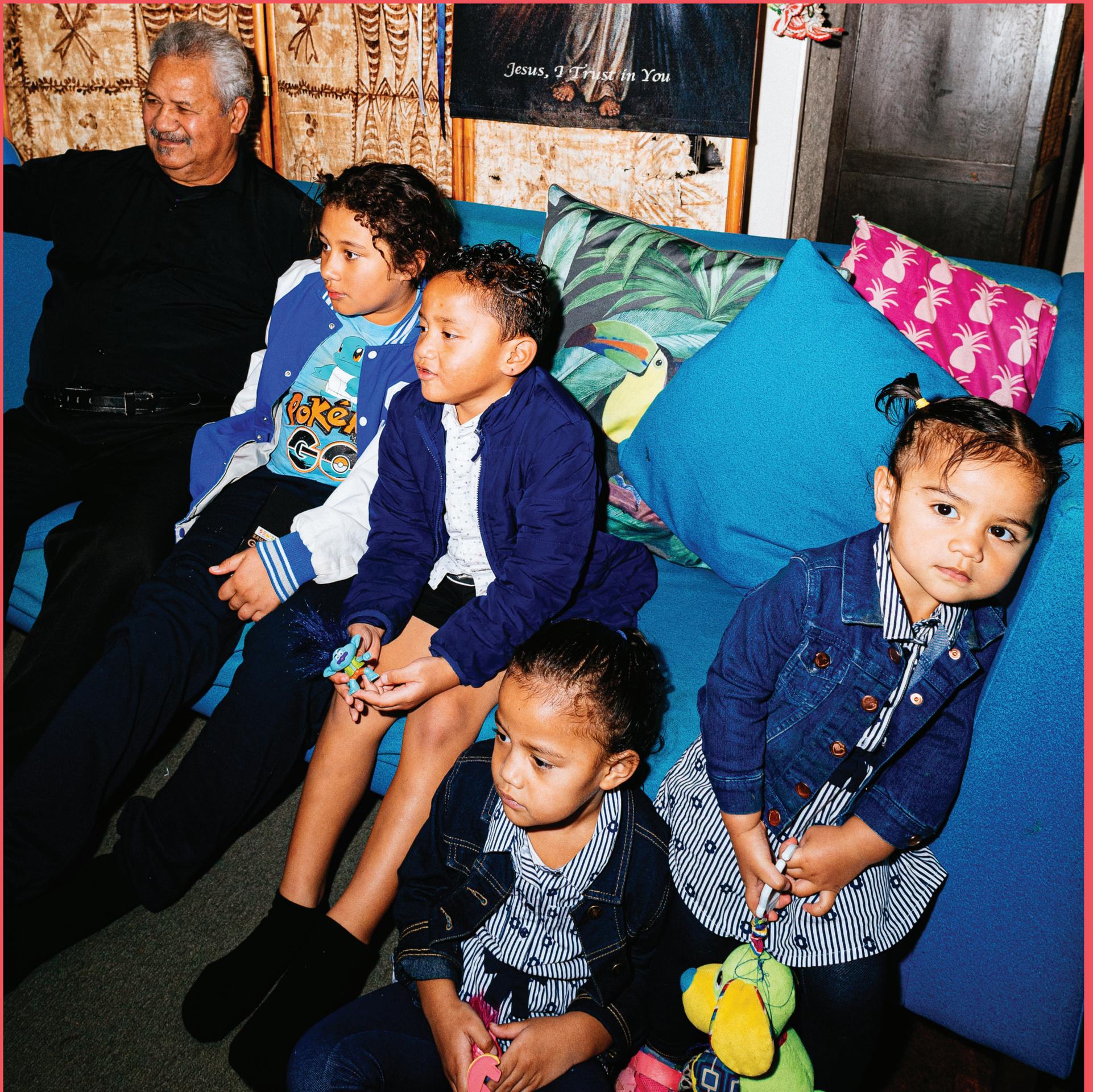
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Saia Mafile'o with grandchildren Malosi, Siosaia, Ilaiaane & Vasaliva — Manurewa, Auckland

"It's a good excuse for us parents to down tools, and lounge out with the children. It's a time for us to learn and be taken on adventures.

We get a lot of questions from the children during the film about everything, which is good and shows they are engaging." — Vea Mafile'o

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Hudson (9) & Malia (5) Hartley-Smith — New Plymouth

"I like films about giant monsters tearing away the fabric of reality." — Hudson

"I like films about pets and creatures." — Malia

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Don Howie — Former film festival projectionist
at The Civic, Auckland, now living in Timaru

“I go back about 35 years when the Festival came to Amalgamated Plaza theatre.
My job was making sure all the films were in the right order to screen.”

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Erin Harrington — Christchurch

“The film festival is a rare space that brings people together out of love and a genuine sense of curiosity. I’ve had so many viewing experiences that have changed the way I perceive and understand the world.”

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Dame Gaylene Preston — Mt Victoria, Wellington

"I've huddled under my coat in row A at the Embassy with my feet on the heater, I've been sung into the cinema for the premier of *Ngāti*, I've stood on the stage at the Mighty Civic to introduce my films – and then this year, a new adventure. As always the Festival evolves, changes with the times, and once more we feast. Let the show begin! Laugh. Cry. Scream. I'm ready."

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Kath Akuhata-Brown — Berhampore, Wellington
“I’ve always locked out the dates for the film festival as it’s an opportunity to immerse myself in the artistry of New Zealand filmmakers and to see new works from around the world. I love it. I especially love the passion and aroha New Zealand audiences show towards local films.”

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Sophie Fern — Macandrew Bay, Dunedin

"I'm looking forward to eating a number of noisy snacks while watching and not having to worry about the rest of the audience, something that I would never do in public! I'll be watching films from wherever is warm and comfortable — I'm not guaranteeing that I won't be watching films in bed! That'll be a real treat."

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Brannavan Gnanalingam — Ngaio, Wellington

“The film festival has shown me worlds that I’d have never seen otherwise. I heard voices I’d never heard from before. One of my great joys has been seeing something I’d never heard about from a director I’d never heard of, and having my mind-blown in the process.”

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24 July —
2 August

