



Award-winning electro-Māori artist Huia is set to empower with the release of her new 12-track album, **KAWAKAWA**, on **October 10th, 2025**. This thoughtful project, a fusion of rich imagery in te reo Māori (Māori language) with a global soundscape, promises a new flavour of te reo Māori music.

KAWAKAWA delves deep into themes encapsulated by its title, the Kawakawa plant, an important Māori rongoā (medicine) with healing and restorative properties, which is woven into the album's core kaupapa (theme).

Every waiata/song on the album has a visual world wrapped around with translations, which can be experienced on the **KAWAKAWA portal** - [HERE](#).

Waka Huia, Vessel: *Every being is a vessel of knowledge, matauranga.*

Tiaho Aho, Shine: *Haere ki mua, stepping into your moment.*

Kawakawa, Medicine: Music is healing like the power of our natural heritage, Aotūroa.

Wairangi, The Waters: *Knowing the right time to find your feet again, mihi ki te rā.*

Kākano, Seed: *The seed is as important as the bloom. Keep planting, kia puāwai tonu.*

Ao Pō, Daynight: *Keep your body and mind strong like your Maunga, ia rā ia rā.*

Rangimārie, Peace: *Meditative Zen song, to be in a state of peace, Rangimārie.*

HūHā, World: *Standing up for what's right, not what's easy, he kupu noa iho!*

Tuhi, Temple: *Being a temple without a key, the integrity in keeping kōrero (words) sacred.*

Maia, Nan Māmā: *A tribute to wahine lines, for Nan Māia for Māmā Helen, Māmā Barbara.*

Waiata Ua, Rainsong: *Singing with the forest rain, a deep memory, he whare ngāhere.*

Wero Wero, Challenge: *A reminder of what we fight for in Aotearoa, in our own unique ways.*

Recorded, mixed and mastered by **Chris Chetland** and **Huia** at Auckland's renowned **Kog Studio**, **KAWAKAWA** is the fruition of personal and extensive creative work by **Huia**, who is inspired by her travels to indigenous music communities in Canada, Scotland, Cymru (Wales), Australia and Japan. Experiencing the new music fusions has encouraged Huia to write an album that she loves.

Huia produced 6 of the 12 waiata, with symphony layers by **Stewart Allen**, with **Baitercell, Rei, Devin Abrams** and **Sean Richards** producing the rest of the tracks. All the stories were gently guided and translated by singer/language expert **Lois McIver**. Beyond this album, **Huia** is also recording for the release of a multilingual E.P. featuring collaborations with **Meta_** (Portugal), **Akawui** (Mapuche), alongside other multilingual collaborations, set for summer 2026.

A Kōanga (spring) release party on **October 10th** at **WHAMMY Bar** is hosted by **Kog** and **Hūhā Music**, celebrating the album's debut, new single 'Hoea Rā' by **Baitercell x Just2Māori** and features **Mokotron, Uncles, Swizl Jager, Rei** and **Andrew Manning**. **Huia** has graced international stages in 2025 at **Festival of Lights (Taranaki, Aotearoa)**, **Knockengorloch Festival (Scotland, UK)**, **Indigenous Music Summit, Imaginative Film Festival, Drom Taberna (Canada)** and **Osaka World Expo (Japan)**. **KAWAKAWA** is supported by **Te Māngai Pāho** and **Precise** as **HIKO** music.



HūHā/Kog release: Label/Media: huia@kog.co.nz / www.iamhuia.com / @iamhuia



KAWAKAWA releases, stats and credits to date.

- **Waka Huia:** Over **42,000** YouTube views, #1 on Ethnocloud, 40+ reviews, and #1 on Te Ahi Kā charts (RDU), performed live at WOMAD, on international gigs and showcases and collaborations such as V2 with Portuguese **Meta_** and **Max Maxwell** remix. Music Video shot live at **WOMAD** (Aotearoa) by award-winning **Launch Media**, V2 by **Meta_**. Music by award-winning **Rei**.
- **Tiaho Aho:** Over **22,000** YouTube views, charting in Ethnocloud Top 40. Music Video Shot by **Chris Chetland**, produced by **HūHā** Music in Latoka, Fiji, music produced by **Rei**.
- **Kawakawa:** Over **9,000** YouTube views, charting in Ethnocloud Top 40, music video filmed in Atami, Japan, as part of the **TIMM** Music residence by **HūHā** Music. Music by **Rei**.
- **Wairangi, The Waters:** Over 9,000 YouTube views, charting in Ethnocloud Top 40, produced with award-winning producer **Devin Abrams** (**Pacific Height** and first **Shapshifter** albums). Music Video by **Chris Chetland** in Lautoka, Fiji, produced by **HūHā** Music and music by **Rei**.
- **Kākāno, Seed:** Over **14,500** YouTube views, featured as **George FM** Kiwi Discovery spot and playlist, selected as an Air NZ landing waiata for September, and over 12,700 Spotify. Kākano hit **#4 on the NZ hot charts** as the only te reo Māori and electronic song. Produced with award-winning **Baitercell** (Aka **Chris Chetland**) and **Huia**, video by **HūHā**.
- **(next) Ka Ao Ka Pō, Daynight:** is ready for release with the album, with a POV music video shot by artist/DOP **Sy_lokk** (Kohei Miki) featuring **Rei**, **Nicole Auger**, **Jellyfish Pavilion Musicians** and **Kahurangi Theatre Dance Group**, over 12 hours in Osaka, Japan, at the World Expo and downtown Osaka, video produced by **HūHā**, music by **Sean Richards**.
- All the songs will be released as singles with music videos in order, 5 more to come

Past Highlights: Huia was awarded **Best Māori Wāhine Solo Artist** at the **Waiata Māori Music Awards** and continues to pave the way for indigenous artists in Aotearoa. She was also nominated for **Best Solo Māori Artist** at the **SNR** (Student Network Radio) Awards 2022.

[Lullabies Of The](#) *World*, which hit **#11** on the German charts has **232,000** plays. Huia was invited to perform the Aotearoa lullaby **'Hine E Hine'** by the late artist/producer **Ramesh Weeratunga**.

Her features with **Rei 'Te Whakapono'** and **Sean Richards 'Tui Tuia o Whakapapa'** are 2 of the most rotated tunes in te reo Māori on George FM, Aotearoa's top dance station. **'Tukua Te Kūata, Love Now'** charted on the hot NZ charts at **#17**. **'Marama La Luna'** received wide playlisting, including on Spotify 'Te Reo Māori', Apple Music Daily, Te Wiki o te reo Māori, Qobuz Māori playlist, Waiata Anthem's playlist, RNZ promotion, and worldwide playlisting from Australia through to **CBC Reclaimed in Canada** and regular **Bnet** plays such as from **Radio One**, **Radio Active** and **Bfm**.



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