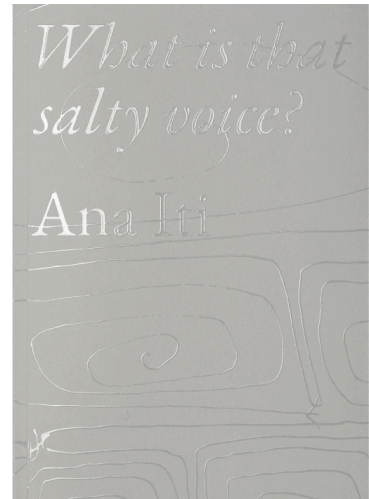


What is that salty voice?

Publisher	The Physics Room
Editors	Orissa Keane and Abby Cunnane
Contributors	Colleen Maria Lenihan, Essa May Ranapiri, Abby Cunnane
Designer	Eva Charlton
RRP	\$40 NZD
ISBN	978-0-473-71154-2
Size	140 x 240mm, 112 pages
Date	November 2024
Category	Visual Art, Contemporary Art, Essay, New Zealand



THE BOOK

What is that salty voice? is a publication developed in response to Ana Iti's 2023 solo exhibition, *I am a salt lake*, at The Physics Room. The 2023 project focused on Kapara Te Hau, the salt lakes near Te Waiharakeke (Blenheim) in Te Waipounamu, a first-person narrative meditation on a body of water, minerals, and the relationship between one's internal voice and the physical landscape.

What is that salty voice? features written contributions from Colleen Maria Lenihan, essa may ranapiri and Abby Cunnane. Lenihan writes as the artist's whanaunga and in connection with their shared Te Rarawa tupuna, Kupe; ranapiri writes about salt, saltiness, colonisation and the body; Cunnane writes about the physicality of grief and the salt lakes' algae in their red state. A series of still images by Iti, the beginning of a second chapter of work at Kapara Te Hau, completes this soft-colour publication, beautifully designed by Eva Charlton with working drawings by Iti throughout.

THE CONTRIBUTORS

Ana Iti (Te Rarawa, Pākehā) is an artist based in Te Matau-a-Maui Hawkes Bay. She works across sculpture, video, and text. Iti's work explores poetic and structural relationships between language and our environment, as well as the practices of shared and personal history-making. Iti has a BFA (Sculpture) from the Ilam School of Fine Arts in Ōtautahi Christchurch and a MFA from Toi Rauwharangi Massey University in Te-Whanganui-a-Tara Wellington. Iti was the recipient of the Grace Butler Memorial Award in 2022 and is a nominee for the 2024 Walters Prize.

Colleen Maria Lenihan (Te Rarawa, Ngāpuhi) is a fiction writer, screenwriter and photographer. Her first book, *Kōhine*, was published by Huia in 2022. Lenihan has held a number of residencies, Michael King Writers' Centre Emerging Māori Writer (2019); Newsroom/Surrey Hotel Winner (2019); the Dan Davin Literary Foundation (2021); and the Victoria University of Wellington, International Institute of Modern Letters (IIML) and Creative New Zealand Emerging Māori Writer's Residency (2023). Lenihan lives in Tāmaki Makaurau, where she is currently working on a book about her tupuna, Kupe.

essa may ranapiri (Ngaati Raukawa, Te Arawa, Ngaati Puukeko, Clan Gunn) is a poet who lives on the whenua of Ngaati Wairere. They have two collections of poetry, *ransack* (2019) and *ECHIDNA* (2022) published by Te Herenga Waka University Press. In 2023 ranapiri was the recipient of the Janet Frame Poetry Award and the inaugural Keri Hulme Award. They are co-editor of the literary journal *Kupu Toi Takataapui* with Michelle Rahurahu. They have a love for language, LAND BACK, and hot chips. They will write until they're dead.

Abby Cunnane (Pākehā) is a curator and writer, based in Ōtautahi Christchurch where she is director at The Physics Room Contemporary Art Space. Prior to this she worked at Te Wai Ngutu Kākā (then St Paul St Gallery) in Tāmaki Makaurau. She has worked with Ana Iti as a curator and written on a number of past projects, including *Kimihia te āhua* (Te Tuhi, 2020); *I do worry, waiting* (essay response to *A Dusty Handrail on the Track*, Parehuia McCahon House Residency, 2021), and *I am a salt lake* (The Physics Room, 2023).

THE PUBLISHER

The Physics Room is a contemporary art space dedicated to developing and promoting contemporary art and critical discourse in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Based in central Ōtautahi Christchurch since 1996, The Physics Room assists art practitioners with resources and opportunities to enable professional and creative development, and works to support the acknowledgement and understanding of contemporary art among New Zealanders.