

My throat/a shelter

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THE BOOK

My throat/a shelter is a new publication by The Physics Room. It developed from the 2023 exhibition *My throat/a shelter*, curated by Amy Weng, with newly commissioned moving-image works by artists Selina Ershadi and James Tapsell-Kururangi. The exhibition was situated in embodied and intangible systems of knowledge, as Ershadi and Tapsell-Kururangi follow family narratives embedded in oral histories, home videos, material portents and screen histories.

This publication features written contributions by Hana Pera Aoake, Manon Revuelta and Amy Weng. Weng's extended essay expands on her curatorial interest in Theresa Hak Kyung Cha's book *Dictee*, and brings Tapsell-Kururangi and Ershadi's work into contact with other writers and theorists to think about intercultural cinema, translation and temporalities. Aoake reflects on the unknown dimensions of parents and tūpuna in relation to Tapsell-Kururangi's film *Homman*. Revuelta's poetic response to Ershadi's two-channel film چشم چشم elucidates Ershadi's distinct filmic language across this and previous works. Accompanied by stills from Ershadi and Tapsell-Kururangi's films, *My throat/a shelter* is an incisive document of this significant moving-image exhibition.

THE CONTRIBUTORS

HANA PERA AOAKE (Ngāti Mahuta, Ngāti Hinerangi, Waikato/Tainui) is an artist and writer, who lives and works in Kawerau. They live beneath Pūtauaki maunga, where they write, read, parent, garden, make books and try to make art. They are currently working on a PhD from AUT. In 2024 they undertook a residency at the Delfina Foundation and will be publishing books in 2025 with Discipline (AU), no more poetry (AU) and Compound Press (NZ).

SELINA ERSHADI is an Iranian-born, Tāmaki Makaurau-based artist working within a lineage of experimental film forms. She holds an MFA from Elam School of Fine Arts and a BA majoring in English Literature from the University of Auckland.

MANON REVUELTA is a poet and arts writer living in Tāmaki Makaurau. Her work can be found in Michael Lett *Documents*, Blue Oyster Art Project Space, and *The Art Paper*. She holds an MA in Creative Writing from the International Institute of Modern Letters at Victoria University, and was awarded the 2019 Biggs Family Prize in Poetry.

JAMES TAPSELL-KURURANGI (Te Arawa, Tainui, Ngāti Porou) is a curator and artist based in Ōtautahi. Recent exhibitions include *Indigenous Histories*, Museo de Arte de São Paulo Assis Chateaubriand, São Paulo, 2023; *The long waves of our ocean*, National Library, Te Whanganui-a-Tara, 2022; *twisting, turning, winding: takatāpui + queer objects*, Objectspace, Tāmaki Makaurau, 2022; and *Matarau*, City Gallery Wellington, Te Whanganui-a-Tara, 2022.

AMY WENG is an independent curator, art writer and editor based in Tāmaki Makaurau. She was the former curator of The Physics Room (2022-24), and has curated projects at Te Tuhi, Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, RM, Meanwhile and Window Gallery. She was the organiser of the inaugural Asian Aotearoa Artists Hui (2017) and the founder of *Hainamana*, a website dedicated to Asian New Zealand contemporary art and culture (2016-2020).

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 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.