





# THE NAVIGATORS

By Malia Johnston, Kate Parker and Katie Wolfe



**Welcome to *The Navigators*. This year, the ATC creative team decided it was time for fresh thinking, time for provocations, time to challenge our accepted ways of theatre-making.**

We invited three Associate Artists whose work we admire, to come on board and stimulate our ideas of what performance can be: film and theatre director, Katie Wolfe, choreographer, Malia Johnston, and director and image-maker, Kate Parker. Each month we had a “creative outing” led by one of the group followed by a working session where we explored practice, planned, sketched out ideas and shared our aspirations. From this process has come the new works that make up *The Navigators*.

We hope you enjoy this rare opportunity to join bold talented creators and their collaborators as they open up their work processes and visions.

Huge thanks to Lynne and Philippa, to everyone at ATC for supporting the project, to our production manager, Andrew Malmo and designer John Verryt. To the dancers, actors and creators involved in the project and especially to Kate, Katie and Malia for a fabulously stimulating but all too short nine months. It’s been a blast!

Cheers

**Colin McColl, Artistic Director**

## ATC ASSOCIATE ARTISTS



### **Malia Johnston**

Malia graduated from Unitec with a Bachelor of Performing and Screen Arts in 1998, and since then has created a significant body of performance work including choreography for Auckland Theatre Company’s *Billy Elliot the Musical* last year. She was awarded the Creative NZ Choreographic Fellowship in 2013. Malia was the Artistic Director and choreographer of the World of Wearable Art Awards Show from 2002-2014. She has worked on public and commemorative events including the opening of the Pukeahu National War Memorial Park in 2015 and the New Zealand Day performance at the Shanghai World Expo in 2010.



### **Kate Parker**

An eclectic range of works and skills define puppeteer, physical performer, deviser and maker Kate Parker. Raised and educated in Northland, Kate graduated from the John Bolton School in Melbourne. She was a co-founder and an artistic director of Red Leap and co-creator of their acclaimed and award-winning theatrical adaptation of Shaun Tan’s *The Arrival*. In 2010 Kate was awarded with a New Generation Arts Laureate from the Arts Foundation of NZ.



### **Katie Wolfe** (Ngāti Mutunga, Ngāti Tama)

Katie is well known to audiences throughout New Zealand for her work on stage and screen. More recently she has focused her talents on directing, most notably for the acclaimed short film *This is Her*, and the telefeature *Nights in the Gardens of Spain*, adapted from Witi Ihimaera’s novel. Following on from her production of *The Women for Silo Theatre*, she has put her energy behind productions of a number of new New Zealand plays including *Luncheon*, *The Mooncake and the Kumara* and *Anahera*. Katie is one of the eight female directors behind International Film Festival hit *Waru*.

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**We’re very glad to share the beginning of these works with you. We’d love to hear your responses, so please join us after the show or email your thoughts to [literary@atc.co.nz](mailto:literary@atc.co.nz).**

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