

# Waiata –Mā wai e hua nei?

Kaitito / Composers – Hana O’Regan

Rohe – Kāi Tahu whānui

## Whakamārama / Explanation

He waiata tēnei hai maumaharataka mō kā tini kaumātua o Kāi Tahu i whakariaka koi ki kā tohetohe mō te Kerēme o Kāi Tahu i ō rātou nā wā. He kupu whakaohiti hoki ki a tātou o ēnei wā, kia kauraka e warea e te pōhēhē, i tūpono noa tātou ki kā hua o te Kerēme o Kāi Tahu, ehara!

Nā tērā huka kua riro ki te pō, me kā makorea o tautaiā pakaka e ora tou ana ērā rawa i whakawhiwhi. I titoa tēnei hai kīnaki mō te kōrero a taku hākui mā te whānau mō te rā whakanui i tō mātou hākorō, i kīia nei ko “Tipene, ō Tau”, i Ōnuku i te 5 o kā rā o Kahuru 2007.

*This is a song to commemorate the hundreds of elders who worked tirelessly in the fight for the Kāi Tahu Claim in their time. It is also a warning to the generations of our time, in case we may mistakenly think that we simply happened across all the resources we secured by way of the Claim. On the contrary! We have acquired them as a result of the efforts of those of who most have now passed away with the exception of a small group of survivors of the battle still with us today. This song was composed to support my mother’s speech on behalf of the whānau for the celebratory evening to recognise our father, called “Tipene, Your Years”, at Ōnuku on the 5<sup>th</sup> February 2007.*

## Ka tikaka whakamahi mō te waiata nei / Notes on appropriate usage of this waiata

He waiata kīnaki tēnei hai tautoko i te kōrero a tētahi ahakoa he ōpaki, he ōkawa rānei te tū. He whānui te mahika o tēnei waiata, ā, e hākai ana ki kā tini kaupapa whakamaumahara ki ō tātou tīpuna me ā rātou mahi.

*This waiata was composed as an informal waiata kinaki and can be for general usage whether that be in informal or formal contexts. Its application is broad, and is especially appropriate for any topic that pays respects to our ancestors and their accomplishments.*

## **MĀ WAI E HUA NEI?**

Mā wai e hua nei  
Te haumāiuiui o te tini  
Inā kurehu ake te tōtā i te rae  
Ki tua o mahara e?

Tītia ki te uma  
Kā wai o ōhākī  
Kia rere kā wai o mihi e  
Ki roto i ō uri  
Ā haere ake nei

Tītia ki te uma  
Kā wai o ōhākī  
Kia rere kā wai o mihi e  
Ki roto i ō uri ā haere ake nei

## **WHO WILL TELL THE TALES?**

*Who will speak  
of the accomplishments of the many  
when the sweat on the brow dims  
to but a distant memory?*

*Hold fast to your heart  
the memory of their last words  
so the waters of praise will flow  
within your descendants  
forevermore*

*Hold fast to your heart  
the memory of their last words  
so the waters of praise will flow  
within your descendants forevermore*