

# Mōteatea – Poutini

Kaitito / Composers – Hana O'Regan  
Rohe – Poutini Ngāi Tahu / Kāi Tahu whānui

## Whakamārama / Explanation

Ko taku waiata tuatahi tēnei i titoa i taku tau whakamutuka i te Kura Māori o Wikitoria, i te tau 1986. I toko ake rā te hiahia i taua wā ki te tito i tētahi waiata mō mātou ake o Kai Tahu kia kauraka au e mate anō ki te waiata i tētahi waiata nā iwi kē atu hai tautoko i ōku hākoru me ōku pōua. Nā tōku hākoru i tuku mai te pūrākau mō Poutini hai kaupapa mō te waiata.

*This was my first ever composition that was written during my final year at Queen Victoria Māori Girl's Boarding School in 1986. My desire at the time was to compose a song about Kāi Tahu ourselves so I would not have to sing the songs of another people when needing to support my uncles and elders. My father retold the story of Poutini to me as a topic for such a song.*

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

He pai tēnei waiata hei waiata kīnaki i kā kōrero ōkawa. He waiata e kōrero ana mō te whakapapa o te pounamu me tētahi o kā kōrero e pā ana ki tērā tino taoka o Kāi Tahu.

*This waiata is appropriate for formal powhiri as waiata kinaki. This is a generic waiata that can be used in any place but of course refers to the whakapapa of the pounamu and one of the associated traditions.*

## POUTINI

Ko koe Poutini a Kāhue  
Tūpato i a Whatipū a Hoaka  
Titiro hāka te koko  
Āritarita ō whatu ki a Waitaiki a Tamaahua e  
  
Kei reira e kaukau ana tōna kiri whakahirahira  
Nāhau rā i kawē atu, nāhau rā tana takahore  
Nāhau rā te aroha te ahi tukua ai tōna kiri  
whakahirahira  
Whakaekēkēkia e te tekateka  
Ki Whakamoā, Aorere, Onetāhua, Pāhua

Kitea noatia e koe te kākau makariri  
Kitea noatia e ia te ahi makariri  
Pōhane pai a Tama e, riro kē i a koe  
Ki Whakamaata, Rakitoto i Te Waipounamu e  
Hei aha! Haere noa atu ki Mahitahi

Takiwai i Piopiotahi, Tēnā koia ki Arahura

Hei aha koa te kaha o tō aroha ki a Waitaiki

Kā tahi, kā rua, kā toru, kā whā  
Ka tae ki te wā ka takahuritia a Waitaiki  
Hei tīramarama, hei maramama, hei tino taoka  
Ko te pounamu e ...  
Taumaha kā roimata o Tama tuku iho

Hei takiwai ki tana whaiāipō e  
Auē, ko koe rā Poutini a Kāhue e

## POUTINI

*You Poutini of Kahue  
Beware of Whatipū of Hoaka  
Look across the bay  
Your eyes burning with desire for Waitaiki of  
Tamaahua.  
Thereupon she bathes her beautiful body  
It was you who abducted her and took her naked  
body  
In pity you warmed her by heat of the fire  
Tama's dart pursued in quick succession  
To Whangamoā, Aorere, Onetāhua, Pāhua*

*All you could see was a cold heart  
All he found were cold fires  
Yet she longed for Tama so you took her further  
to Whangamatā, and on to Rakitoto in the South  
Island  
Never mind! You persisted on to Mahitahi  
To Takiwai in Piopiotahi, then finally returning to  
Arahura  
Oh how immense your love for Waitaiki*

*One, two, three, four,  
Time has run out, you transform Waitaiki  
Into a gleaming, glistening treasure  
To jade...  
Heavy are the teardrops of Tama as they descend*

*As Tangiwai to his loved one  
Oh, Poutini this is all your doing taniwha of Kāhue.*