



the heART of the matter

Under the leadership of a legendary director general of education, Clarence Beeby, the years immediately after World War II saw the most remarkable shifts in educational philosophy New Zealand had ever experienced.

Luit Bieringa's documentary traces those changes and the army of men and women who worked to establish a thoroughly bicultural and arts-centred education system. Gordon Tovey, national supervisor of arts and crafts, and his team of artists and art specialists fostered the lively and colourful classrooms that New Zealand is familiar with today, in stark contrast to the rote-learning environments preceding them. Contributing art specialists ensured that aspects of Māori art such as kōwhaiwhai, kapa haka and waiata had a central place in our mainstream classrooms through in-depth consultation with Ngāti Porou kaumātua Pine Taiaapa.

Replete with archival interviews and little-seen footage, this film is likely to transport any Kiwi-educated boomer back to school, but its richly storied excavation of the past is as clearly pointed towards the future as once were its public-servant heroes.

"What a beautiful film you have crafted - visually rich and coherent, a terrific cast of characters who express the gamut of thought and feelings, the film is informative, funny, sad, engaging and stirs the imagination. You've brought to life a treasure trove; the life of an inspired individual who, through art, really did change and enrich our world. THANK YOU FOR ENRICHING MY WORLD." Bruce Foster

Director: Luit Bieringa
Producer: Jan Bieringa
Photography: John Chrisstoffels,
Davorin Fahn, Greg Jennings,
John Irwin, Tony Hiles
Editors: Angela Boyd, Annie Collins
Research: Renee Gerlich
Sound: Dick Reade
Music: Warren Maxwell

PRINCIPAL SPONSORS:
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Te Māngai Pāho
Māori Television

SPECIAL FEATURES:
**Twelve extended interviews
and themed conversations
to explore.**

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Running time: 89 mins, 16:9 Anamorphic
Widescreen, 5.1 SURROUND

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NEW ZEALAND
FILM FESTIVAL

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*Titiro whakamuri, kia anga tika mua ai te haere.
Referencing the past, helps prepare you for the future.*

-TOI MAORI