

# Dione Joseph

writer  
director  
dramaturge

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## BACKGROUND

Dione Joseph is a writer, director and dramaturge who works towards creating, sharing & facilitating conversations on how the arts can change the world. Her involvement as an artist spans a range of **culturally specific projects, academic research and teaching, arts journalism and speaking and facilitation engagements** at home and overseas. She has also held various residencies and scholarly fellowships in the UK, China, Mexico, Canada and the USA including teaching and guest scholar positions at universities in New Zealand and overseas and her work can be found in a range of print and online publications as well as radio.

## EXPERIENCE:

### CULTURALLY SPECIFIC PROJECTS

#### Diversity and Inclusion Advisor:

#### **DIA (Department of Internal Affairs, NZ) (2015-ongoing)**

Responsible for working nationally to inspire, influence and include New Zealand's ethnic communities in conversations and activities that support innovation, education; language, culture and identity. Key roles include providing policy advice on cross-government initiatives.

#### Director/Dramaturge (selected works) **This Woman's Work is a Woman's Worth, NZ (2016)**

Working with Cook Island glass sculptor Nia-Val Tali to create a dance performance installation at the Depot Arts Space that brought together the talents of Cook Island dancers, Rarotongan, Turkish and Islander drumming for a presentation that explores

#### **TRANSFORMANCE LAB – Na'lá'la' i Lina'la', (2015)**

Working with Jack Gray and Dãkot-ta Alcantara Camacho at the Transformance Lab held at Mangere Arts Centre in Nov 2015 to develop a shared performance for audiences.

#### **The Clipperton Project, MEXICO (2014)**

As an invited artist on The Clipperton Project's 2014 Dione's role was to serve as a community and cultural consultant and also work on an on-going project titled 'River Voices' a play in development exploring the different identities and cultures that create the dynamic cultural ecosystem along this river.

### **Miss South Auckland (MSA), NEW ZEALAND (2014)**

Working with the Miss South Auckland (MSA) collective Dione was the Creative Consultant for the inaugural humanitarian based pageant working closely with six young women from the South Auckland region. Her role was to provide a series of workshops on the importance of oral narrative, public speaking, creative writing and re-engaging with culture in new and different ways.

## **ARTS CRITIQUE/JOURNALISM**

### **Theatre/Dance Critic**

**New Zealand:** *The Tribune* (2008-9); *Theatreview* (2014-)  
*The New Zealand Herald* (2016- ); *Radio NZ* (2016-);

**Australia:** *Melbourne City Newspaper* (2011-13) *Australian Stage* (2010-2016); *Aussie Theatre* (2013-14)

### **Arts Journalist:**

*The Big Idea*, Te Aria Nui NZ/Scotland (2014-)  
*DANZ* (Dance Aotearoa New Zealand) (2016-)

## **ACADEMIC RESERACH**

### **Visiting Scholar:**

#### **University of Saskatchewan, CANADA (2014, 2015)**

As visiting scholar (specializing in Indigenous performance) at the University of Saskatoon, Dione was a guest lecturer in the drama, native studies and gender departments during her five weeks. She also gave two public talks, one in Saskatoon and the other in Regina.

#### **University of Toronto, Canada (2015)**

Dione was invited to give a public talk co-hosted by the University of Toronto and IPAA (Indigenous Performing Arts Alliance) on Identity Politics in Contemporary Indigenous Australian Theatre.

#### **London School of Speech and Drama (2013)**

Dione was invited to offer a provocation at the *Bioremedial Performance: The Blurring of Art and Ecology*, Colloquium of Performance Research that responded to the various issues of the conference.

### **Book Chapters (current):**

#### **Indigeneity, Performance & Globalization: Artists Dialogue**

This is a commissioned chapter edited by Professor Helen Gilbert (Royal Holloway) engaging with four different Indigenous artists from New Zealand, Australia, Canada, the USA and Nicaragua. [Publication: Aug 2017]

#### **Cradling Space: Towards an Indigenous Dramaturgy in Turtle Island.**

Responding to the need for an Indigenous dramaturgy in Turtle Island based on interviews with Cree and Metis artists based in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan following a PSi conference presentation in Regina in 2015.

**Research/Artist Liaison:**

**Royal Holloway, University of London, UK/NZ (2015)**

Research Assistant for Prof. Emma Cox on scoping out works related to Maori involvement in WWI including interviews, attending productions, exhibitions and summarising reflections and also providing an index of Maori productions that included references to the war.

**Royal Holloway, University of London, UK (2013)**

In preparation for the international conference: Indigeneity in the Contemporary world; the EcoCentrix Exhibition Dione worked alongside Indigenous artists, presenting workshops for local school children and chairing a panel on Indigenous Festivals.

**RESIDENCIES:**

**Lincoln Theatre DirectorsLab New York (2014) and Lincoln Centre's Chicago DirectorsLab, Chicago**

An intensive three weeks of professional development engaging with national and international directors gathered together to debate, discuss and inspire professional theatre makers.

**Debajehmujig - Manitoulin Island, Canada (2012)**

A week with one of Canada's foremost Indigenous Storytelling theatre company to understand better practice.

**Sunhoo Design Park, Zhejiang, China (2012)**

Based in Fuyang (40 minutes from Hangzhou) the locals and landscape were caught in a moment of flux. A series of monologues were developed based upon the stories shared by the local native women.

**PANELS/TALKS**

**Transcribing Spaces – Ora Gallery, New York (2016)**

Speaker on the topic of the role of the reviewer in responding to Indigenous performance at an international event facilitated by organised by NYU guest artist/researcher in residence choreographer Jack Gray.

**KA HAKA SYMPOSIUM, Auckland, New Zealand (2016)**

Presenter on *Power and Privilege: The Role of the Reviewer in Responding to Indigenous Performance*.

**DANZ HUI – Auckland, New Zealand (2016)**

Facilitator discussing the art of reviewing dance works in New Zealand at the first national dance hui organised since 2006.

**National Refugee Resettlement Forum – Wellington, NZ**

Speaker on the topic of Refugee Youth Participation (on behalf of the Office of Ethnic Communities) at the NRFF organised by the Ministry of Business and Innovation.

**Diversity in the workplace – Auckland, NZ (2016)**  
Facilitator (on behalf of the Office of Ethnic Communities) for a panel organised by AUT (Auckland University of Technology) as part of Employability Week.

**Origins festival – London, United Kingdom (2013)**  
Facilitator discussing sustainability of international festivals and alongside international festival directors.

**Planet IndigenUS Festival - Toronto, Canada (2012)**  
Panel member discussing sustainability of international festivals and alongside international festival directors.

## **Awards and Scholarships**

### **Academic:**

Dione has been recognized as a Massey Scholar (among the top 5% in the College of Humanities, Massey University (2007); recipient of an EAP international exchange scholarship to UCLA (2007); awarded an H1 for her work on the aesthetics of Indigenous theatre by University of Melbourne (2010) and received an artist scholarship to complete a MA in Community and Cultural Development from the VCA (2011).

### **Other:**

Dione has received the Lorna Stirling Theatre Award (2012) a Rotary Scholarship (2012) Creative Young Stars Australian government grant (2013) the Ian Potter Cultural Trust Award (2013) and held consecutive roles as a Guest Scholar and Artist in Residence to the University of Saskatchewan (2014/15) in the Theatre department. She has also held a Hot Desk Writer's Fellowship at the Wheeler Centre, Melbourne (2013) recognised as the first New Zealander to have been awarded a place at the prestigious Lincoln Centre directorslab in New York (2014); the only New Zealand critic to have been shortlisted for the Allen Wright media award at Edinburgh Fringe Festival (2014) and nominated for the inaugural Best Critic award at the Auckland Theatre Awards (2015).

## **EDUCATION**

2012 – 2011	MA (Community & Cultural Practice) Victorian College of Arts, Australia (H1)
2010 – 2009	BCA Creative Arts (Hons) Theatre Studies, Uni of Melbourne, Australia (H1)
2007 – 2005	UCLA (Theater & Film) University of California, Los Angeles, United States
	BA (English) Massey University, New Zealand