Te Pae Kōkako – The Aotearoa New Zealand Opera Studio is an intensive, dedicated programme for aspiring singers that will combine academic and in-situ industry training from 2023, encompassing the long-held vision and dream of Dame Malvina Major.
It means talented opera singers can prepare in New Zealand for the international stage by providing highlevel, comprehensive training and also by helping to form international connections with opera companies and young artist programmes.

The teaching programme seeks to satisfy some observed gaps in our tertiary training for opera singers, and will focus on holistic training, drawing upon local and international teachers as well as input from the faculty staff.
Key aspects of the TANZOS programme

Fully-funded for equal opportunity
Bringing international experience to the students here in Aotearoa
Offsite company residencies
Regular masterclasses
Community outreach
Auditions for external national/international companies and artist managers
Coaching from some of the world's most recognised opera specialists
The course itself will focus on these areas:

- Vocal technique and performance – operatic singing with one primary teacher
- Vocal and stylistic coaching – with visiting and faculty vocal coaches
- Repertoire knowledge: Preparing vocally-suitable roles in their entirety
- Musicianship – sight-singing, keyboard skills, score-reading, IPA
- Recital programming – lieder and art song
- Oratorio preparation
- Audition technique
- Stagecraft - factoring performances of scenes from the students' core roles
- Language coaching, particularly German, Italian and French
- Experience working with an orchestra and within a company
- Resilience programme: performance psychology, practical and pastoral support, career advice
In our inaugural year, we will be hosting guest tutors including British baritone, Sir Simon Keenlyside, and Elaine Kidd and David Gowland, Head and Artistic Director of the Jette Parker Young Artist Programme at The Royal Opera, Covent Garden respectively, to work with the singers both individually and in public masterclasses.

**Assessment will include:**

- Staged opera scenes, whether during a company residency or public performance on-site
- Solo recitals of lieder/art song
- Three suitable roles prepared throughout the year and assessed in their entirety
- Performance of a contemporary work, including one module in collaboration with the Waikato University Conservatorium of Music Composition Department
- Viva voce and researched written element.
Provisional Teaching Schedule for 2023

- **27 Feb 2023**: Orientation Week, initial recitals, planning with students
- **6 March**: Regular weekly schedule begins
- **12 May**: Trimester A recital (assessed)
- **15-31 May**: Residency A (NZ Opera)
- **12-23 June**: Residency B (Opera Australia)
- **27 June - 8 July**: Residency C (APO Opera)
- **21 July - 4 August**: Residency D (Opera Australia)
- **17 August**: Trimester B Recital (assessed)
- **21 Aug – 1 Sep**: Role self-study
- **4-29 Sep**: Role intensive
- **2 Oct**: Role Assessment - 1
- **4 Oct**: Role Assessment – 2
- **6 Oct**: Role assessment – 3
- **9 Oct**: Contemporary Week
- **20 Oct**: Contemporary Scenes Performance
- **24 Nov**: Trimester C Recital (assessed)
- **27 Nov – 8 Dec**: Audition Focus
- **11 Dec**: JPYAP week
- **16 Dec**: Year ends
## Typical Bi-Weekly Schedule

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Te Pae Kōkako

Our name was gifted by Associate Professor Tom Roa in his capacity as Te Mata Ahurangi of the University of Waikato. A local oral history of the Ngāti Apakura iwi avows that their tupuna, Pikirangi, had a pet kōkako, which he trained to sing a particular song that was full of meaning for his iwi.

The 'pae' is the kōkako's perch, where it gathers in strength before taking flight. Like the kōkako, our students come from all parts of Aotearoa New Zealand. Establishing TANZOS will mean that talented opera singers can be encouraged to thrive locally, in New Zealand, for the international stage, following the example set in the efforts of the Pirongia Te Aroaro o Kahu Restoration Society that has helped regenerate the kōkako.
Help us launch the opera stars of the future

Places on the TANZOS programme will be on a scholarship-only basis and will reflect the diversity of New Zealand's up-and-coming opera stars. There are currently opportunities available to provide $35,000 scholarship packages to support a place for individual students or smaller contributions towards delivering the programme at an international level. To become a Te Pae Kōkako donor, talk to Te Pou Taunaki - The University of Waikato Foundation at foundation@waikato.ac.nz or call us on 07 838 4446
Te Pae Kōkako
The Aotearoa New Zealand Opera Studio
at The University of Waikato

Dame Malvina Major Foundation