

Teuila Postcards

a barefoot trek through tropical Samoa

Synopsis

"a contemporary cabaret of piss take, wicked comedy, theatre and dance... the narrative is clever, and the lines are funny...enjoyable and irreverent"

Arts Hub

Polynesia: imagine a lush, green landscape surrounded by turquoise water with rolling white beaches dotted with bronzed, curvaceous women who wear coconut shell bikinis. It all sounds too good to be true. And guess what...it is!

Acclaimed Australian dance-theatre ensemble **Polytoxic** unveils the cultural reality of Polynesia with an episodic ride of postcard-like vignettes through the past and present.

Inspired in part by cheesy tourism commercials selling the unspoiled magical beaches and 'the beautiful tribal peoples' of the Pacific, Teuila Postcards draws from a range of sources, including historical missionary diary entries from the 1830s, tacky tourism adverts, Elvis style Pacific Island movies and a view of everyday Samoa. Fusing traditional Pacific and contemporary dance theatre, Teuila Postcards is a tongue-in-cheek look at the oppression and evolution of an island.

The Teuila flower is the national flower of Samoa. Part of the ginger family, it has a wax-like or plastic appearance, similar to the beautiful yet plastic representations of the islands. So with Polytoxic as your tour guides, come share a slice of paradise and take a peek behind the glossy tourist brochure.

"Teuila Postcards beautifully seams the kitsch with the intellectual, the erotic/exotic fantasy with the real and mundane, colonial history with retro pop."

Scene Magazine

Polytoxic's Teuila Postcards premiered to sold-out audiences in March 2006 as part of the 'Pasifika Festival' at the Visy Theatre, Brisbane Powerhouse. Since then Teuila Postcards has played to packed houses throughout Australia, including Sydney Opera House (Sydney Comedy Festival), Artshouse Melbourne, Ten Days on the Island Festival Tasmania, Come Out Festival Adelaide, Brisbane Powerhouse, Queensland Performing Arts Centre (In Stitches Comedy Festival), Tanks Arts Centre Cairns, Mackay Festival of the Arts, and numerous Australian regional venues. International touring includes Wan Smolbag International Arts Festival, Vanuatu and Planet IndigenUs Festival, Canada.

POLYTOXIC LOVES YOU

polytoxic dance company

performance | workshops | roving characters

lisa fa'alafi 0408 197 678

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Credits

Artists & Creators:

Fez Fa'anana
Leah Shelton
Lisa Fa'alafi

Costume Design & Construction:

Leah Shelton
Lisa Fa'alafi

Lighting Design:

Andrew Meadows

Sound:

Fez Fa'anana
Leah Shelton

Visuals:

Jaxzyn (Island Splash artwork by JSA design)

Stage Manager:

Justin Marshman

Set Design:

Lisa Fa'alafi with Polytoxic

Set Consultant:

Jonathon Oxlade

Set Construction:

Troy Gilliland

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