

# RUPTURE<sup>24</sup>

27 February 2024

## Announcing: Rupture

A new development programme for series writers kicks off in Auckland this week. Exceptional storytellers from Aotearoa and abroad gather for Rupture '24: A Writers' Intensive. Between them they have written stories for screen and beyond, including *AFTER THE PARTY*, *RŪRANGI*, *The Savage Coloniser Show*, *How to Loiter in a Turf War*, *KĀINGA*, *COUSINS*, *SUCCESSION*, *DEAD RINGERS*, *GLITCH* and *WELLMANIA*.

Rupture brings together powerful storytellers to shake up and deepen episodic series development in Aotearoa New Zealand. It provides a space for strong writers to push their craft further so that their stories can resonate in profound ways within their audiences.

Over six months, six series writer-creators and their teams are provided resources and support to come together, experiment, go deeper, explore pathways to market - and ultimately take their practice to the next level.

We are excited to announce our 2024 writer-creators and their collaborators:

- **Asuka Sylvie** with Emma Mortimer
- **Briar Grace-Smith** with Victor Rodger
- **Coco Solid** with Litia Tuiburelevu, Manuha'apai Vaeatangitau & Fuimaono-Tuimafuiva Falesataua Joshua Iosefo 'Mush'
- **Dianne Taylor** with Robyn Malcolm
- **Max Currie** with Sam Shore
- **Tusiata Avia** with Karin Williams & Matasila Freshwater

Rupture comprises intensive story labs, ongoing support from local and international practitioners, and development funding for participants' series projects. Guest advisors joining Rupture for the first story lab this week include screenwriter **Susan Soon He Stanton**

(supervising producer and writer of HBO's SUCCESSION and Amazon Prime's DEAD RINGERS); playwright and screenwriter **Louise Fox** (co-creator and showrunner of ABC/Netflix's GLITCH, writer on ABC's SIGNIFICANT OTHERS); AWGIE Award-winning screenwriter, writer and broadcaster **Benjamin Law** (executive producer, co-creator and co-writer of Netflix comedy-drama WELLMANIA and SBS comedy FAMILY LAW); filmmaker, writer, producer and media executive **Sally Riley** (MABO, REDFERN NOW, and STATELESS); and story consultant, script editor and acting coach **Brita McVeigh** (MR INBETWEEN, THE NEW BOY).

The Programme sought writer-creator nominations from screen industry partners before inviting expressions of interest and undertaking a rigorous selection process. Selectors included local and international professionals who, between them, have developed series work for BBC, HBO Max, Netflix, ABC, Foxtel, FX, TVNZ and THREE.

Rupture is helmed by Programme Director Esther Cahill-Chiaroni with support from an advisory board. Esther is building the programme in response to the dreams of its writer-creators, *"It is a huge privilege to work with these extraordinary storytellers in our inaugural Rupture programme, and it is their collective aspirations to take the work further that will fuel the process and outcomes of this unique offering."*

Rupture is made possible with generous support from NZ On Air.

