



ΟΤΕΡΟΤΙ
ΗΟΥ



**WHAT'S THAT SOUND?
IT'S ŌTEPOTI HOU**

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"What about an album featuring local artists?"

The *Ōtepoti Hou* vinyl project started with a question in a 2024 Ara Toi/Creative Partnerships planning session.

Loosely translating to *Ōtepoti Sound* or *Fresh Ōtepoti*, *Ōtepoti Hou* shines a spotlight on the diverse musicians and genres that make up the contemporary music scenes of Dunedin.

Ōtepoti Hou celebrates the fact that music continues to be made, produced, performed, and enjoyed in our city, with the title a cheeky nod to the Dunedin Sound made famous in the 1980s.

The project's goals speak directly to the direction and priorities of the *Ōtepoti Live Music Action Plan* and are centred on providing learning, networking, and career development opportunities for musicians, engineers, and producers.

We would like to send out heartfelt thanks to all those who have been involved in the project. Each and every contributor, mentor, and supporter has helped breathe life into *Ōtepoti Hou*.

Ko te hou Ōtepoti, ko Ōtepoti hou.



MUSICIANS



Crash Out

Born out of a one-day *To The Front* music camp, Crash Out features June Ward (16), Sophie Butson (14), and Japanese high school exchange student Yui Takatsuchi (15).

The young women met one another for the first time at the music camp and co-wrote their track “Remember Me” the same day. They later recorded and produced the track with Nick Roughan (Southlink Studios) over four hours.

This was the young women’s first experience in a band and their first-time recording. Now back at Saitama Municipal Omiya International Secondary School, Yui says that she “would love to continue being involved in the band” and is intending to take part in some of the mentoring programmes virtually.

Sophie intends to take her music further and is especially interested in musical theatre. June is keen to keep writing and performing: ‘I absolutely LOVED being able to create a song with such amazing people!’.

CUCK

CUCK is a grindcore three piece from Ōtepoti. Forged by means of a pinky promise in 2019, Lana, Gabe, and Jörg have been playing DIY shows across Aotearoa since 2020.

Creating compositions that are “Ideal for running wild in the streets” (Cain Lindegreen, ODT) that provide “a toxic, venomous stab to the ears” (Dave Norman, Open Mind Saturated Brain) CUCK are a staple in Ōtepoti’s live music scene, providing not only explosive, high-energy sets but also raising platforms for emerging and reemerging music and noise makers, here in Ōtepoti and across the motu.

CUCK’s musical output culminated in the release of their eponymously titled cassette in 2022, containing 14 songs and clocking in at just over 12 minutes.

Want more CUCK?

gocuckyourself.bandcamp.com



Dunedin Youth Jazz Orchestra

Founded in 2019, the Dunedin Youth Jazz Orchestra (DYJO) is a 17-piece Big Band for young adults under the age of 25 and draws much of its talent from bands at various high schools around Ōtepoti.

The band rehearses once a week and performs two to three concerts per year as part of the Dunedin Jazz Club programme. It regularly collaborates with visiting national and international musicians, some of whom come to study at Ōtākou Whakaihu Waka/University of Otago.

The line-up varies from year to year and is always keen to welcome back past players as featured soloists in concerts. The artists featured on *Ōtepoti Hou* are:

Maya Satake (vocalist); Ethan Burton, Finn Marshall, Callan Power, Ruth Buckland, Elliot Tay, Helena Hornbacher (saxophones); Louis Robertson, Mei Admiral, Ben Nguyen, Oban Voice (trumpets); Ben Walker, Nikita Lu, Flynn Ellison (trombones), Benji Pickering (bass trombone); George Couper (guitar); Bill Martin (Rhodes/piano); Guthrie Wakelin (electric bass); Amelia Ross (drums); Fiona Pickering (flute); Elliot Tay (clarinet); Musical Director: Bill Martin

Want more DYJO?

Instagram: @dunedinjazzorchestra
dunedinjazz.club/dyjo





HŌHĀ

Friends Liam Clune (Ngāti Tūwharetoa, Ngāti Koata) and Madison Kelly (Kāi Tahu, Kāti Māmoe) are HŌHĀ.

Based in Ōtepoti from 2022-2025 and now split across Ōtepoti and Glaschu/Glasgow, Liam (guitar) and Madison (drums) are keen on any version of hōhātaka: frustration, drone, tension, repetition, noise, release!

"I've got my men and my axe"

Quickly is an escalating, one-sided conversation about navigation and land use, and showcases HŌHĀ's best vexatious self.

Want more HŌHĀ?

Instagram: @hoha_hoha__

Facebook: @feelinghoha





Keira Wallace

Ōtepoti singer-songwriter Keira Wallace has been performing since the age of 13. In addition to a flourishing solo practice, they're also involved with folk band Dolly Possum, and shoegaze performers, Motheaten.

Inspired by Mount Eerie (USA), Tiny Ruins, Ebony Lamb, and the Exploding Rainbow Orchestra, Keira is currently working on a self-produced album and provided Radio One's Favourite Song of 2025.

They teamed up with Adelaide Dunn to produce *Sea Beds*, which weaves together folk and low-fi indie influences to create a reflective musical landscape.

Want more Keira?

Instagram: @keirawallacemusic
keirawallace.bandcamp.com



Scapegoat MERCY

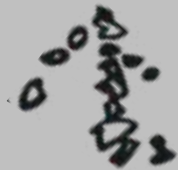
Scapegoat MERCY is a creative alias of Ōtepoti Dunedin-based artist Hamish Kokaua, whose music sits at the intersection of glitchy electronics, ambient sound design and confessional lyrics.

The performer explores self-reflection, sorrow, belief, and digital exhaustion and delivers soft, close-mic'd vocals that blend rap rhythms with spoken word mantras. Ōtepoti Hou track *LOVE* features Levine Lale & Jessie Kokaua.

In 2026 and beyond, Scapegoat MERCY will be bringing a sharper focus and deeper connection to his Ōtepoti and Kuki Airani roots as he re-emerges into Aotearoa's hip-hop scene.

Want more Scapegoat MERCY?

Instagram: @scapegoat_mercy
scapegoatmercy.bandcamp.com



SEEK HELP!

Making themselves heard everywhere from Ōtepoti, feminist punk band SEEK HELP! want to see you angry.

Prompted by a Shakespeare songwriting competition, Thus with a Kiss was one of the first songs written by SEEK HELP! Writing the song helped crystallise that they wanted to write about social issues of injustice, inequity, exploitation to name a few.

Inspired by the Riot Grrrls, the band represents and empowers queer and unheard voices. They demand attention and action, and want to spread messages of empowerment with thrashing noise and bitch energy.

Want more SEEK HELP!?

Instagram: @seekhelp.band





Suge Sound

Suge Sound is a dubstep production duo consisting of Altercation, a drum & bass producer, and Sam Taylor, founder of the Norman Foreman and M2D labels.

Known for a focus on bass and fusion of old-school dubstep with wider dance music influences, they've earned support from artists like Truant, Riz La Teef, and NLDC.

Want more Norman?

Instagram: @normanforeman

Facebook: @normantheoreman

normanforeman.bandcamp.com





Tough Guy

Ko Puhanga Tohorā te maunga
Ko Mangatawa te awa
Ko Pukerata te marae
Ko Ngātokimatawhāorua te waka
Ko Ngā Puhi ko Ngāti Porou ōku iwi
Ko Ngāi Tūteauru te hapū
Nō Aotearoa ahau
Ko Tawhai Huriwai tōku ingoa
Ko Tough Guy ahau
Tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou
katoa

Tough Guy's powerful, in-your-face vocals incorporate te reo Māori blended with melancholic guitar loops over a drum machine to create a form of musical venting and cathartic release.

Key influences for Tough Guy (aka Tawhai Huriwai) include post-rock soundscapes and an eclectic mix of the early 2000s Dunedin and Invercargill alternative rock and metal scene. His music often explores themes of depression, identity, grief and belonging.

"The things you experience in your life shape the person you become; the good, the bad and the blurry."

Want more Tough Guy?

Facebook: @ToughGuyNZ
toughguynz.bandcamp.com



Turama ite Ara

Translating to “shine the pathway”, Turama ite Ara has grown from the established Cook Island community here in Ōtepoti. The group comprises drummers and dancers of all ages and has been performing together since 2024.

Their contribution *Ē tū te au Māpū!* features the senior drumline and is a call for the community’s young people to rise up. The original drumbeat speaks to the drummers’ identity and the larger Cook Island community in the city.

For the group, *Ōtepoti Hou* celebrates the different sounds that make up the orchestral reverberations over their mauka, along their awa, and through the airways to be shared.

Ē TŪ! Rise up!
TE AU MĀPŪ! Our young people!
TURAMA ITE ARA! Shine the pathway!

Want more Turama ite Ara?

Instagram: @turamaiteara

Facebook: Turama-ite-Ara







Behind the Scenes: Studio

Ōtepoti's highly skilled studio personnel have been an essential part of the *Ōtepoti Hou* project. They have introduced first-time recording artists to the art of studio production and worked alongside those already familiar with the recording environment.

Their contributions have helped shape the sound of *Ōtepoti Hou* and reinforce the wealth of expertise we have here in the city.





Tom Bell

The final mastering of *Ōtepoti Hou* was placed in the safe hands of musician and sound engineer, Tom Bell of Port Chalmers Recording Service. Tom has worked with bands from emerging artists The Beatniks to Dunedin Sound originals, The Chills and The Clean.

Instagram: [@seaward.sounds](https://www.instagram.com/seaward.sounds)

Hugh Harlow

By day, Hugh is a Senior Professional Practice Fellow at the University of Otago, where students benefit from his 20 years of teaching music production and sound engineering. His diverse band credits include One Day Sane, The Waxeyes, and Galloping Hooves of the Apocalypse.

Facebook: [@thewaxeyes](https://www.facebook.com/thewaxeyes)
otago.ac.nz/performing-arts/study/music



Sam Healey

Sam is a man of many talents. The skilled bassist runs Turbine Studio, plays with Kāhu Rōpū and Cecil Turbine, and still finds the time to share his audio engineering and production knowledge with young musicians as part of the Amped Music Project.

Instagram: @cecil.turbine
ampedmusicproject.nz



Zac Nicholls

Zac Nicholls of Koizilla fame, has been recording music around Ōtepoti for the last 10 years or so, working with bands such as Dale Kerrigan, Laney Blue, Bathysphere, and Riot Gull, to name a few. Always ready to experiment, Zac continues to develop ways to make and create music across genres, both as a musician and as a producer.





Nick Roughan

With a discography spanning decades and engineering credits for a plethora of projects, Nick's pedigree speaks for itself. Based at South Link Productions on lower Princes St, Nick manages a suite of studio facilities on behalf of the South Link Education Trust, which provides communities with access to studio time and training opportunities.

sletproductions.co.nz

Stephen Stedman

No stranger to Ōtepoti's music scene, Stephen is a musician, sound and recording engineer, and producer. His band cv includes Glovepuppet, Martin and the Moondogs, and Death By Silo. As the manager of the University of Otago's Te Korokoro o te Tūi studio and production complex, Stephen's mahi helps music and performance students develop the real-world skills needed for their creative and professional futures.

Stephen has been instrumental to the *Ōtepoti Hou* project, wrangling access to Te Korokoro o te Tūi and supporting the activity in his role as Music Advisory Panel member.

www.tekorokorootetui.com



Behind the Scenes: Mentors

Ōtepoti Hou was conceived as a programme that provided musicians learning and development opportunities as well as an album slot. To this end, local mentors were contracted to cover topics including developing a social media presence, managing band dynamics, and guerilla marketing tactics.

Drawing upon the wealth of local knowledge and skills has twofold benefits: introducing newcomers to the city's music ecosystem and strengthening the creative and collegial networks already in place.



Simon Oswald and Jörg Bendt

Simon and Jörg have a combined half-century of experience in Aotearoa's DIY punk scene. Together they have been in at least half a dozen bands, have toured locally, nationally and offshore as well as having booked countless shows for domestic and international acts.



Eliana Gray

Eliana Gray is a multi-disciplinary artist who has been working in Aotearoa for over a decade. They have years of experience co-writing songs and facilitating song writing sessions, as both a musician and the CEO of Girls Rock Aotearoa / To the Front. Eliana loves creating accessible, joy-centred spaces, particularly welcoming for new or nervous songwriters.



Abby Wolfe

Abby Wolfe is a Dunedin-based songwriter, producer, and mentor with deep experience in contemporary pop music and artist development.

She now works closely with emerging artists, helping them shape their sound, strengthen their brand, and navigate the modern music landscape.

Instagram: @theabbywolfe
Facebook: @theabbywolfe





Radio One crew



Kristina Simons

91FM Station Manager Kristina Simons, aka DJ Tina Turntables performed alongside bands for over a decade in Tāmaki Makaurau. She has also directed short film, television, and music videos.

Lily Knowles

AKA Knowlzee or Lily Jane, Radio One's Copywriter and Promotions Manager has doubled Radio One's social media numbers in the past two years. Lily has a Bachelor of Arts in Film and Media Studies and has directed and edited music videos for local artists.

Adelaide Dunn

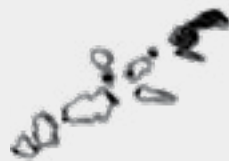
With a Bachelor of Music (Hons) in Music Production and Composition, Adelaide is an accomplished musician and producer. When not working as Radio One's Production Manager, they also hold a role as Assistant Technician at Te Korokoro o te Tūi.

Zac Hoffman

As host of the Radio One Breakfast Show and the station's Music Director, nothing slips past Zac when it comes to the what's happening on the ground and the freshest emerging talent.

Fi Jaxx

Radio One's hugely experienced and talented Programme Director is also an incredible sound engineer and musician (Soda Boyz and Ram Raid).



Startup Dunedin

Startup Dunedin are a group of enthusiastic Dunedin business leaders, entrepreneurs, and mentors who are on hand to offer guidance to individuals, groups, and emerging businesses in Ōtepoti Dunedin.

They offer several startup business-related programmes designed to help fledgling enterprises get off the ground.

www.startupdunedin.nz



Behind the Scenes: Artwork

The artwork for *Ōtepoti Hou* needed to reflect the fresh, new Dunedin sounds of the compilation.

Artist and musician Madison Kelly created an album cover that draws upon the DIY aesthetic seen in posters for gigs and EP releases around the city, as well as remaining true to their own practice of experimental mark-making.

Central to the design is Matamata, the guardian taniwha carved out the Otago Harbour and the twisting Taiari River.





Madison Kelly

Madison Kelly (Kāi Tahu, Kāti Māmoe, Pākeha) is an artist, musician, and kaiārahi at Te Korowai o Mihiwaka, Orokonui Ecosanctuary.

Their practice celebrates ecological relationships and histories, and seeks to develop sensory expressions of Kāitahutaka. They were a natural choice to create the visuals for *Ōtepoti Hou*.

In 2024, Madison was awarded the Wai-Toi-Moroki Arts Foundation Springboard Award, funded by Ngāi Tahu.





TE KOROKORO O TE TŪĪ (the voice-box of the Tūī)

Six of our ten contributors recorded their tracks in Te Korokoro o te Tūī, the University of Otago's industry-leading studio and performance facility.

As well as supporting the teaching and learning needs of music and performance staff and students, the studio's remit includes providing community access to the space.

The two-storey studio is equipped for recording everything from small orchestras to solos, and for teaching contemporary and rock music performance.



The ground floor of the two-storey main studio houses the main control room, two isolation booths for recording and the main recording space. This studio can accommodate an orchestra and host performances for audiences over 100 people.

Te Korokoro o te Tūi incorporates nine purpose-built studios in total and has flexible teaching and performance spaces, and communal areas for students to collaborate and showcase their work within their learning environment.



This project could not have happened without the additional support from:

Turama Ite Ara Performing Arts Drumline, HÔHÂ, Tough Guy, Crash Out, Suge Sound, SEEK HELP!, Cuck, Dunedin Youth Jazz Orchestra, Scapegoat MERCY, Keira Wallace, M.A.P, Stephen Stedman, Hugh Harlow, Sam Healy, Nick Roughan, Zac Nicholls, Adelaide Dunn, Tom Bell, Eliana Gray, Simon Oswald, Abby Wolfe, Kristina Simons, Lily Knowles, Fi Jaxx, Startup Dunedin, Zac Hoffman, Madison Kelly, Lesley Paris, Jeff Harford, Geoff Barkman, Craig Monk, Natasha Griffiths, Domi Angelo-Laloli, Arina Aizal, Lisa Wilkie, Jeanette Wikaira, Mike Costelloe, Francisca Griffin, Save Dunedin Live Music, Karl Brinsdon, Bea Ward, Lily Warring, Gilbert May, Sam Ovens, University of Otago School of Performing Arts, Girls Rock Aotearoa, To the Front, AMPED, New Zealand Music Commission, NZ on Air, Te Korokoro o te Tūi, Southlink Studios.

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Layout by Lily Warring

Artwork by Madison Kelly

Production design, printing and binding
at GE/STUDIO in Ōtepoti Dunedin, Otago

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