

## GADRIA F. CONLAN, ARTIST STATEMENT:

I HAVE BEEN A DANCER AND A MOVER SINCE THE AGE OF 4, WHERE I STARTED MY STUDIES WITH THE STYLES OF BALLET AND TAP AT SPENDWOOD SCHOOL OF GYMNASTICS AND DANCE.

THROUGHOUT THE YEARS I LATER ADDED IN JAZZ AND MODERN DANCE INTO MY STUDIES. SENIOR YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL IN 2017, I GRADUATED FROM CREATIVE DANCE ARTS. MY JOURNEY THEN CONTINUED WITH ME AT SKIDMORE COLLEGE, WHERE I DECLARED MYSELF AS A DUAL MAJOR IN SOCIAL WORK AND DANCE (PERFORMANCE AND CHOREOGRAPHY TRACK).

IN FEBRUARY OF 2020, DURING MY JUNIOR YEAR, I HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO TRAVEL TO AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND WHERE I STUDIED SOCIAL WORK AND MĀORI STUDIES. WITHIN THE MĀORI STUDIES DEPARTMENT I TOOK KAPA HAKA I, AN INTRODUCTORY COURSE TO THE TRADITION MĀORI ARTS.

THIS PIECE WAS CREATED FOR A DANCE FUSION ASSESSMENT AND INCORPORATES THE BLENDING OF KAPA HAKA MOVEMENTS (WIRI, HIPS, TAKAHIA, ETC.) WITH MODERN DANCE.

"ANOTHER DAY" IS ALL ABOUT THE QUARANTINE EXPERIENCE IN 2020.

*HE RĀ ANŌ: KAPA HAKA FUSION*

CHOREOGRAPHY BY GADRIA F. CONLAN