Auckland Writers Festival

Waituhi o Tāmaki - Aotea Centre 13 - 18 May 2025.

Friday 9 May 6:00-8:00PM STREETSIDE:

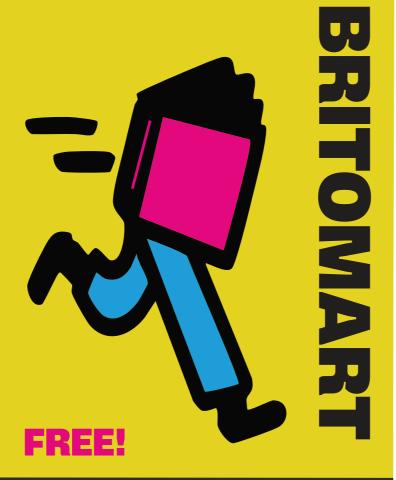




Design concept and Illustration by Jennifer Cheuk



Brit**o**mari



WHAT IS IT? STREETSIDE IS OUR SURPRISING, HILARIOUS, PROFOUND AND A LITTLE BIT WILD FRINGE EVENING! FOR ONE NIGHT ONLY, WRITERS, ARTISTS AND MUSICIANS TAKE TO THE STREETS OF BRITOMART FOR AN EXTRAVAGANZA OF CREATIVE SHENANIGANS.

HOW DOES IT WORK? BITE-SIZED PANELS, PERFORMANCES AND DROP-IN CREATIVE KAUPAPA ARE SCATTERED ACROSS BESPOKE LOCATIONS FROM 6:00-8:00PM. NO TICKET OR REGISTRATION **REQUIRED - JUST TURN UP AND ENJOY THE RIDE!**

WHO IS IT FOR? STREETSIDE IS FOR EVERYONE! WHETHER YOU'RE A READER, WRITER, BOTH OR **NEITHER.**

EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED AND GET READY TO EXPERIENCE A FREE NIGHT OF LITERARY FUN.

THE **PROGRAMME**

BOOK (FIGHT) CLUB

Takutai Square

Back by popular demand, former WWF wrestling superstar El Jaguar will transform Takutai Square into a giant literary wrestling ring. Eight randomly selected books enter the Literati ThunderDome... and only one leaves. In this hilarious street performance, he brings together his two deepest loues: books & fights.

WHERE IS THE LOVE?

Hayman Building Lobby

Creating within a community can be both tender and radical. Join zine-maker, writer and activist Taualofa Totua in a gentle zine-making workshop. Together, you'll explore the softness that can be found in the cityscapes. Drop in throughout the evening to take part. All materials provided.

TYPEWRITER POETS AND THE GREAT POETRY EXCHANGE

STREETSIDE HUB @ Takutai Square

Give our street typewriter poets a word, prompt or mood, and take away a personalised poem written just for you! Or grab a pen and add your own to the great poetry exchange.

NAVIGATING WÄHINETANGA

Valet Parking - Opposite Takutai Square

NEW POETS ON THE BLOCK

Daily Bread

What better way to start STREETSIDE than with the freshest voices on the block? Join Anne Kennedy in conversation with AUP New Poets 11: J.A. Vili. Xiaole Zhan, and Margo Montes de Oca as they discuss their debut collections and what it means to be 'fresh' in 2025. Stay to hear readings from each poet.

FRESH FRUIT

Daily Bread

Writing across form, shape and colour, join fresh Aporo Press authors Laura Vincent and Sloane Hong as they discuss the synergies in their new works: Hoods Landing and Marrow & Other Stories. Stay to hear readings from each writer.

TOIKUPU HEI KAPO WHETŪ POETRY TO CATCH THE STARS

STREETSIDE: BRITOMART

Slam Champion Matariki Bennett brings together the city's top spoken word artists and turns Rocketman into a dynamic beat poetry lounge for the evening. Each performer's work has taken them to new heights, and each are poised to perform 3 outstanding pieces, with DJ Jack Glacier providing the beats between, MC'd by Ken Arkind.

PEOPLE POWER:

A wero from Amnesty International

STREETSIDE HUB @ Takutai Square

What does freedom of expression mean to you? What's your right to write? Check out the discussion prompts and interactive QR codes from Amnesty International in Takutai Square and add your voice and thoughts.

STORIES START HERE

BRITOMART COCKTAIL HOUR

STREETSIDE HUB @ Takutai Square

The Britomart Cocktail Cart will be serving free, alcohol-free Seedlip cocktails in Takutai Square from 5-8.30pm, with tunes throughout the night from DJ Fraze, back for his second STREETSIDE stint.

LAMPLIGHT BOOKS POP-UP

ACROSS WHENUA AND FORM

Daily Bread

Khadro Mohamed wowed the '23 Ockham Poetry judges with We're All Made of Lightning. She joins Ruby Macomber to korero about her highly-anticipated first novel: Before the Winter Ends, and to discuss writing across whenua and form.

