

Mp3 Ruia - Hawaiki

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Award winning album of melodic reggae world music mix written, recorded and performed in the native Maori language of New Zealand. 11 MP3 Songs WORLD: World Beat, WORLD: Reggae Details: Hareruia RUIA Aperahama is a Mori composer and recording artist hailing from New Zealand. Ruias brand of music is a reggae world crossover sung in a Mori/English bilingual mix (Ruia is a native speaker of the Mori language). Ruia is adept on a variety of musical instruments - saxophone, keyboard and guitar as well as a superb and passionate vocalist. A gifted singer/songwriter comfortable in traditional or contemporary musical environments, Ruia is one of the few composers to emerge from New Zealand with such multi-dimensional musical gifts. This musical flexibility provides a distinct advantage when it comes to writing unique tunes based on traditional chants or catchy choruses and melodies using todays pop boundaries. Ruia grew up in the small rural settlement of Ratana Pa, (home of Maori Prophet of the 1920's era T.W. Ratana 'Te Mangai' founder of the Ratana Church and Movement). Ruia's participation in the church brass band and choir as well as various contemporary bands and involvement in kapa haka (traditional dance groups) during his formative years have given him a unique ability to cross musical boundaries with ease. Ruia has written, recorded and released songs as lead vocalist and composer with groups such as Southside of Bombay, penning the top five hit Whats the Time Mr Wolf which achieved gold sales status, and highlighted in the infamous Once Were Warriors feature film. Ruia has also composed and performed for Moana and the Moahunters on 'Tahi' and 'Rua', and Toru albums. Ruia is the leading instigator of the Prophecy music project, showcased at WOMADelaide, WOMAD Aotearoa, 2000 Olympic Festival of the Dreaming in Sydney, the Vancouver Folk Music Festival and represented in Europe in 2003 at the Cultural Olympiad in Greece. Recently Ruia and his band Haakiwa have performed at the inaugrual Ngapuhi Festival, at Te Matatini National Kapa Haka Festival and in Taranaki at WOMAD NZ 2005. In January 2005 the 2004 International Songwriting Competition announced Ruia as a finalist in the World Music category and he won honorable mention for his song 'Ko Te Tohu' which appears on his latest album Hawaiki. Ruia and twin brother Ranea released the album Whare Mori in late 2000, which was nominated as a finalist in the New Zealand Music Industrys Tui Awards. Ruia released his current

album, Hawaiki, in 2004, which coincided with an extensive tour of New Zealand. This album won the 2004 New Zealand Music Industry Award for Best Maori Album. Ruia also won the 2004 APRA Maioha Award for the song 'E tae' also off the Hawaiki album. Ruia is presently working on a bilingual single and a new album, due to be released in 2007. Ruia has been awarded honorary status of the Toi Iho cultural quality assurance mark by Government Arts Agency Creative New Zealand/Te Waka Toi. He is also Chairperson for the newly created Maori Music Industry Coalition. Ruia has also been actively involved in other creative endeavours such as co-presenting a family entertainment television programme 'MAORIOKE' , as well as making guest appearances on other locally made television shows. Ruia also provides professional development for teachers in the area of traditional and contemporary Maori music. At present Ruia hosts two radio programmes currently broadcasting on Auckland based, Radio Waatea 603AM.

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