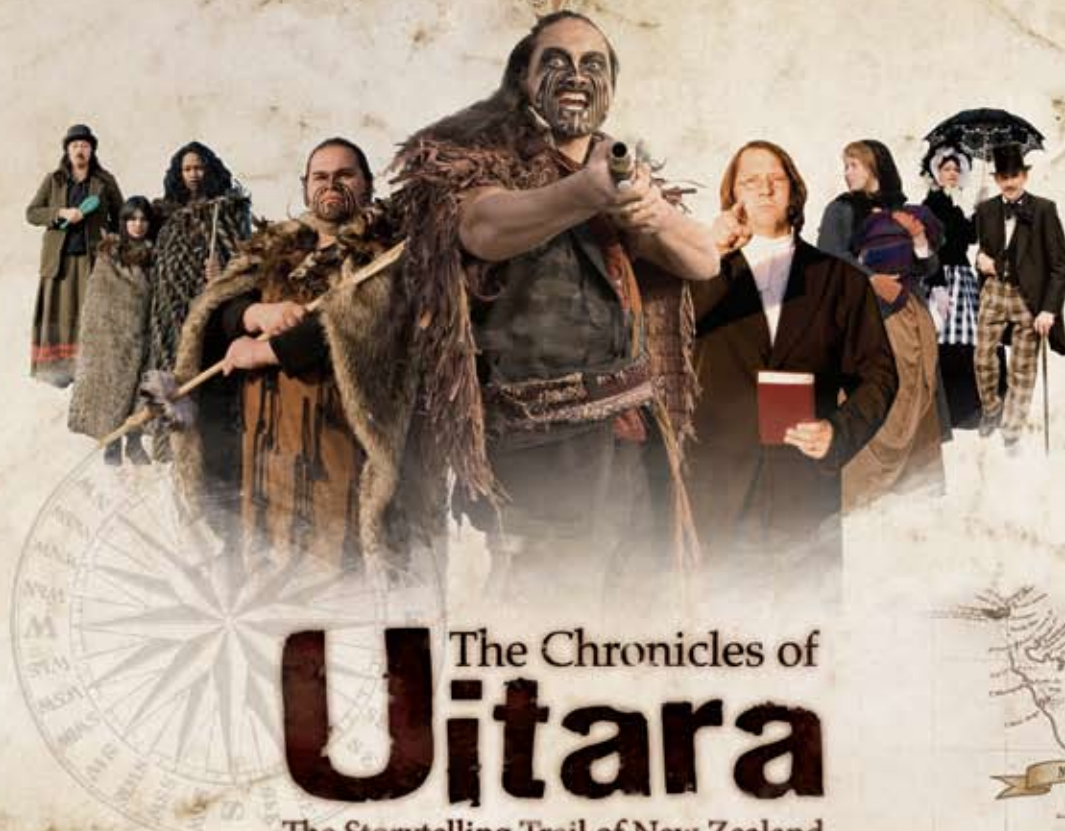


We have waited 150 years to tell our story...



The Chronicles of Uitara

The Storytelling Trail of New Zealand

The Chronicles of Uitara is the powerful true story of New Zealand, told across many generations of a single family – the warrior line of Uitara- and relayed across a trilogy of dramatic novels - *The Arrival*, *Journey of Ages* and *Lost in Our Own Land*. In each story, we experience new landscapes, new characters, new villains and heroes. Courage and determination, love, loss and family – these are the backbone to The Chronicles of Uitara.

Now, for the very first time, you can witness these stories first hand through The Chronicles of Uitara collection of culture and heritage experiences. Each live performance acts as a chapter within this stunning story of New Zealand.

This collection, The Storytelling Trail of New Zealand, reaches from the top of the North Island to the heart of the South Island with *Lost in Our Own Land* (Christchurch), *Journey of Ages* (Rotorua) and soon to come - *The Arrival* (Manukau).

Trace the footsteps of our ancestors, experience the challenges they faced and meet their direct descendants within these remarkable storytelling encounters.

Witness powerful re-enactments, shared by more than 120 actors across the country each and every night. Each re-enactment brings a different story from the trilogy to life – you will find yourself in Pre-European villages, surrounded by dense forest, amongst a bustling colonial township, set adrift amidst pacific waterways and islands and on board a railway or tramway!

The Chronicles of Uitara story brought to life within The Storytelling Trail of New Zealand promises a significant, deeply integral visitor encounter with our nation, our landscapes and our people.

*See what we have seen,
hear what we have heard
- but most of all feel
what we have felt*

The Chronicles of
Uitara



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The Chronicles of Uitara story, as it is shared across The Storytelling Trail of New Zealand, promises a legendary encounter with real New Zealand. This is not a fanciful trail of myth or legend, nor is it a shallow brush with song and dance as entertainment, but a no-holds-barred account of the most important, dramatic and pivotal moments in the history of New Zealand, told across many generations of a single family – the warrior line of Uitara



LOST IN OUR OWN LAND CHRISTCHURCH - 1818AD



The country is in the grip of what will become a brutal 30 year civil war. New leadership is emerging – Te Ao Huri and his cohorts, including Uitara IV, have left massacre and bloodshed in their wake.

Their muskets are overwhelming ancient tradition – and not just that of warfare. The way of life, traditions, spiritual beliefs, tribal structure and Chieftainship are all centuries old but are crumbling beneath the strength of the musket. Tribe is pitted against tribe, Maori against Maori, brother against brother.

Our story – the finale of The Chronicles of Uitara trilogy - begins as the musket-welding cult arrives in Te Wai Pounamu – the South Island. We come face to face with fearsome Te Ao Huri and Uitara once more – this time on the land of Ihutai and the deeply traditional people of Matuku Moana village. Be guided by the Storyteller onto sacred land and witness the dramatic invasion of the peaceful village. Move through time and see the Uitara taking the leadership mantle as Te Ao Huri dies.

As Uitara's story unfolds further, you'll experience the significant impact of European religion and education and the devastation of introduced illnesses and temptations. Against a backdrop of faithfully recreated shanty towns and Moorhouse Colonial Township, Uitara endeavours to salvage what dignity he can in the face of these new threats.

Two traditional Maori villages, working trams, an old steam train and historic buildings are just part of the experience on these 25 acres of open-air theatre. 3.5 hours of entertainment and 200 years of history culminates in a colonial inspired feast.

COMING SOON... THE ARRIVAL MANUKAU - 3000BC

From the hillsides of ancient Taiwan, to the early Lapita cultures of Malaysia, Philippines and Indonesia, sweeping through Western and later Eastern Polynesian villages, The Arrival relives the stories of the great migration to Aotearoa, New Zealand.

It begins with the creation of all things inside a giant audio-visual globe set located in a still lagoon and beside a flowing river. The Maori culture emerges from distant lands – and with them, our hero, Uitara. When we meet him it is at Taputapuatea, Raiatea. He is among the elite warriors of the Island, fiercely competing for a place on the Tainui waka (ocean going vessel) – and for the chance to become part of the biggest ever ocean voyage. Various skills are tested but the event is not without certain drama – there is deceit and envy at work here. Become part of this exciting competition and then later experience the ocean voyage itself with Uitara and his nemesis aboard...ultimately finding yourself amidst the celebration feast when the legendary land of Aotearoa is finally reached!

JOURNEY OF AGES ROTORUA - 1700AD

It is a time long before European have arrived in New Zealand. The migration from Hawaiki undertaken by Uitara I, is now folklore –told and retold for hundreds of years. With each generation it is embellished further -so much so; that those earliest explorers have reached god-like status. Pacific ways have been shed and the still-new Maori culture is developing its own unique rituals and traditions. Tribes are formed, land is claimed, alliances forged and warfare is rife as age-old scores are settled with battle.

It is in this context that we approach the ancient forest village of Ngati Tama at Tumunui and come face to face with a revered sect of warriors whose prowess is famed throughout Aotearoa. We meet Uitara IV. He is a very young man, but his warrior lineage coupled with a childhood under the tutelage of the old tohunga (high priest) mean he is well accomplished in the sacred warrior traditions and has countless victories to his name. Uitara IV is ambitious and hungry for war, so when news arrives that the fearless musket warrior Te Ao Huri is en route and recruiting warriors for a rampage in to the South, Uitara IV is eager to enlist.

We are led by the Storyteller through this 3.5 hour evening encounter. Share in ancient ceremonies of welcome and of farewell and experience the lifestyles and warrior traditions of pre-European times. Journey of Ages tells the story of Uitara IV's campaign for a place within a rebel warrior cult, destined to change Aotearoa forever. It culminates in a traditional farewell feast of earth-cooked hangi, as Uitara and other characters you have met prepare to leave with their new found leader.

An amazing re-enactment - based on actual events from our history with real characters, authentic arts and crafts and powerful song and dance.



FREE CHRONICLES OF UITARA NOVEL!

WHEN YOU BOOK BOTH ROTORUA - JOURNEY OF AGES
AND CHRISTCHURCH - LOST IN OUR OWN LAND

While Stocks Last. Free offer applies to one book of the trilogy.
Free book can be redeemed at Tamaki Booking Office in either Christchurch or Rotorua

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