

Takerei Komene

Adjudicator for the 2024 SOUNZ-NZCF Te Reo Māori Choral Composition Award



Takerei Komene (Ia/They/Them) is a musician based in Auckland, having trained as a baritone and choral conductor at the University of Auckland under Dr Te Oti Rakena, Catrin Johnsson and Robert Wiremu, and Dr Karen Grylls respectively. Currently, they work as a professional choral singer, composer, conductor and music administrator, and feel privileged to be a part of the choral community in Aotearoa in whatever capacity they find themselves in.

As a composer, Takerei's works have a particular focus on Te Ao Māori, as well as identity in general. This is reflected in their compositional output, which has been written almost exclusively in Te Reo Māori. They are particularly interested in the retelling of ancient stories and musical traditions in the context of music today.

Their influences range from puoro Māori, both traditional and contemporary, to other indigenous musical traditions, to the many eras of choral music past and present, to video game soundtracks and music of other popular media.