

## Local docos at Film Fest

Onfilm previews two locally-produced documentaries that will screen at the New Zealand International Film Festival.

### *The Last Ocean*

Director: Peter Young.

**T**he *Last Ocean* is a documentary from Peter Young, one of NZ's leading nature and wildlife cameramen. The man behind the camera on shows including *Hunger for the Wild* and *Get Fresh With Al Brown*, Young is now a key figure in the international movement to end fishing in the Ross Sea.

"Initially I did just go to the Ross Sea and start filming," says Young, "in hindsight I had no idea what I was getting myself into. One thing led to the other, I went there and filmed the wildlife and I saw that we were fishing in this very pristine place. I heard from the scientists, I got a feeling for what this issue was about, I thought it wasn't right, it wasn't what we should be doing there."

Young talked to politicians and fishermen, and he turned from being a cameraman into someone who had a position and had something to say.

"The more I got involved the more I felt this story had to be told. Our argument is that it doesn't matter how well managed this fishery is, it shouldn't be operating in the last untouched ocean on Earth. We don't go down to Fiordland and start pulling kiwi out of the bush and selling them. We shouldn't be down in the Ross Sea pulling Toothfish out.

"They are planning to take out 50% of the key predator in that ecosystem," says Young, "that's going to alter it without a doubt, change the balance. To the

scientists there, they describe it as a living laboratory, one of the last places they can see ecosystem processes happen in a natural way.

"It's just really important that we have these last untouched areas on Earth."

Young says he was in a unique position, having filmed in the Ross Sea and not being tied down with how to use the footage.

"I knew that if a doco was going to create awareness that I had to set up a trust and a foundation. We created The Last Ocean Project (see [www.lastocean.co.nz](http://www.lastocean.co.nz)) and it's turned into a

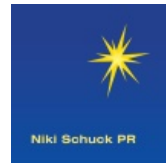


*The Last Ocean*, Image: Supplied.

major international movement now. It's a powerful story and New Zealand has a key role in the issue."

• <http://tinyurl.com/cwul9y5>





## Tatarakihi: the Children of Parihaka

Director: Paora Te Oti Takarangi Joseph.

Paora Joseph's film *Tatarakihi: the Children of Parihaka*, produced by Gaylene Preston, documents a 'journey of memory' taken by a group of Parihaka children, who travelled to the South Island, following in the footsteps of their male ancestors who were taken south and imprisoned after the Taranaki land confiscations of the 1860s. The film is narrated by the children and combines footage of their hikoi - some of it shot by the children themselves - with archival photography.

Paora Joseph won Best Up and Coming Director and Best NZ Short Documentary at last year's Documentary Edge Festival for his film *Hiding Behind the Green Screen*. He says it took some time to find the right way

and time for *Tatarakihi: the Children of Parihaka*.

"This opportunity came to me where I could basically jump on the bus with some children who lived at Parihaka," says Joseph. "They were going to pay homage really to those sacred places where the ploughmen and the fencers had been incarcerated."

The trip took around two weeks, going from Parihaka to Wellington then going around the South Island and coming back again. "Having the people and the children, the descendants of Parihaka telling this story is really powerful," says Joseph. "It's the people of Parihaka telling their own story."

• <http://tinyurl.com/bme5grf>



*Tatarakihi: the Children of Parihaka*. Image: Supplied.