

Man with sword arrested

The newspaper clipping caught me in my scrabbly step. You seemed too vivid a character to grace that suntanned chronicle and I hope the Armed Offenders Squad treated you ok.

Our leaders would have us believe that *there is no alternative*, playing deaf to dissenting voices. We are forced into direct action. But we must also take things slow – anchoring ourselves in our histories, sending roots into the ground, as well as looking to the future – like the Zapatistas have done.

According to Wikipedia, the Ngāti Hāua chief Wiremu Tamihana Te Waharoa once invited Governor George Grey to play a game of mū tōrere, the winner taking the whole of New Zealand. I like that story. It makes me feel like things could have been more different that we can even imagine.

Front room

bamboo, industrial shrink wrapping, polyester twine, chaffinch skeleton

Centre room

brackets, corrugated plastic partition from courtyard

Small room

whistles (smoke fired clay), voice amplifiers (clay from Northcote and Waiheke), rattles (clay from Northcote and Waiheke, enamel paint, kowhai and lupin seeds, plastic bottles, neptune's necklace, rose stem, sand, rocks from driveway), furniture (found wood, paint bucket, blue spray paint, polyester twine, tanned possum skins, red plastic sheeting, bamboo, brackets, vine from courtyard), mobiles (found twigs, harakeke fibre), shoes (basketball, polyester twine, fishing line, shoelaces), mū tōrere (clay from Waiheke, snail shells, Indian ink), also: New Zealand Herald, charcoal from garden, paint drips by Heidi Brickell, kite-making experimentation with Xin Cheng, textural advice by Michael Lee