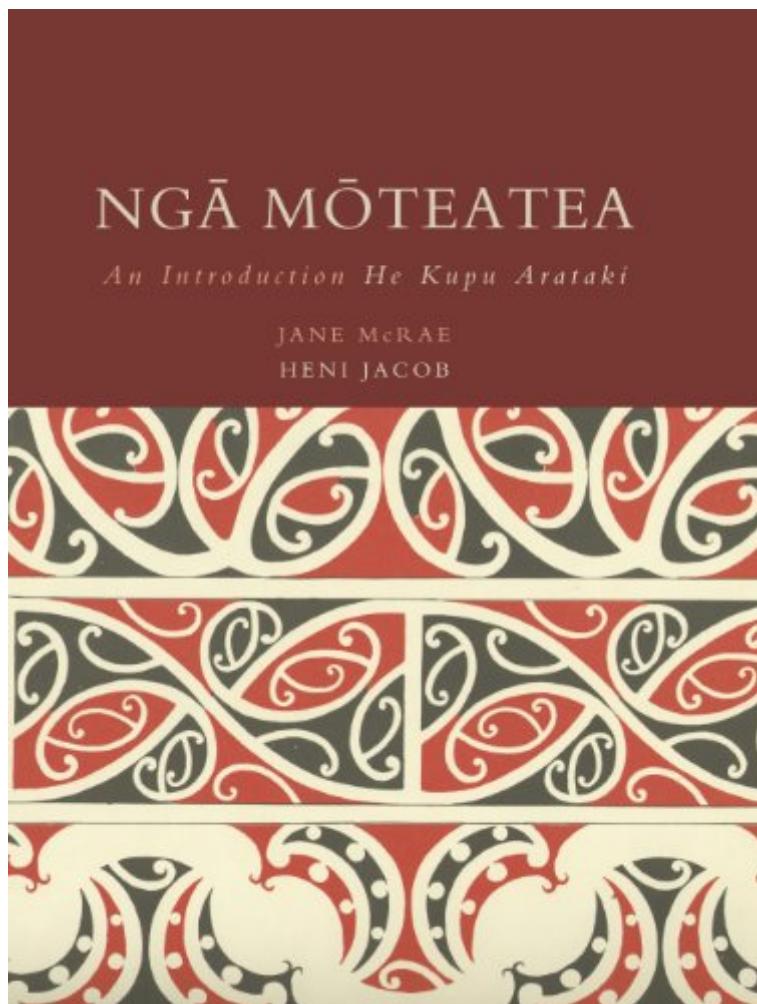


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Nga Moteatea: An Introduction : He Kupu Arataki



Synopsis

The songs of Maori tradition are a living art form and an abundant source of knowledge about tribal history and culture. From the 1920s, Sir Apirana Ngata began collecting and annotating these traditional songs - a massive undertaking that, with the help of translators Pei Te Hurinui Jones and later Hirini Moko Mead, became the treasured four-volume *Nga Moteatea*. This book, published in association with the Polynesian Society, is an introduction to Ngata's classic collection. Its first essay outlines the origins and publication history of the *Nga Moteatea* volumes; the second celebrates the power and meaning of Maori song, discussing the styles and roles of the songs in traditional life, the poetry, and the cultural content, tribal origins, composers and methods of composition. With dual text in English and Maori, illustrations, and ten songs reproduced from the volumes, *Nga Moteatea: An Introduction* is a perfect entry point for students, teachers, scholars or singers interested in learning about and passing on the rich and vibrant poetry of *nga moteatea*.

Book Information

File Size: 4548 KB

Print Length: 160 pages

Publisher: Auckland University Press; Bilingual edition (October 1, 2013)

Publication Date: October 1, 2013

Language: English

ASIN: B00FD3NOBG

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Not Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #1,383,825 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #77 in Books > Literature & Fiction > History & Criticism > Regional & Cultural > Australian & Oceanian #212 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Arts & Photography > Music > Musical Genres > Folk & Traditional #832 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > History > Australia & Oceania

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