

KING KAPISI SHORT BIOGRAPHY [2016]

A stalwart of the NZ music scene, Kapisi has spent the past decade travelling the world representing Kiwi music on an international stage. Kapisi has performed at many festivals throughout the world including the largest Northern Hemisphere outdoor festival, Glastonbury and the largest indie music industry event in the USA, SXSW.

His forthcoming album Hip Hop Lives Here is due for release late 2016. A project that has been in the making for over five years and will include the release of a book highlighting an exhibition of street art created by local and international artists based on the music of the album as well as the release of a Pinot Noir and Sauvignon Blanc renamed Hip Hop Noir and Sauvignon Funk in partnership with a local winery. The exhibition (and wine) will be touring with the artist as he releases his album in various cities around the world.

An advocate of a hands-on approach to social and community projects, Kapisi, alongside his business partner, Teremoana Rapley, have collaborated on a socially responsive community-based multi-platform ideal, named Elevated. Co-ordinated in partnership with business and community stakeholders, Elevated brings a wide demographic together for one day of free family activities, live performances, art activities and food. In April 2016, the couple will travel to New Caledonia in collaboration with Association Siapo to present a NZ X NC Elevated event as part of the country's annual La Quinzaine Du Hip Hop festival. This is an exciting opportunity to simultaneously launch an annual cultural exchange of artists, through the platform of Elevated.

Kapisi also has a business partnership in both wholesale and retail apparel. He and his family, run and operate a screen-printing business alongside a group of apparel companies with a focus as uniform, work and casual wear specialists. Their outlet store is based in Sandringham, Auckland.

Always on the go, 2016 will not see Kapisi slowing down.