

Paranesia word cloud hovers above page 18 of the book:

Terra Australis Coginta: or, Voyages to the Terra Australis, or Southern Hemisphere, during the Sixteenth, Seventeenth, and Eighteenth Centuries. Containing An Account of the Manners of the People, and the Productions of the Countries, hitherto found in the result from further Discoveries on this great Continent, and the Methods of establishing Colonies there, to the advantage of Great Britain. With A Preface by the Editor; in which some geographical, nautical, and commercial Ouestions are discussed.

Vol.I.

EDINBURGH: Printed by A. Donaldson, and sold at his Shops in London and Edinburgh MDCCLXVI

(Written by Charles de Brosses, translated and edited by John Calander,)

Image: David Green

Perspective

PARANESIA

David Green

PARAGLOSS

paraphasia, n.

Pronunciation: Brit. / parəˈfeɪziə/ , / ,parəˈfeɪʒə/ , U.S. / ,pɛrəˈfeɪʒ(i)ə/ , / ,pɛrəˈfeɪziə/ **Etymology:** < para- prefix1 + ancient Greek φάσις speech, utterance (< φάναι to say (see*Med*.

Disordered speech characterized by unintentional substitution of incorrect words or syllables; an instance of this.

paralogism, n.

Pronunciation: Brit. /pəˈralədʒız(ə)m/, U.S. / pəˈrælə,dʒız(ə)m/ Forms: 15-16 paralogisme, 16- paralogism. Etymology: < Middle French, French paralogisme (1380) < post-classical Latin paralogismus

I.A piece of false or erroneous reasoning, esp. one which the reasoner is unconscious of or believes to be logical (as distinct from a sophism, which is intended to deceive); an illogical argument, a fallacy.

2. False or erroneous reasoning; illogicality.

parable, n.

Pronunciation: Brit. /'parəbl/, U.S. /'parəb(ə)l/ Forms: ME pable, ME parabele, ME parabil, ME parabol, ME parabole, ME–15 parabyl... **Etymology:** < Anglo-Norman and Old French *parable...*

I.An allegorical or metaphorical saying or narrative; an allegory, a fable, an apologue; a comparison, a similitude.Also: a proverb, a maxim; an enigmatic or mystical saying (now arch.).

parasitic, adj. and n.

Pronunciation: Brit. / para'sıtık/ , U.S. / pera'sıtık/ Forms: 16 parasiticke, 16-17 parasitick, 16- parasitic. Etymology: < classical Latin *parasiticus...* A. adj.

PARATEXT

Paraphasia

The 'Pacific' ocean was so named by Ferdinand Magellan around 1519 in one of a series of remarkable errors made during his ever-diminishing crew's relentless westward voyage round the earth by mistake via the southern oceans. He called this ocean 'peaceful' because, in an uncharacteristic spate of good luck, the weather systems he encountered while on it happened to be unusually friendly. He himself was far less agreeable. In the course of this hostile peregrination Magellan's life was cut short, having fallen prey to a cultural weakness for the ceaseless bullying of indigenous peoples. In the end, with very few crew having managed to survive the insane ordeal, it took years to firmly establish the fact that a circumnavigation had actually occurred at all.

Paralogism



"When your knowledge has been taken and ... because it's got a different name ... written at the bottom of it and that person 'owns' that knowledge, you know, someone who is not of your culture reads that and then teaches that back to you, I mean that's been <u>my</u> experience ... and it's really dislocating and quite confusing"

Bridget Inder

Parable

Words can sometimes coalesce out of an experience.

This one emerged during the process of compiling interviews with six Maori and Pasifika artists on digital video.

Just as little souls hover above the meticulously distorted corpses on display in the 'animal attic' at the Otago Museum, a word coalesced in my mind's eye. Like a thoroughly modern Madam Blavatsky, I saw it emanate from the cold textual corpse of the mythic 'Polynesia'...

In this time of postcolonial transmogrification, how is that cold composite useful or relevant? ... Where in the world did it come from?

In the video document, as a selection of artists speak about their lives and practices, it becomes evident that the content of their works and thoughts reflect an insoluble interweaving of *Tangata Whenua* and Coloniser.

Parasitic

I used to direct and film TV commercials. Now shiny stuff tastes saccharine, foamy and pink.

Parabiosis

In August of 2010 Peter Stupples and I travelled from Dunedin to Auckland to gather treasures from a number of Pasifika and Maori artists towards compiling a web-delivered course around the history of art in the Pacific. I had a camera and a tripod. Peter had a two-page list of questions starting with "Why are you an artist?"

I was quietly prepared for defenestration.

Parody

Peter was born in London and I was born in Detroit. Peter is as white as a lab rat, and if you came upon me wandering around the foot of Mt Sinai you would likely ask me directions.

So we took the 6.50 a.m. from Dunedin and headed north to go a-gathering, shy only a pith helmet and a Borsolino.

I am alien. I am unwitting orientalist.

Of, relating to, or characteristic of a parasite (parasite n. 1a); having the nature of a parasite, sycophantic; feeding on or exploiting others.

parasite, n.

Pronunciation: Brit. /'parəsʌit/, U.S. /'pɛrə,sait/ Forms: 15 parasyte, 15 paresite, 15–16 parasit, 15–16 parrasite, 15– parasite. **Etymology:** < classical Latin *parasītus* (also *parasīta...*

a.A person who lives at the expense of another, or of society in general; esp. (in early use) a person who obtains the hospitality or patronage of the wealthy or powerful by obsequiousness and flattery; (in later use, influenced by sense 2a) a person whose behaviour resembles that of a plant or animal parasite; a sponger. Occas. also in extended use (of things). Chiefly derogatory.

a. Biol. An organism that lives on, in, or with an organism of another species, obtaining food, shelter, or other benefit; (now) spec. one that obtains nutrients at the expense of the host organism, which it may directly or indirectly harm. The term parasite originally included (and is still sometimes used for) animals and plants that are now considered to be commensals, mutualists, epiphytes, or saprophytes, as well as birds or other animals that habitually steal food from, or use the nests of, other species.

parabiosis, n.

Pronunciation: Brit. / parəbʌl 'əʊsɪs/ , U.S. / pɛrə 'baləsəs/ Etymology: < para- prefix1 + -biosis comb. form. In sense 1 after French *parabiose...*

I. Entomol. and Ecol. An association between two species of ants in which they share the same nest without mingling.

2. Biol. The joining of a pair of animals, esp. as an experimental surgical procedure, usually so as to create a common vascular system; the state of being so joined.

parody, n.2

Pronunciation: Brit. / parədi/, U.S. / parədi/ Forms: 16 parode, 16 parodie, 16- parody. Etymology: < post-classical Latin parodia... I.

a.A literary composition modelled on and imitating another work, esp. a composition in which the characteristic style and themes of a particular author or genre are satirized by being applied to inappropriate or unlikely subjects, or are otherwise exaggerated for comic effect. In later use extended to similar imitations in other artistic fields, as music, painting, film, etc..

Amnesia

In Aotearoa I am a spectator. Having arrived here 22 years ago at the advanced age of 31 (or perhaps because at the age of nine I fell from a galloping horse onto my head), I will undoubtedly speak my last word with the brogue of the Virus as disseminated by such virions as Paris Hilton and Donald Trump.

Parasymbiosis



"I see it like this, like my mother is Samoa and my stepmother is New Zealand and I love them both."

Shigeyuki Kihara

Though I have been a citizen of Aotearoa (and the Queen's loyal subject) since 1994, I acknowledge and accept that I have no ticket to the national discourse.

First things first ...

Parallax



"... but you can see where it comes from because we're colonized, so we have to deal with the different levels of thinking and the different levels of perception and the different frameworks ... that's what I'm really learning about ... is language framing who you are? ... but it's not who you are, it's how you are being framed"

Tracey Tawhaio

amnesia, n.

Pronunciation: /æm'niːsɪə/ /-zɪə/ **Etymology:** modern Latin, < Greek ἀμνησία forgetfulness. *Pathol.*

Loss of memory.

parasymbiosis, n.

Pronunciation: Brit. / parəsımbʌi 'əʊsɪs/ , / ,parəsımbı 'əʊsɪs/ , U.S. /',pɛrə,sımbaı 'oʊsəs/ , / ',pɛrə,sımbi 'oʊsəs/

Etymology: < para- prefix1 + symbiosis n., after German *Parasymbiose* (W. Zopf 1897, in *Ber. der Deutsch. Bot. Ges.* 15 90).(Show Less)

Biol.

Originally: a relationship in which a lichen supports another lichen or fungal species growing in close association with it, without apparent disadvantage. Later more widely: a commensal or other association short of full mutualistic symbiosis.

parallax, n.

Pronunciation: Brit. / parəlaks/, U.S. / pɛrə,læks/ Forms: 15 paralex, 15-16 paralax, 15- parallax, 16 paralaxe, 16 parallaxe.

Etymology: Partly < Middle French, French parallaxe... *I*.

a. Difference or change in the apparent position or direction of an object as seen from two different points; (Astron.) such a difference or change in the position of a celestial object as seen from different points on the earth's surface or from opposite points in the earth's orbit around the sun. Also: (half of) the angular amount of such a difference or change; (Astron.) the angle subtended at a celestial object by the radius of the earth's orbit, giving a measure of its distance from the earth; any of various similar measures of distance calculated by methods incorporating the motion of the sun relative to the local region of the galaxy, the proper motion of the observed body, the motions of a cluster of bodies having similar distances and speeds, etc.

b. fig. and in figurative contexts. Distortion; the fact of seeing wrongly or in a distorted way.

† 2.A change, an alteration. Obs. rare—1.

3. Photogr.A defect in a photographic image caused by differences in the positions of parts of the camera; spec. incorrect framing of an image due to the differing positions of the viewfinder and the lens.



"If you'd asked somebody 20 years ago ... whether we would be even be discussing ... whether New Zealand was a Pacific Nation, or saw itself as a Pacific Nation, I mean ... they would have looked at you as if you were off your rocker ... maybe 20 years ago ... but it's the reality now... and certainly where I live out in South Auckland, where you've got a huge population under 20 of Polynesian descent and mixed heritage ... it's massive... it's a reality and it's going to continue to be a reality."

Giles Peterson

Parapraxis

Words can slip out by mistake on purpose. Words can be blunt instruments. Words can be sharp and laserlike. Words can be mushroom clouds ...

Parataxis

'Polynesia' is a dull thud of a Greek epithet.

Paraphora

'Poly' is license not to have to consider. It is the thin mental lasso you rope round a maelstrom. It is the concrete you barrow into rip, or bust boxing when there's complicated terrain and you can't be bothered quantifying the details. It is 'terra incognita' minus the admission.

'Nesia' is the plural form of Nesos, it means 'islands.'

Parablepsis

Together they form a threadbare colonial artifact in a White Settlers Museum languishing under dusty glass in an old oak cabinet right next to stinky 'Terra Nullius.'

Parability

The word/concept 'Polynesia' was synthesised in

parapraxis, n.

Pronunciation: Brit. / parə' praksıs/, U.S. / pɛrə' præksəs/ **Inflections:** Plural *parapraxes*.

Etymology: < para- prefix1 + praxis n. Compare earlier parapraxia n.

A minor error in speech or action, (supposedly) representing the fulfilment of an unconscious wish; a Freudian slip.

parataxis, n.

Pronunciation: Brit. / parəˈtaksɪs/, U.S. / pɛrəˈtæksəs/ **Etymology:** < ancient Greek παράταξις a placing side by

side < $\pi\alpha\rho\alpha$ -para- prefix1 + $\tau\alpha\xi\iota\varsigma...Grammar$.

The placing of propositions or clauses one after another, without indicating by connecting words the relation (of coordination or subordination) between them, as in Tell me, how are you?.

paraphora, n.

Etymology: < ancient Greek παραφορά distraction, derangement < παρα-para- prefix1 + φορά... (Show More) Med. Obs. rare.

A slight delirium.

parablepsis, n.

Pronunciation: Brit. / pare'blepsis/, U.S. / pere'blepses/ **Etymology:** < Hellenistic Greek παράβλεψις looking askance at < ancient Greek παρα-... (Show More) Thesaurus » Categories » †1. Med. False or abnormal vision. Obs. rare—0.

† parability, n.

Forms: 15 parabilitie, 16 parability. **Etymology:** < parable adj. + -ity suffix; compare -bility suffix. *Obs.*

The quality of being easily procured or prepared.

paraphilia, n.

Pronunciation: Brit. /,parə'filiə/, U.S. /,parə'filiə/, ,parə'filiə/ Etymology: < para- prefix1 + -philia comb. form. Psychol. and Psychiatry. Sexual desires regarded as perverted or irregular; spec. 1756 by Charles de Brosses, a French writer with praeternatural visions of strip-mining antipodean El Dorados. He was very keen to foment European 'exploration' of the earth's nether region, inventing a term to encompass every island in the southern 'Pacific' Ocean – even though he himself never ventured further south than Italy.

(It is not surprising that Charles De Brosses is equally famous for distilling the spiritual out of the word 'fetishism,' discarding it, and leaving behind a rich modern signifier as useful to Freud as it was Marx.)

In an 1831 lecture to the Geographical Society of Paris, Jules Dumont d'Urville improvised a Greek etymological flip-flop gate to draft off a more aspirational 'Polynesia' from other islands of the 'Pacific,' thus segregating the largely Black neighborhood ('Melanesia:' Melas = black) and the mainly Filipino 'hood comprised of thousands of little islands ('Micronesia:' Micro = small) from the dusky maiden.

(Science, Empire and the European Exploration of the Pacific, ed Tony Ballantyne (Aldershot, Hants, and Burlington, VT: Ashgate, 2004). De Brosses, pp. 262-3; d'Urville, pp. 308-14.)

Paraphilia

'Polynesia' is the perfect appellation to procure and fetishise nearly one sixth of the planet while remaining deaf to its voice; to systematically destroy or appropriate its indigenous biota (while adding a select few of your own to do a clean-up operation on any survivors).

Paratonnerre

Later when you feel like giving something back, it is a word you can nuke the out of in order to prove Empirically (if not scientifically) that God is dead.

Paracosm

It is the nineteenth-century utopian promotions and London-drafted land allotments parceling tidal swamps and cliff faces into neat rectilinear plots. It is the antipodean buildings architecturally doomed to face the South Pole.

Here the words of the artists in concert with 'para' words take over the argument:

attraction to unusual or abnormal sexual objects or practices; an instance of this.

Paratonnerre, n.

Pa`ra`ton`nerre''\, n. [F., fr: parer to parry + tonnerre thunderbolt.] A conductor of lightning; a lightning rod.

paracosm, n.

A prolonged fantasy world invented by children; can have a definite geography and language and history.

paradox, n. and adj.

Pronunciation: Brit. / parədɒks/ , U.S. / pɛrə,dαks/ Forms: 15-16 paradoxe, 15- paradox. Etymology: < Middle French, French *paradoxe* (1495 as noun; 1372-4 in plural *paradoxes*... (Show More) A. n. †1.

a. A statement or tenet contrary to received opinion or belief, esp. one that is difficult to believe. Obs. Sometimes used with unfavourable connotation, as being discordant with what is held to be established truth, and hence absurd or fantastic; sometimes with favourable connotation, as a correction of a common error.

b. Rhetoric. A figure of speech consisting of a conclusion or apodosis contrary to what the audience has been led to expect. Obs. rare.

a. An apparently absurd or self-contradictory statement or proposition, or a strongly counter-intuitive one, which investigation, analysis, or explanation may nevertheless prove to be well-founded or true. Twin paradox.

b.A proposition or statement that is (taken to be) actually self-contradictory, absurd, or intrinsically unreasonable. Some scholars have denied statements to be paradoxes when they can be proved after all to be true, or have called them 'apparent paradoxes' when they are paradoxes in sense.

c. Logic. More fully logical paradox. An argument, based on (apparently) acceptable premises and using (apparently) valid reasoning, which leads to a conclusion that is against sense, logically unacceptable, or self-contradictory; the conclusion of such an argument. Freq. with a descriptive or eponymous name.Grelling's, prediction, Russell's paradox: see the first element. paradox of the liar:

Paradox



"The Maori cultural aspects in my life are ... my Marae, my grandparents ... any language courses I have had to take ... in a specifically Maori way ... 'cause we are living in a European society now and when you talk about tradition, it's talked about as something in the past ... it's gone ... and when you are creating, everything is in the present ... and so it's beautiful when you are in the present to have this sort of pool of ... missing aspects in your life to draw in now and have it now, and not be separated from it and for it not to be gone, and for tradition to be existing now ..."

Tracey Tawhaio

Parallel



"There is a different aesthetic between Maori and Polynesian art practitioners in New Zealand and Pakeha or European that live here in New Zealand. But there's also a difference between Pacific and Maori artists who practice in New Zealand and ones who are born and raised in Australia"

Lonnie Hutchinson

4.A composition in prose or verse expounding a paradox. Now rare.

5.A person or thing whose life or behaviour is characterized by paradox; a paradoxical phenomenon or occurrence, spec. one that exhibits some contradiction or conflict with preconceived notions of what is reasonable or possible. hydrostatic, Olbers' paradox: see the first element.

parallel, n., adj., and adv.

Pronunciation: Brit. /'parəlɛl/, U.S. /'pɛrə,lɛl/ Forms: 15 paraleles , 15 paralizes , 15 parellell, 15 poralel , 15-16 paralell...

Etymology: < Middle French *parallèle*... A. n.

I. Physical uses.

Ι.

a. Each of a set of imaginary circles of constant latitude on the earth's surface, or corresponding lines drawn on a map or globe; also with reference to other bodies. Also more fully parallel of latitude.

2. Freq. in pl. More generally: a (usually straight) line that runs side by side with and equidistant from another. Also in extended use, applied to things running side by side in this way, or pointing in the same direction.

3. Mil. In a siege: a trench (usually one of three) that lies alongside and equidistant to the face of the fortification under siege, providing protection and a means of communication for the besieging forces. Also fig. Now chiefly hist.

†4. The state of being parallel; parallel position. Obs.

5. Printing. A pair of parallel vertical lines (I) used as a reference mark for footnotes, etc.

7. a. Close correspondence or analogy; a point of comparison or similarity between two people or things. Hence also: an act of drawing such correspondence or analogy; the placing of things side by side mentally or descriptively so as to show their similarity. Freq. to draw a parallel .

b.A person who or thing which corresponds to another in such a way; that which is equivalent in essential features, function, role, etc.;

Parachromatism, n.

Partial color blindness.

Parachromatism



"I am an artist of Samoan and Pakeha heritage ... My artwork is about where those two cultures meet ... about that in-between space ... the belonging to both but not quite belonging to either..."

Bridget Inder



"... the Patersons are actually a line of priests and on my Maori side I'm from a line of tohunga too ... so it's a ... [smiles] 'Spooky Magic'..."

Reuben Paterson



"You know, I'm an artist ... and ... and my ... ancestry ... my descent ... is Maori/Samoan ... and English ... and a bit of Scottish ... as well, and I'm sure they come through a bit as well in my work."

Lonnie Hutchinson

paracusis, n.

Pronunciation: Brit. / parəˈkuːsıs/ , U.S. / pɛrəˈkusıs/ Forms: 16 18 paracousis, 17- paracusis. **Etymology:** < Hellenistic Greek παράκουσις defect of hearing (Galen) < ancient Greek παρα-... Med.

Disturbance or impairment of hearing; spec. †(a) (in early use) tinnitus (obs.); (b) (more fully paracusis of Willis) an apparent improvement in the ability to hear conversation in the presence of loud background noise, thought to be characteristic of certain types of conductive hearing loss, esp. otosclerosis.

paramnesia, n.

Pronunciation: Brit. /,parəm'ni:zıə/, /,parəm'ni:ʒə/, U.S. / ,pɛræm'niʒ(i)ə/, /,pɛræm'niziə/ Inflections: Plural paramnesiae, paramnesias. Etymology: < para- prefix1 + amnesia n. Compare French paramnesie (J. Lordat 1843, in ... Chiefly *Psychol.* Memory that is unreal, illusory, or distorted; spec. the

phenomenon of déjà vu; an instance of this. Also: loss of memory for the meaning of words (disused rare—0).

paraenesis | parenesis, n.

Pronunciation: Brit. /pəˈrɛnɨsɪs/ , /pəˈri:nɨsɪs/ , U.S. / pəˈrɛnəsəs/ , /pəˈrinəsəs/ Forms: 15- paraenesis, 16 paranaesis, 17- parenesis. Etymology: < post-classical Latin *paraenesis...* (Show More) Chiefly *Rhetoric*. Exhortation, advice, counsel; a text or speech composed in order to give exhortation or advice.

paragram, n.

Pronunciation: Brit. /'parəgram/, U.S. /'pɛrə,græm/ **Etymology:** < Hellenistic Greek παράγραμμα play on words, pun (as a Greek word in Cicero ... A play on words in which a letter or group of letters in a word is altered so as to produce or suggest another word.

para, n.3

Pronunciation: Brit. /' parə/ , U.S. /' pαrə/ , N.Z. /' pʌrʌ/ Forms: 18 pura , 18- para. Etymology: < Maori *para*. N.Z.

A large evergreen tropical fern, *Marattia fraxinea* (family *Marattiaceae*); (also) its swollen rhizome, formerly used by Maoris as food. Also called *horseshoe fern, king fern*.

Paracusis



"I think the system in place in New Zealand today doesn't allow a platform for diverse voices to be heard. It all has to do with money and the management of resources that contribute to the alienation or exclusion of ... of ... of voices of community ... that are at times powerless ... and ignored."

Shigeyuki Kihara

Paramnesia



I've been trying to learn Maori for years ... but to learn your native tongue as your second language ... at an older age ... is like ... it's ... it's like doing a body twist that's impossible to do ... it's really difficult ... and ... I feel almost like ... things have grown in a certain way in me that I can't even ... achieve that ... it's depressing ... but I am happy that I have my art to express that part of myself, and I've got poetry that ... can ... deliver my thoughts better than just writing in a normal structured English sentence. ... Poetry is my Maori language in English."

Tracey Tawhaio

parawai, n.

 Pronunciation: Brit. /'parəwʌl/, U.S. /'pɛrə,wal/, N.Z. /

 'pʌrʌwʌi/, /'pʌrəwai/

 Etymology: < Maori parawai.</td>

 N.Z.

 A traditional Maori flax cloak or mat of superior quality. Cf. korowai n., kaitaka n.

paradise, n.

Pronunciation: Brit. /'parədʌɪs/ , U.S. /'pɛrə,daɪs/ , / 'pɛrə,daɪz/ Forms: ... (Show More) Etymology: In α forms < post-classical Latin paradisus, paradysus... (Show More) I.Theological uses.

The abode of Adam and Eve before the Fall in the biblical account of the Creation; the Garden of Eden.

Note:With the exception of 'parachromatism' and 'paracosm,' all of the above definitions come from the *Oxford English Dictionary*, 3rd ed., June 2005; online version, March 2011.

Most of the definitions in the Paracloud graphic are taken from Dictionary.com.



"... when you are learning about your own culture in your school, which would be a little odd anyway ... you are being taught by people who are not of your culture and could ... I've heard stories of someone ... correcting pronunciation ... it's just ... well, surprise! You've got Polynesian students dropping out."

Bridget Inder

Paranaesis

It is time to pull off the old nappy 'cause it was saturated with when they pinned it on.

Here is a boom to absorb the churning iridescence of 'Pacific' colonisation past and present:

Paragram



It's New! New! New! Custom-built to describe the postcolonial paradox formerly framed as 'Polynesia.'

(I have no right to name.)

'Paranesia' is more than a word; it's a word cloud.

Sure it's Greek. But it's Maori too:

Para



Photograph by Phil Bendle

Paranesia word cloud hovers above page 18 of the book:

Terra Australis Coginta: or, Voyages to the Terra Australis, or Southern Hemisphere, during the Sixteenth, Seventeenth, and Eighteenth Centuries. Containing An Account of the Manners of the People, and the Productions of the Countries, hitherto found in the result

from further Discoveries on this great Continent, and the Methods of establishing Colonies there, to the advantage of Great Britain.

With

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(Written by Charles de Brosses, translated and edited by John Calander,)

Image: David Green

The *para* or *tawhiti para* (also called the king fern) was an important food source for pre-European Maori:

Ptisana salicina is a species of fern native to New Zealand and the South Pacific. Large and robust with a distinctive tropical appearance, it has fronds up to 5 metres tall that arise from a starchy base that was a traditional food for the Maori.... King fern is in serious decline, seriously threatened throughout its range by feral and domestic cattle, wild pigs and goats. Large plants no longer exist except in areas where there has been rigorous control of animals.

http://www.terrain.net.nz/friends-of-te-henui-group/ nz-ferns/king-fern.html [accessed 25 May 2011].

Here's the amazing part: The *sori* of the *para* look like $waka t\bar{w}ai$ – one leaf contains a whole fleet of them travelling in tight formation!



Photograph by Phil Bendle



Photograph by Phil Bendle

Parawhai

Is this the mesh onto which these motu are woven?

'Paranesia' is post-coconut: It's the fruit salad served up in the coconut.

'Paranesia' is post-kumara: It's the whole Sunday Roast.

Paradise

We inhabit a hyperobject* least well described by a chauvinistic eighteenth-century word that signaled bad news from its conception. By perpetuating the 'Polynesia' tag, not only do we passively participate in forsaking what was, we actively negate what has become.

Artists work at the coalface of the zeitgeist. They contribute most valuably as our cultural critics, whose life experience runs on a continuum with their arts practices. It makes perfect sense that their voices and their works have agency in both identifying and reflecting this vibrant cultural landscape.

Can we be located where we actually are?

For me, 'Paranesia' simply emerges from a word cloud. On reflection, I have to admit it is very nearly as bad as the incumbent.

It goes without saying that this complex consanguinity holds the inalienable right to name itself.

So I mark this wall in semiotic protest and await the Messignifier.

*Hyperobject is a term created by Tim Morton, author of *Ecology without Nature*, (2007).

Note: This publication references the 70-minute digital video document called *Paranesia* created by the author with Peter Stupples.

David Green is a lecturer in Electronic Arts in the Dunedin School of Art and a collaborative filmmaker.