

# Moana – The Rising of the Sea

*Viage Theatre*, Brussels, 25 May at 21:00 (doors open at 20:00)  
THIS PERFORMANCE IS PART OF THE ESFO CONFERENCE  
ADMISSION IS INCLUDED IN THE CONFERENCE FEE



Photo by Eilin H. Torgersen, University of Bergen

For anyone who lives on an island, surrounded by the deep, beautiful yet dangerous sea, it is a cruel thought that one day the island will be swallowed by the ocean. For the inhabitants of the tropical Pacific islands, this is about to happen. Global climate change makes the sea rise and the land disappear. How does it feel when the sea forces you to abandon all that you hold dear? What does the threat from climate change mean to the island societies and the families who live on the islands of Oceania?

Written, directed, and performed by Pacific Islanders, *Moana – The Rising of the Sea* is an intense declaration of love to the natures and cultures of the Pacific, and a call for the world to think and act in these challenging times for Oceania. Through dance, song, music and film, 29 dancers and singers of the Oceania Dance Theatre and the Pasifika Voices choir (resident ensembles at the University of the South Pacific in Fiji) share emotions and experiences not so easily captured by the written and spoken words of reports and official meetings. The performance at the Viage Theatre on 25 June is the final show in a month-long European Tour that includes Bergen, St Andrews, Copenhagen, and the European Parliament in Brussels.

*A production by ECOPAS and the University of the South Pacific's Oceania Centre for Arts, Culture and Pacific Studies*

*Funded by the European Union (ECOPAS Grant No 32098, FP7)*

Performed by **Oceania Dance Theatre & Pasifika Voices**

**Vilsoni Hereniko** Producer & original story

**Peter Rockford Espiritu** Director & choreographer

**Tuilagi Igelese Ete** Musical director, original score & music

**Tuilagi Seiuli Allan Alo Va'ai** Original lyrics, cultural specialist and protocol

**Edvard Hviding** Executive producer, European Tour 2015

*The European Tour of **Moana: The Rising of the Sea** in 2015 is a collaborative effort by ECOPAS, the University of Bergen, the University of the South Pacific, the Bergen International Festival, the European Parliament, ESfO, and other sponsors in Europe.*



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