Te Rangitu Netana and Emilia Wickstead - Air NZ uniform collaboration transcript

0:00
Being a person that wears traditional moko on my on kanohi,

0:07
I love being the person that smiles.

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That's what I mean by showing the world. I think.

0:16
My name is Te Rangitu Netana and I'm a Māori traditional artist.

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When did we meet? Oh man. When was it? 2019. 2019. Friendship was born. Friendship was born. hen I wanted Te Rangitu to work on this project. I just picked up the phone. Te Ranigtu lives in Bristol. I would say we just talked a lot. The entire conversation was about how we can make people feel proud. That was really what we committed on. There was yes, yes. yes, yes. You know, we had 100,000 yes. It was like, and then what, are we actually gonna do. Somone had to say no!

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To bring Māori heritage into a print design on the uniform was so important for me. And Te Rangitu tells me these stories and continues to do so, which are just so empowering, so informative. That's sort of how the design came about. It's part of my work being a traditional practitioner of moko. You know you're carrying a responsibility.

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When you add the history and tradition of something, it makes it even stronger.

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I was lucky to have grandparents and parents that teach a different way of looking at something.

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You've got to kind of understand a language without words. So my patterns and the designs that I work with are a language with no words,

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There's so much in this uniform. I feel like we're just painting this amazing picture of our land of Aotearoa.

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You know, like I said, it's through design, it's through construction, it's through print, it's through little details that you're going to see, but also details that are quite hidden.

2:04
And I want them to feel every single inch of that.

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I want them to know who they are, who they represent, the land that they come from.

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It's not just about wearing but actually being.

2:24 And, and, and I think it's uniquely New Zealand.

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Let's show the world really how we do it.

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You might see us wearing it if we're allowed.

2:36
I would wear it.