

# WAIATA

## KO AU TE MOTU

### Context

“Ko au te motu” is a waiata that may be sung in all Marae and powhiri settings.

## KO AU TE MOTU

Ko au te motu  
Ko te motu ahau  
E takoto ana  
I te moana e

I am an island  
The island is me  
That lay here in  
The ocean

He arae tenei a  
Hinemoana  
E miri taku kiri I te tai  
Makawe rere ana  
I nga hau a  
Hinehauone e

This is an altar of the  
Maiden of the sea  
Who creases my skin  
With her tides  
My hair flies  
With the winds of the  
Maiden of sandy breezes

He mara tenei  
A Hinewaiora  
He uma maringi  
I te aroha  
Nga ngutu ngawari  
A Hinepukohurangi e

This is a garden  
Of the Maiden of  
Fresh Waters  
Who's bosom spills  
With love  
Soft lips of the  
Maiden of the Mist

Ko au te hureka  
A Hineraukatauri  
Kowhetawheta ana  
I te po  
Nga mata hikohiko  
A Hine Te Uira e

I am the sigh  
Of the Maiden of Music  
Who whispers in  
The night  
Electric eyes of the  
Maiden of Lightning

Ko au he tamahine  
A Papatuanuku

I am the daughter  
Of Mother Earth

Maumahara koe  
E te tau e ...!

Remember my lover!

