

# Hiapo / Siapo



Hiapo (tapa), Niue, c. 1850–1900, Tapa or bark cloth, freehand painting (Auckland War Memorial Museum)





Traditional hiapo (Niuean) designs and use

# Traditional hiapo (Niuean) designs and use

## Pg 2

*Clockwise left - right, from top left*

Ceremonial challenge, 1900s, Niue. A rare photo of Niueans wearing tapa shows a ceremonial challenge between men armed with Niuean clubs and spears. The man on the left wears a lavalava of freehand painted hiapo with a Samoan pattern. *Detail of image directly below.\**

Tiputa, Bishop Museum, Honolulu. *Detail of image below* – Dancers, detail of tiputa. An upper body garment consisting of a length of bark cloth with a hole in the middle was called a tiputa.\*

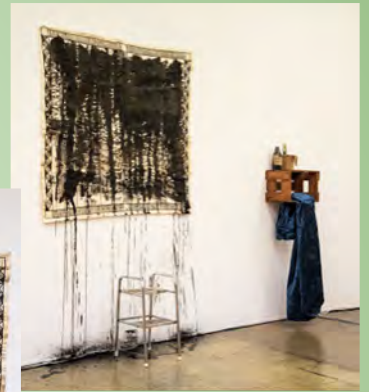
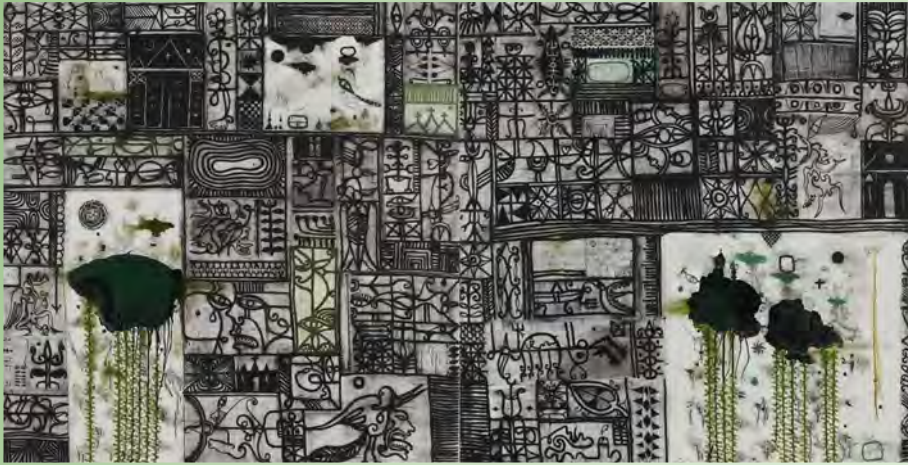
Hiapo (tapa), Niue, c. 1850–1900, Tapa or bark cloth, freehand painting with plant forms and abstract patterns. Small motifs used to fill spaces. Inscriptions on the border read 'Laifone mai puka. Te mu ki tai. Ikipa Lulai 13 1886' (Auckland War Memorial Museum)\*

Modern hiapo by Charles Jessop

Hiapo, inscribed 'Ikieaula Niue oke 1887', British Museum\*

\*Images drawn from *Pacific Tapa*, Roger Neich and Michael Pendergrast, 1997





Contemporary Niuean artists influenced by hiapo

# Contemporary Niuean artists influenced by hiapo

## Pg 4

*Clockwise left - right, from top left*

*Savage Island Hiapo*, 2008, John Pule, oils, enamels, oil stick, ink, varnish

*Take These With You When You Leave*, 1998, John Pule, oil on canvas

*Our last supper with you revised*, 2020, Cora-Allan Wickliffe, hiapo, traditional ink. Two images of work becoming part of a performance piece.

Cora-Allan (r) and friend in front of her work: *The space between us*, 2019, hiapo, traditional ink

*Memories*, 2020, Cora-Allan Wickliffe, hiapo, traditional ink

*Still life on Hiapo – Objects from Nana and Grandpa Lafaiki*, 2020, Cora-Allan Wickliffe, hiapo, traditional ink

Photograph of John Pule

*Hafata*, 2016, John Pule, oils, enamels, ink, polyurethane





Traditional siapo (Samoan) designs and use

# Traditional siapo (Samoan) designs and use

## Pg 6

*Clockwise left - right, from top left*

Historic images page\*

- Above left: Orator chief and family, 1890s, Palauli Savai'i, Western Samoa. The older man in a naval jacket and cotton lavalava holds a flywhisk or fue as a mark of his office as a talking chief. The younger man wears a freehand painted siapo lavalava held in place by a tapa cloth belt.
- Above right: Young men dressed as manaia, c. 1900s, Apia, Western Samoa. Holding their nifo'oti weapons and wearing siapo lavalava with full ceremonial tuiga headdress, these young chiefs' sons are prepared for their role as manaia, when they will perform the same duties normally carried out by the taupou
- Left: Young women in tapa dresses, c. 1900s, Apia, Western Samoa. These outfits have been cut and shaped in European-style from freehand painted siapo.

Siapo mamanu, Samoa\*

Siapo, pre 1925, <https://www.nz museums.co.nz/collections/3032/objects/48516/tapa-or-siapo-cloth-samoa>

Siapo wedding attire (contemporary use) - Google search

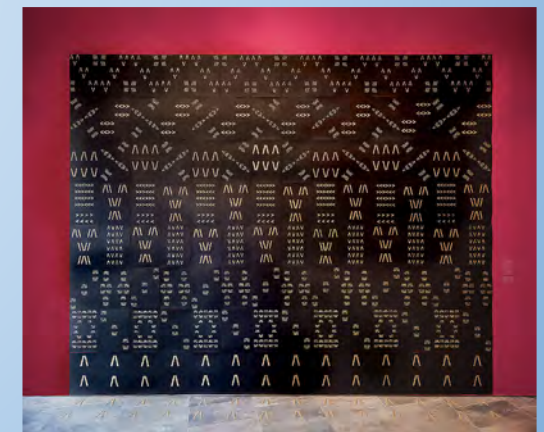
Siapo, <https://collections.tepapa.govt.nz/object/85656>

Siapo <https://www.tapapacifica.com>

Detail of photograph of church interior, Alofi, Niue, 1886 (Samoan siapo on what is believed to be an altar)\*

\*Images drawn from *Pacific Tapa*, Roger Neich and Michael Pendergrast, 1997





Contemporary Samoan artists influenced by siapo



# Contemporary Samoan artists influenced by siapo

## **Pg 6**

*Clockwise left - right, from top left*

*Salamasina*, 1987, Fatu Feu'u, oil paint

*Mea Ila Ila*, 2020, Vaimaila Urale, sand

*Typeface*, 2015, Vaimaila Urale, with Johann Nortje from Interrupt collective, digital

*Aniva*, 2019, Vaimaila Urale, black card and sand

*Fa'a Samoa matai*, 1988, Michael Tuffery, woodcut print

*Manu Tolu*, (n.d.), Sheyne Tuffery, woodcut print

*X*, open edition, Michael Tuffery, woodcut print

# Videos

<https://www.thecoconet.tv/moana-arts/island-arts/tapa-of-the-pacific-niuean-hiapo/>

<https://www.thecoconet.tv/moana-arts/island-arts/tapa-of-the-pacific-samoan-siapo/>

<https://pmn.co.nz/articles/like-raising-something-from-the-dead-niuean-hiapo-artist-wins-prestigious-award-thanks-to-her-grandparents-1>

<https://www.aucklandmuseum.com/discover/collections/topics/tapa-of-the-pacific>

<http://www.airplane.co.nz/john-pule> John Pule 6 minute video