

Lynda Chanwai-Earle

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Lynda Chanwai Earle

As a poet, performance artist, filmmaker, playwright and actor, she has performed her work for over 15 years. She has produced various award winning performance pieces and her poems have been published widely in journals and anthologies. A collection *Honeypants* (AUP) was published in 1994. *Honeypants* was selected for the 1995 Penn Book Awards and New Zealand Book Awards.

Lynda toured with *Te Rakau Hua O Te Wao Tapu* and has been involved as a script co-ordinator, drama facilitator and performer for dramas created by women in prison.

Lynda's groundbreaking one-woman play *Ka Shue* (Letters Home) is the first authentically New Zealand-Chinese play for mainstream audiences and is semi-autobiographical. It has toured New Zealand and overseas. Together with her second play, *Foh-Sarn* (Fire Mountain), it was published by The Women's Play Press in 2003. Both plays are prescribed texts in New Zealand Literature at the University of Auckland. Her play *Monkey*, premiered at the 2004 International Festival of the Arts and toured as part of Capital E National Children's Theatre Programme. Her other new play, *Heat*, a Circa Theatre Commission, will be scheduled for production soon. She has worked as a journalist for the television programme *Asia Down Under* (TVNZ Channel One).

Lynda represented New Zealand at the inaugural Hong Kong Literary Festival in 2001, the 2002 Philippines Asia-Pacific Poetry Conference, was Trans-Tasman writer at the 2003 Queensland Poetry Festival and attended the Shanghai Literary Festival in March 2005 as guest writer.

Lynda has a B.F.A. from Elam, Auckland and an MA in scriptwriting with Victoria University's International Institute of Modern Letters. Lynda currently lives in Wellington with her partner and child where she is developing a feature film-script with the NZ Film Commission.

