



Song Of The Day Fact Sheet

Shihad - "Think You're So Free," 2014

Shihad is an alternative rock band from Wellington. They formed in 1988 and have produced nine studio albums. "Think You're So Free" is from their ninth studio album *FVEY*. The album has a strong message running through it - opposition to the activities of the Five Eyes, an intelligence alliance between New Zealand, Australia, Canada, the United Kingdom and the United States.

"In my mind, 'Think You're So Free' is about the slow, subtle and often imperceptible process of eroding freedom and rights that is happening in many parts of life right here in New Zealand," says video director Sam Peacocke. "I guess that the imagery in the video reflects my feelings about this ongoing process in which we are all a part of."

Bella Kalolo - "Without The Paper," 2011

Bella Kalolo is a vocalist and "soul diva" from Wellington, inspired by singers like Aretha Franklin. She is of Ngati Porou, Samoan and Tongan descent, and grew up singing in the Samoan church and in school productions. "Without the Paper" is the title track from her first full-length album. Bella names the ups and downs of daily life and love as influences when writing songs for *Without the Paper*.

Hani Totorewa - "My Reo," 2011

Hani Totorewa is a vocalist and keyboard player, formally of the legendary reggae band Katchafire who currently resides in Whakatane. Hani is a dedicated music teacher and teaches at two different schools.

This performance of "My Reo" was part of the Matariki celebrations at Te Papa in Wellington. The song is about the struggle of Te Reo Maori and what it means to Hani and his family.

Anna Coddington - "Release Me," 2016

Anna Coddington is a singer-songwriter who originally hails from Raglan,

now living in Auckland with her family. A Smokefreerockquest winner herself at Hamilton Girls High School in 1998, Anna has performed as a solo artist and part of the Fly My Pretties collaboration.

"Release Me" is inspired by "yacht rock," a smooth, mellow kind of soft rock that came out Southern California in the late 1970s and early 1980s. The video's imagery of rainy windscreens and emotional faces and is described as "literally driving us through people's feelings."

Louis Baker - "Birds," 2013

Wellington singer-songwriter Louis Baker (pronounced Louie) is one of New Zealand's most exciting emerging artists. His unique soulful voice, raw emotive lyrics and mesmerising melodies have gained him praise both at home and abroad.

"Birds" is a single that showcases Louis' voice front and centre with just his guitar and simple strings to adorn it. A song that stems from an earnest longing for love and one that is perhaps cultivated in the mind before even meeting a person. The accompanying video reflects this theme and has been directed by international photographer Mat Baker.

French for Rabbits - "Goat," 2013

Christchurch-based songwriter, musician, publicist and teacher Brooke Singer performs as half of the dream-folk duo French for Rabbits. According to Soundcloud, dream-folk "inspires a mellow, tranquil or reflective state of mind, and might encourage a dream-like, contemplative, or imaginative state."

The song, from their debut album *Spirits*, was recently featured on US TV show *The Vampire Diaries*. It has been described as "glowing with tenderness" and Brooke Singer's voice as carrying a "wealth of emotion in her smoky, soft-spoken croon."

K Dread - "My Everything," 2015

Karl Thomas is a roots reggae artist based in Wanganui who he has written songs for House of Shem's first two albums.

The single has a definitive summertime vibe to it and is best played while at the beach, by the pool, hanging with your mates at your next summer BBQ or whenever you feel the need for some nice *irie* (the state of feeling great) vibes.

Annie Crummer - "See What Love Can Do," 1992

Singer Annie Crummer is of Cook Islands/Tahitian descent. From the late 80s she has been part of the very successful all female act When The Cat's Away, followed by successful solo albums and musical theatre roles.

This cover of a song originally recorded by Eric Clapton was the first single off her debut solo album *Language*. It features Pacific reggae band Herbs (with the late Charlie Tumahai as duet partner). Fred Renata's stylish video is a study in monochrome as it alternates black and white backdrops and augments them with photos of loved one and shadow play.

Ma-V-Elle - "Depend On Me", 1997

Ma-V-Elle is a three-piece New Zealand girl group best known for their top 40 singles in the New Zealand charts in the mid 1990s. The group formed at James Cook High School, Manurewa and consisted of Lavina Williams, Marina Davis and Maybelle Galuvao.

Anonymouz - "RESAMPLE: South Auckland," 2014

South Auckland based music producer Matthew Salapu, also known as Anonymouz, has worked widely within the NZ urban music scene for many years featuring on many commercial mainstream and underground releases. He has scored for numerous commissioned film, television and radio projects as well as musically directed many live events. Matt is well known for his soundscape installations, which he creates by collecting live sound samples that represent a particular area or location.

"Resample: South Auckland" is a conceptual ten minute audio exhibition piece (in a four movement symphonic structure) by created exclusively out of location sounds recorded around South Auckland interwoven with live strings and piano. It was premiered at the Mangere Arts Centre, South Auckland, NZ on Friday 9th May 2014.

The changing visual clips throughout the track itself portray the locations or events from which a particular sound that is playing at that moment is resampled from.

Indi - "Stay," 2014

Christchurch-based musician, composer and artist Indira Force performs in alternative psych-electronic band Doprah. She currently writes primarily with textures, vocals and synthesisers in both her solo project and Doprah. "Stay" is a glistening slice of celestial synth-pop, produced by

the producer for both Lorde and Broods, Joel Little.

Rob Ruha featuring Maisey Rika - "Waiaroha," 2015

Rob Ruha (Te Whanau-a-Apanui, Ngati Porou, Tainui, Ngati Tuwharetoa, Te Arawa, Nga Puhi, Rongowhakaata, Nga Ariki) is a multi award winning singer-songwriter based in Rotorua.

Maisey Rika (Ngati Awa, Tuhoë, Te Awara, Te Whanau-a-Apanui) hails from Whakatane and has spellbound audiences both at home and overseas with her spine-tingling vocals.

This waiata speaks of the changing nature in relationships between lovers. It metaphorically expresses the journey of life and love through the symbol of a fern leaf on a river. At times the leaf is at the mercy of turbulent rapids and rushing water, other times its excited by the swift currents or caressed by the deeper, calm spots in the river. All currents eventually flowing towards the sea: the symbol of boundless unity.

Julia Deans - "Modern Fables," 2010

Christchurch native Julia Deans has a long-reaching stellar career as a solo artist and member of Banshee Reel, Fur Patrol and The Adults. Her versatility as a vocalist has allowed her to take the musical theatre stage in Jesus Christ Superstar and feature in Auckland's Cabaret season.

According to NewsHub, the video for "Modern Fables involved a bit of guerrilla film making - the singer drove around a Mt Eden roundabout for an hour to get one particular shot just right.

"It was a Sunday afternoon so there were cyclists and skateboarders," said Deans. "One woman sat at the roundabout watching me go around and round as the cars piled up behind her."

Malcolm Lakatani - "Fiti Lagakali," 2015

Malcolm (Malakamu) Lakatani is an incredibly versatile performer, recording artist, teacher, vocalist and multi-instrumentalist; and has performed and toured with Te Vaka, Che Fu and David Dallas. Of proud Niuean heritage, Malcolm is an inspiring skilled music educator.

Malcolm says, "This song celebrating Niue Language Week is about the beautiful smell of Niue flowers, when it is amongst our youth in song and dance. My mum showed me the song saying that she sung it in Primary

School whilst back in the islands. I found out it was written by a close Uncle who always looked out for me during Polyfest rehearsals back in the 1980's when my parents were involved with a few schools out in East Auckland."

The song has been nominated for two Pacific Music Awards.

Thomas Oliver - "If I Move To Mars", 2015

Wellington-based Thomas Oliver is internationally recognised as one of the leading players of the Weissenborn lap-steel guitar and a multi-talented guitarist, songwriter and singer.

According to stuff.co.nz, Thomas enlisted the help of Weta Workshop and producer Hayley Gray, to create the video; which features Oliver floating serenely in space, lap-steel guitar in hand, as illuminated space debris glides past him. The video involved creating a budget-friendly, makeshift anti-gravity simulator, and required Oliver to undergo six weeks of swiss-ball training leading up to the 7-hour shoot in a blackened-out room. It was inspired by love and the possibility of civilian space travel in the future.

Sweet Mix Kids ft. Iva Lamkum - "Wired", 2016

Born and raised in Wellington to Chinese Samoan parents, the striking neo-soul singer Iva Lamkum cultivated a love of music in high school. She took music and drama as subjects and learnt to play drums and guitar, but it was song writing that really pushed her buttons.

NZ DJ duo Sweet Mix Kids recorded 'Wired' between Wellington and Los Angeles. The video was shot on location in Brooklyn, New York by Sweet Mix Kids and Auckland production house Lot 23. It follows Iva as she walks the streets of Williamsburg to escape her boyfriend, played by up and coming Queens, New York rapper Raigoo.

Tali - (featuring More Like Trees, Christoph Bauschinger & Collette Warren), "Set Me Free", 2012

Tali, (Natalia Sheppard) is an Auckland-based musician, performer, freestyler and MC. She is one of the most prolific female MC/freestylers to emerge from the electronic dance music scene.

Tali says, "'Set Me Free' is using the idea of a pair of wings as a metaphor for music, my dreams and aspirations. The wings that have helped me feel free to escape my problems or anxiety, that when really spread wide have

helped me soar and excel in my life, to see new parts of the world and meet new people. At times I don't know where I would be without music - my life would never have been the same, I feel like I wouldn't nearly as fulfilled or enriched - hence the last line 'I'd have nothing'."

Trinity Roots - "El Kaptain," 2015

Rio Hemopo is the bass player and singer/songwriter for Trinity Roots. Rio is familiar with many styles of music including reggae, rhythm and blues and hip-hop. He also performs his unique electronic music stylings as a solo artist.

Talking about the video to Libel.co.nz, frontman Warren Maxwell said "Like most creativity, the concept for this video came out of the 'ether'. The villainous false protagonist spurred thoughts and images from the silent film era. The lyrics were inspired from the last NZ election result which was very disappointing from two perspectives. There is a dual narrative - dastardly instruction from a lying leader to the apathetic masses."

The Nok/Tyna Keelan - "Magic", 2010

Tyna Keelan, (Ngati Porou), born in Tolaga Bay on the East Coast and based in Wellington, is known for his versatility as a producer, singer, MC and guitarist working with artists from all genres. He is also a youth worker and has been a music mentor with the NZ Music Commission Schools Programme for 10 years.

The Nok released their self-titled debut album in 2011, in that same year Tyna won the Maioha Maori song of the year award at The Silver Scrolls for the song 'Ease My Mind: Ko Koe' off The Nok's debut, and The Nok won best pop album at the Maori Music Awards.

Luger Boa/Jimmy Christmas - "Asteroids & Satellites," 2015

Luger Boa is the brainchild of Auckland-based Jimmy Christmas, former singer/guitarist for internationally successful NZ garage rockers The D4, who combines melodic choruses, loud guitars and glam swagger to create larger-than-life rock madness.

The video, directed by photographers Johnny Lyon and Jeremy Toth uses stock footage, visual effects and aerial photography.

Troy Kingi - "This Is Home", 2013

The multi-talented Troy Kingi (Te Arawa, Nga Puhi and Te Whanau-a-

Apanui) has made a name on NZ's roots scene as a singer, songwriter, instrumentalist and actor, including alongside Stan Walker on the #1 NZ hit "Aotearoa" and the films *Sons of Zion* and *Hunt for the Wilderpeople*. Raised in Rotorua, Te Kaha and Kerikeri, Troy is an experienced music teacher and is our Northland treasure.

This song talks about important homelands in Troy's life, including the dunes of Hokianga and the Cavalli Islands in Matauri Bay on Northland's east coast.

Katie Thompson - "Impossible," 2010

Katie was born in Hokitika and is now a Christchurch-based singer-songwriter. She also provides artist development, social media and crowdfunding management through her company Quirky Music. Katie's achievements include opening for Sir Elton John and being the representative for Oceania at Global Rockstar 2015 in Vienna.

"Impossible" is the title track from Katie's second album.