



POROAKI MERRITT- MCDONALD

Location: Bay of Plenty | **Height:** 175 cm
Eye Colour: Brown | **Hair Colour:** Brown | **Ethnicity:** Māori

Poroaki Merritt-McDonald has quickly captured the attention of the entertainment world with his remarkable talent. At 19 years old, he is already being hailed as the next big Kiwi actor, having made impressive appearances in acclaimed New Zealand films like "Muru" and "Savage," along with the theater play "Little Black Bitch."

After his first audition for the lead role in the short film "My Brother Mitchell," which was deeply connected to the director's personal experience, Poroaki's passion for acting began to grow. With each successful role, his confidence and dedication to the craft expanded. Notably, his involvement in the film "Muru" became a transformative experience, both professionally and personally.

Poroaki's talent and charisma have garnered him opportunities beyond New Zealand. He's signed with a prominent UK talent agency and has already participated in overseas auditions. While he acknowledges the demanding schedule, he embraces the chance to explore his passion for acting.

With a combination of perseverance, dedication, and a willingness to learn, Poroaki Merritt-McDonald has demonstrated that his talent knows no bounds. As he continues to soar in the entertainment industry, he leaves a trail of inspiration for others pursuing the same pathway.

AWARDS

2014 Kapa Haka Award - Best Leader Kapa Haka Group - Regionals



FEATURE FILM

2022	Muru	Role: Rusty [Lead]	Jaw Bone Production - Director: Te Arepa Kahi NZ Film Commission
2020	Savage	Role: Red [Lead]	Domino Films

TELEVISION

2023	The Gone	Ginge	Southern Light Films, Blinder Films, Kingfisher Films - Director: Peter Burger, Hannah Quinn
2022	Untold Tales of Tūteremoana	Tamatea	Tūteremoana Productions Limited - Director: Hiona Henare

SHORT FILM

2016	My Brother Mitchell	Role: Brother [Lead]	Jump Film & TV LTD - Todd Karehana
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THEATRE

2020	Little Black Bitch	Role: Rangi [Lead]	Tuatara Collective
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TRAINING

2022	BOP Actors Studio	Screen Acting Workshop
2020	SGCNZ Young Shakespeare Company	Shakespeare

VOICE

2022	Cat and Kiwi	Role: Kiwi [Lead]	TVNZ - Director: Matiu Sadd
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SKILLS

Accents	Māori, Pacific Island
Dance	Break Dancing, General movement, Hip Hop, Māori » Kapa Haka
Languages	Te Reo Māori



Other
Singing
Sports

Driving

Pop

Basketball, Body Surfing, Boxing, Horse Riding, Kayaking, Rugby Union,
Running, Snorkelling, Swimming, Ten Pin Bowling, Touch Rugby,
Volleyball, Waka Ama

