



TALIA PUA

Location: Auckland | **Height:** 150 cm
Hair Colour: Black | **Eye Colour:** Brown | **Ethnicity:** Chinese

Talia Pua is an actor, theatre-maker, and interaction designer who recently portrayed Meiling in the feature film *Tinā*, directed by Miki Magasiva. The film has hit NZ box office expectations, and recently opened the Hawai'i International Film Festival.

As co-founder and Creative Director of Hand-Pulled Collective, Talia leads the creation of original, independent theatre in Aotearoa. In 2021, she made her award-winning debut as a playwright and director with *Pork and Poll Taxes*, a poignant Chinese family drama set during New Zealand's poll tax era.

With a degree in Creative Technologies, Talia merges physical theatre with design to create visually compelling and emotionally layered work. Her innovative methods are evident in projects such as *Not Woman Enough*, where she transformed second-hand textiles into biomorphic sculptures, using set and prop design to examine themes of womanhood.

Talia's screen presence extends beyond *Tinā*. She appeared in *Into the Rainbow* (2017) and the web series *Asian 8* (2023), delivering grounded and memorable performances. Her international experience includes a residency with Indonesia's Papermoon Puppet Theatre, where she honed her puppet-making and visual storytelling skills.

Through both theatre and film, Talia continues to craft bold, visually arresting stories that resonate with diverse audiences.

AWARDS

2025 Springboard Award for Theatre The Arts Foundation Te Tumu
Toi



COLLABORATE
MANAGEMENT

collaborators@collaborate.co.nz | +64 9 908 9000 | collaborate.co.nz

| | | | |
|-------------|---|--|--------------------------------|
| 2016 | Award: Direct Entry Award [workshop] | The National Shakespeare Schools Production | Dunedin September/October 2016 |
| 2016 | Dux Award | Award: For the Highest Academic Achievement | Diocesan School for Girls |

FEATURE FILM

| | | | |
|-------------|------------------|--------------------------|---|
| 2025 | Tinā | Role: Mei-ling | The Brown Factory - Director: Miki Magasiva Madman Entertainment - Producer: Dan Higgins |
| 2017 | Into the Rainbow | Role: Sea Store Customer | Beijing Tianrun Media - Director: Norman Stone Producers: Richard Fletcher & Iain Brown |

TELEVISION/ TELEVISION ON DEMAND

| | | | |
|-------------|-------------------------------|-------------|--|
| 2023 | Asian 8 | Role: Fen | Asian 8 Phoenix Limited - Director: Nahyeon Lee Pan Asian Screen Collective |
| 2023 | Happiness is the Path [pilot] | Role: Sandy | Happiness is the Path Limited - Director: Chye-Ling Huang Pan Asian Screen Collective - Executive Producers: Shuchi Kothari & Bronwynn Baker |

SHORT FILM

| | | | |
|-------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| 2023 | Yesterday | Role: Anna [lead] | Director: Zheng Wei Lu |
| 2022 | It Lies at Night | Role: Philly [supporting] | Ruah Films - Director: Tema Pua Producer: Leah McVeagh |
| 2022 | Parked | Role: May [supporting] | Angle3 Pictures - Director: Léah McVeagh |
| 2018 | Majesty | Role: Daughter [supporting role] | Elam School of Fine Arts - Director: Pon Torthinchai |
| 2018 | The Myth of the Model Minority | Role: Talia [supporting role] | WAYFR Productions - Director: Nahyeon Lee |

THEATRE

| | | | |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
| 2025 | The Girl Whose Twin was a Bird | Petra [lead] | Dramaturge: Rachel Callinan |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|



| | | | |
|-------------|---------------------------------|--|---|
| 2024 | The Valentina | Role: Ellen [lead] | The Rebel Alliance - Director: Anders Falstie-Jensen |
| 2023 | Heart Go... Boom | Role: Ensemble | Massive Theatre Company - Directors: Ebony Andrews & Jes'mine Palaaia |
| 2022 | The Whale Rider | Role: Nani Flowers | Tim Bray Theatre Company - Director: Tim Bray |
| 2019 | Babel | Role: Movement Artists & Ensemble | The Basement Theatre - Director: Amber Liberte |
| 2019 | Vagina Monologues | Role: 6 Year Old Girl & Ensemble | V-Day Auckland, TAPAC - Director: Amber Liberte |
| 2018 | A Space Oddity | Role: Astronaut | Short & Sweet Festival - Director: Mary Granfors |
| 2018 | Iron Eyes | Role: Ensemble Member | Jang Huddle - Director: Cindy Jang |
| 2017 | Romeo & Juliet | Tutor: Timothy Walker | Shakespeare Globe Centre New Zealand |
| 2016 | A Midsummer Night's Dream | Role: Puck | Sheila Winn Shakespeare Festival |
| 2016 | Les Miserables | Role: Baptistine & Mademoiselle Gillenormand | TAPAC Youth Theatreworks - Director: Julian Harrison |
| 2015 | Romeo & Juliet | Role: The Nurse | Diocesan Shakespeare Festival - Director: Bess Reynolds, Merrin Fagan |
| 2015 | Tom Sawyer | Role: Narrator [Cindy] | TAPAC Youth Theatre - Director: Margaret Mary Hudson |
| 2014 | The Mikado | Role: Mini Mikado | Dilworth School Production - Director: Jason Te Mete |
| 2012 | Thoroughly Modern Millie Junior | Role: Ching Ho | Diocesan School for Girls - Director: Nancy Schroder |
| 2011 | Dracula Spectacular | Role: Transylvanian Airways Pilot | Diocesan School for Girls - Director: Linda Kitchen |
| 2009 | Cinderella Jones | Role: The Fairy Godmother [Pattie O'Dawes] | Diocesan School for Girls - Director: Bess Reynolds |
| 2008 | Dragonfire | Role: Turtule [chorus] | Diocesan School for Girls - Director: Bess Reynolds |
| 2004 | Mandy's Garden | Role: Flower [chorus] | Diocesan School for Girls - Director: Bess Reynolds |

TV COMMERCIAL

| | | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| 2022 - 2024 | Mercury : Save Your Energy | Role: Yellow Wonder | The Sweet Shop |
|--------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|----------------|

TRAINING

| | | |
|-------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 2024 | Character Creation | Tutor: Elena Stejko |
|-------------|--------------------|---------------------|



| | | | |
|-------------|---|--|--|
| 2024 | Massive Nui Ensemble | Massive Theatre Company | |
| 2023 | Massive Nui Ensemble | Tutors: Various | Massive Theatre Company |
| 2022 | Audition Preparation | Tutor: Elena Stejko | Actor's Studio |
| 2022 | Character Creation | Tutor: Elena Stejko | |
| 2022 | Massive Foundations Workshop | Tutors: Various | Massive Company |
| 2022 | Restart Workshop | Tutor: Various | Auckland Theatre Company - The Actors Program |
| 2020 | Fresh Crop | Tutor: Jennifer Ward-Lealand, Chye Ling Huang, | Sam Snedden, Jim McLarty, Cherie Moore, - Miriama McDowell, Sarah Wiseman, Proudly Asian Theatre/Pan Asian Screen Collective |
| 2018 | Drama & Storytelling Workshop | Tutor: Alice Canton | Auckland Women's Centre |
| 2016 | Introductory Course to On-Screen Acting | Tutor: John A Givins | South Seas Film & TV School |
| 2015 | Theatre Studies | Role: Student | Otago University Workshop - Tutor: Hilary Halba |

SKILLS

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Accents | American - Standard, English - RP |
| Dance | Dancing |
| Instruments | Handbells, Piano » Intermediate |
| Languages | Pinyin |
| Other | Art, Painting, Public Speaker, Self-Testing - Excellent |
| Singing | Alto, Choir |
| Sports | Badminton, Orienteering |

