

CURRICULUM VITAE

Personal details			
Full name	Dr	Albert L.	Refiti
Present position	Professor of Art, Design and Material Culture		
Organisation/Employer	Auckland University of Technology		
Contact Address	Private Bag 92006	Auckland	New Zealand
		Post code	1142
Work telephone	+64 9219999, ext 8362	Mobile	+64 2102637622
Email	albert.refiti@aut.ac.nz		
Research website	https://academics.aut.ac.nz/albert.refiti		

Academic qualification

2015, PhD, Auckland University of Technology, New Zealand

1999, BArch (Hons), University of Auckland, Aotearoa NZ

1984, BArch (Int), University of Auckland, Aotearoa NZ

Professional position held

2002 – 2018, Senior Lecturer Auckland Institute of Technology, New Zealand

2005 – 2009, Head of Department Auckland University of Technology, New Zealand

2018 – present, Associate Professor Auckland University of Technology, Aotearoa NZ

2023 – present, Professor of Art, Design & Material Culture Auckland University of Technology, New Zealand

Present research/professional speciality

Dr Albert Refiti is the leader in critical studies research on spatial design and architectural environments in the Pacific, focusing on material culture and ethnography on the subject. He advanced the discipline by creating a method of spatial exposition to examine the notion of vā (space) and wā (time) as central mechanisms to understand Pacific societies and their buildings, artefacts, and social systems. Dr Refiti practiced architecture in Auckland (1990, 1994-2002) and London (1991-1993) before beginning his academic career at Auckland University of Technology in 2002. He founded the Vā Moana Research Cluster with Tina Engels-Schwarzpaul in 2012, a successful platform setting the agenda for international research that engages Indigenous Pacific and Western thought to study Pacific notions of space. Based at Auckland University of Technology's School of Art and Design, Vā Moana has created a far-reaching network of international scholars whose research transforms ways of thinking about contemporary and customary Pacific understandings of the world by examining Indigenous Moana modes of producing space, objects, rituals and performance; develop new to promote discussion and publications from Pacific perspectives; focus on how Pacific concepts affect the production of space and the use of the built environment, re-exploring and extending customary knowledge alongside academic discourse. Albert aligns his teaching and learning with his current research, combining PhD and Masters supervision of emerging Pacific scholars with two Marsden-funded research projects: 'Artefacts of Relations - Building in the Pacific' (2022-2025), 'Vā Moana: space and relationality in Pacific thought and identity

'(2019-2024), and MBIE-funded research 'Te Hotonga Hapori' at AUT. Dr Refiti's professional architectural work and research include the Fale Pasifika at the University of Auckland (2004), Te Ao Marama South Atrium of the Auckland Museum (1994, 2019-2021), Unitec Fale Samoa (2003) and the Victoria University Wellington's Fale Malae on the Wellington waterfront (2021-2025).

Total years research experience	22
---------------------------------	----

Referees		
Rau Hoskins Director Design TRIBE Architects rau@designtribe.co.nz	Dr Melani Anae Associate Professor Centre of Pacific Studies University of Auckland m.anae@auckland.ac.nz	Dr Richard Bedford Professor Emeritus Auckland University of Technology richard.bedford@aut.ac.nz

Professional distinctions and memberships (including honours, prizes, scholarships, boards or governance roles, etc)
Appointment, affiliation, and membership
2022-, Board Member, McCahon House Trust
2020-, Member of the Society for Ethnographic Theory for <i>Hau: Journal of Ethnographic Theory</i>
2018-2019, Chairperson, Association for Social Anthropology in Oceania
2017-2020, Rotating Board member with different functions, Association of the Society of Anthropology for Oceania
2017-2020, Chairperson, ASAO (Association for Social Anthropology in Oceania)
2013-2017, Pacific Advisory Committee, Auckland War Memorial Museum
2014-, enigma: he aupiki charitable Trust Member, enigma: he aupiki charitable trust
Award, prize, fellowship, and scholarship
2022, Museum Medal - Fellow of Auckland War Memorial Museum, Taŋmaki Paenga Hira Auckland War Memorial Museum
2019-2020, Andrew W Mellon Senior Fellowship at The Metropolitan Museum of the Arts, NYC
Major Research Grants
2022 – 2025, Principle Investigator, Royal Society of NZ Marsden Fund for <i>Artefacts of Relations: Building in Moananui</i> Research. MFP-AUT2102. NZD 838,000
2020 – 2025, Associate Investigator, MBIE Endeavour Fund for <i>Te Hotonga Hapori: Enhancing the impact of major urban regeneration on community wellbeing</i> . NZD 8,461,240
2019 – 2024, Principle Investigator, Royal Society of NZ Marsden Fund for <i>Vā Moana: Space and Relationality in Pacific Thought and Identity</i> . MFP-AUT1804. NZD 842,000

Research publications and dissemination
Peer-reviewed journal articles
Enari, D. D., Matapo, J., Ualesi, Y., Cammock, R., Port, H., Boon, J., . . . Thomsen, P. (2024). Indigenising research: Moanaroa a philosophy for practice. <i>Educational Philosophy and Theory</i> . doi: 10.1080/00131857.2024.2323565
Refiti, A. L., Engels-Schwarzpaul, A. C., Lythberg, B., Smith, V., & Waerea, L. (2022). A different kind of Vā: Spiraling through time and space. <i>Contemporary Pacific</i> , 34(2), 355-382.

<p>Refiti, A., Engels-Schwarzpaul, A. C., Lopesi, A., Lythberg, B., Waerea, L., & Smith, V. (2021). Vā at the time of COVID-19: When an aspect of research unexpectedly turns into lived experience and practice. <i>Journal of New Zealand and Pacific Studies</i>, 9(1), 77-85. doi:10.1386/nzps_00049_7</p>
<p>Engels-Schwarzpaul, A. C., & Refiti, A. L. (2018). Autonomía, the vā, tino rangatiratanga and the design of space. <i>Strategic Design Research Journal</i>, 11(2), 170-173. doi:10.4013/sdrj.2018.112.15</p>
<p>Refiti, A. (2017). How the Tā-Vā theory of reality constructs a spatial exposition of Samoan architecture. <i>Pacific Studies</i>, 40(1/2). Retrieved from https://ojs.lib.byu.edu/spc/index.php/PacificStudies</p>
<p>Refiti, A. L. (2024). Being-Social: the Context in which the Vā has to Embed Itself. <i>Correspondence</i>, 2(2), 12-15. Retrieved from https://physicsroom.org.nz/publications/correspondence-21</p>
<p>Refiti, A. (2010). Reanimation, upgrades and ancestors in the work of Rosanna Raymond. <i>Borderzones: New Art Across Cultures</i>.</p>
<p>Refiti, A. L. (2009). Whiteness, Smoothing and The Origin Of Samoan Architecture. <i>Interstices Journal of Architecture and Related Arts</i>, (10).</p>
<p>Refiti, A. L. (2008). The forked centre: Duality and privacy in Polynesian spaces and architecture. <i>AlterNative: An International Journal of Indigenous Peoples</i>, 4(1).</p>
<p>Engels-Schwarzpaul, A. -C., Jenner, R., & Refiti, A. (n.d.). Introduction. <i>Interstices: Journal of Architecture and Related Arts</i>. doi:10.24135/ijara.v0i0.306</p>
<p>Engels-Schwarzpaul, A. -C., Jenner, R., & Refiti, A. (2005). Bovine Buildings. Interview with Anthony Hoete.. <i>Interstices - Journal of Architecture and Related Arts</i>, 6.</p>
<p>Refiti Albert. (2002). Uneven boundaries that do not flatten easily. <i>Probe</i>, (4).</p>
<p>Peer-reviewed book chapters</p>
<p>Refiti, A., Hoskins, R., & Engels-Schwarzpaul, A. -C. (2024). Indigenous architecture and the politics of resistance: Waipapa Marae and the Fale Pasifika at The University of Auckland. In N. Bobic, & F. Haghighi (Eds.), <i>The Routledge Handbook of Architecture, Urban Space and Politics (Vol. 2): Ecology, Social Participation and Marginalities</i>. New York, NY: Routledge.</p>
<p>Refiti, A. L. (2023). Artefacts of relations and the gatherers of horizons. In M. Nuku (Ed.), <i>Oceania: the shape of time</i> (pp. 12-13). New York, NY: The Metropolitan Museum of Art. Retrieved from https://www.metmuseum.org/art/metpublications/Oceania_The_Shape_of_Time</p>
<p>Lopesi, L., Engels-Schwarzpaul, A. C., & Refiti, A. L. (2023). Pacific Spaces: Dialogues between architecture and anthropology. In L. Lopesi, A. C. Engels-Schwarzpaul, & A. Refiti (Eds.), <i>Pacific spaces: Translations and transmutations</i> (pp. 1-10). New York, NY: Berghahn Books. doi:10.3167/9781800736252</p>
<p>Engels-Schwarzpaul, A. C., & Refiti, A. (2023). Conclusion: Vā: What is in-between architecture and anthropology?. In A. C. Engels-Schwarzpaul, L. Lopesi, & A. Refiti (Eds.), <i>Pacific spaces: Translations and transmutations</i> (pp. 184-194). New York, NY: Berghahn Books. doi:10.3167/9781800736252</p>
<p>Jenner, R., & Refiti, A. L. (2022). Zombie architecture: Sacrifice in pre-contact Polynesian and classical European buildings. In A. -C. Engels-Schwarzpaul, L. Lopesi, & A. L. Refiti (Eds.), <i>Pacific Spaces: Translations and Transmutations</i> (pp. 96-112). Berghahn Books, Incorporated.</p>
<p>Refiti, A. (2021). Vā Moana swells within a global sea of islands. In J. Randerson, C. Huddleston, & A. Chang (Eds.), <i>2020 Global Asia/Pacific Art Exchange Aotearoa: Ngā Tai o te Ao: the global tides</i> (pp. 5-7). St Paul St Gallery AUT and Asian/Pacific/American Institute at NYU. Retrieved from https://stpaulst.aut.ac.nz/</p>
<p>Refiti, A. (2018). Genealogical bodies and luminous beings: the difference between those who are not tattooed and those who are.. In S. Mallon, & S. Galliot (Eds.), <i>Tatau: A Cultural History</i> (pp. 295). Wellington, Auckland: Te Papa Press. Retrieved from https://www.tepapa.govt.nz/</p>
<p>Engels-Schwarzpaul, A. C., & Refiti, A. L. (2018). Fale Samoa's extended boundaries: Performing place and identity. In E. Grant, K. Greenop, A. Refiti, & D. Glenn (Eds.), <i>The Handbook of Contemporary Indigenous</i></p>

Architecture (pp. 677-695). Springer, Singapore. doi: 10.1007/978-981-10-6904-8_25
Engels-Schwarzpaul, A. C., & Refiti, A. L. (2018). Fale Samoa's extended boundaries: Performing place and identity. In E. Grant, K. Greenop, A. Refiti, & D. Glenn (Eds.), <i>The Handbook of Contemporary Indigenous Architecture</i> (pp. 677-695). Springer, Singapore. doi: 10.1007/978-981-10-6904-8_25
Refiti, A. L. (2018). Recontextualising Polynesian architecture in Aotearoa New Zealand. In E. Grant, K. Greenop, A. Refiti, & G. Daniel (Eds.), <i>The Handbook of Contemporary Indigenous Architecture</i> (pp. 127-140). Singapore: Springer. Retrieved from https://www.springer.com/gp/book/9789811069031#aboutAuthors
Refiti, A. L. (2013). A "Psychedelic Method". In <i>Of Other Thoughts: Non-Traditional Ways to the Doctorate</i> (pp. 27-33). Sense Publishers. doi: 10.1007/978-94-6209-317-1_4
Refiti, A. L., Young, E., & O'Hara, E. (2013). Transforming topographies. In H. Hanru (Ed.), <i>If you were to live here: The 5th Auckland triennial</i> (pp. 92-95). Auckland: Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tamaki. Retrieved from http://aucklandtriennial.com/
Refiti, A. (2013). A "Psychedelic Method": Spatial exposition, perspectivism and bricklaying. In A. -C. Engels-Schwarzpaul, & M. A. Peters (Eds.), <i>Of other thoughts: Non-traditional ways to the doctorate: A guidebook for candidates and supervisors</i> (pp. 27-34). Rotterdam, Holland: Sense Publishers. Retrieved from https://www.sensepublishers.com/
Refiti, A. L. (2012). Building the house of Noanoa and Lavelave: A possible theory of Pacific art. In R. Brownson, K. Māhina-Tuai, A. L. Refiti, E. Tavola, & E. Tonga (Eds.), <i>Home AKL: Artists of Pacific heritage in Auckland</i> (pp. 10-14). Auckland: Auckland Art Gallery. Retrieved from http://www.aucklandartgallery.com/whats-on/news/new-book-announced
Brownson, R., Māhina-Tuai, K., Refiti, A. L., Tavola, E., & Tonga, N. (2012). <i>Home AKL: Artists of Pacific heritage in Auckland</i> . Auckland, New Zealand: Auckland Art Gallery. Retrieved from https://www.aucklandartgallery.com/
Refiti, A. L. (2009). Between Monsters and God. In T. Suaalii Sauni, I. Tuagalu, T. Kirifi Alai, & N. Fuamatu (Eds.), <i>Su'esu'e Manogi: In Search of Fragrance</i> . Samoa: National University of Samoa.
Refiti, A. L. (2007). 'The Origin of Samoan Architecture'. In E. Lehner, H. Muckler, & U. Herbig (Eds.), <i>Das architektonische Erbe Samoas (The architectural heritage of Samoa)</i> (pp. 27-31). Vienna, Austria.
Engels Schwarzpaul, T., Jenner, R., & Refiti, A. (2005). <i>Interstices – Journal of Architecture and Related Arts</i> (Vol. 6).
Refiti, A., Mallon, S., & Pereira, P. F. (2002). Making spaces - Polynesian architecture in Aotearoa New Zealand. In S. Mallon, & P. F. Pereira (Eds.), <i>Pacific Art Niu Sila</i> (pp. 209-225). Wellington: Te Papa Press.
Hoete, A., Refiti., & Albert. (2002). Sites - Pacific. In A. Hoete (Ed.), <i>Roan: Architecture of Mobility</i> (pp. 263-270). London: Black Dog Publishing.
Refereed conference proceedings
Refiti, A. L., & Engels-Schwarzpaul, T. (2022). Augustin Kramer, Te Rangi Hīroa and the vā of their research networks. In C. Schnoor, & M. Falser (Eds.), <i>Para-colonial – Colonial – Post-colonial: Influences and Transactions in the Architecture of Oceania (1840-1990): Abstracts of the Joint Symposium by Unitec Institute of Technology and Technical University Munich</i> (pp. 10-11). Auckland: Unitec Institute of Technology. Retrieved from https://www.academia.edu/
Refiti, A. (2017). The proliferation of eyes in Pacific patterns. In <i>Experiencing Pacific Environments</i> Vol. 11 (pp. 37). Munich: Department for Social and Cultural Anthropology LMU Munich, Germany. Retrieved from http://esfo-org.eu/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/ESfO_booklet.pdf
Refiti, A. (2017). Spatial exposition and structural implication of mavae and tofiga in Samoan ethnography. In <i>Experiencing Pacific Environments</i> Vol. 11 (pp. 129). Munich: Department for Social and Cultural Anthropology LMU Munich, Germany. Retrieved from http://esfo-org.eu/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/ESfO_booklet.pdf

<p>Refiti, A. (2017). The binding of animals and gods with encircling aether and eyes in Pacific architecture. In <i>2017 Interstices Underconstruction, Surface/Pattern: a Pursuit of material narratives</i> Vol. 2017 (pp. 1 page). Auckland: Journal of Architecture and Related Arts. Retrieved from http://interstices.ac.nz/</p>
<p>Refiti, A. (2017). A Spatial Exposition of Spinoza's Extensions and Samoan Personhood. In <i>The Arts of Spinoza and Pacific Spinoza</i> Vol. 2017 (pp. 1 page). Auckland. Retrieved from http://interstices.ac.nz/spinoza2017/</p>
<p>Culbertson, J., & Refiti, A. (2016). Pacific ethnography and controlled equivocation. In <i>Newsletter of the Association for Social Anthropology in Oceania</i> Vol. April 2017 (pp. 16). Kua'i: ASAO. Retrieved from http://www.asao.org/pacific-ethnography-and-controlled-equivocation.html</p>
<p>Refiti, A., & Jenner, R. (2015). Zombie architecture: sacrifice in Polynesian and European buildings. In <i>European Society for Oceanists 10th Conference: Europe and the Pacific</i> Vol. 10 (pp. 111-112). Brussels: Centre for Pacific and Asian Studies, Radboud University Nijmegen. Retrieved from http://esfo.org.eu/previous-conferences/2015-brussels-conference/</p>
<p>Refiti, A. L., & Tuagalu, I. (2010). Samoan thought and the notion of the interior. In <i>2010 Interstices Under Construction Symposium – Unsettled Containers: Aspects of Interiority</i>. Auckland. Retrieved from http://intersticesjournal.wordpress.com/2010/09/</p>
<p>MacArthur, J., Refiti, A., & Moulis, J. (2002). Uneven boundaries that do not flatten easily. In <i>Additions to Architectural History</i>. : Society of Architectural Historians Australia and New Zealand. Retrieved from http://www.sahanz.net/</p>
<p>Keynote Address/Invited Lectures</p>
<p>2024, Open Christchurch Lecture, <i>Routes and Routes of Pacific Architecture</i>, Te Puna Wanakā Ara, Christchurch, May 3, 2024. https://openchch.nz/buildings/special-event-roots-and-routes-of-pacific-architecture-fri-6-7pm-bookings-essential/</p>
<p>2023, Keynote ASAA/NZ Annual Conference, <i>Vā Moana: between architecture, anthropology, social systems, space, and time</i>, University of Otago, November 22, 2024. https://www.asaanz.org/blog/2023/8/1/asaanz-2023-conference-keynote-speakers-announced</p>
<p>2023, Keynote Association for Visual Pedagogies Annual Conference, <i>Decolonising Vā Moana: experiments in sympathetic readings of Moana material culture</i>, June 9, 2024. https://visualpedagogies.com/2023-conference-2/</p>
<p>2022, Ockham Lecture, <i>What is Pacific Architecture?</i> Objectspace Gallery, Ponsonby, September 19, 2022. https://www.objectspace.org.nz/events/ockham-lecture-albert-l-refiti-what-is-pacific/</p>
<p>2020, Gordon H Brown Lecture, <i>Mana and Artefacts of Relations: striated territories, centralised spaces, and shimmering Pacific houses</i>, Wellington City Gallery, November 27, 2020. https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/seftms/about/events/artefacts-of-relation-mana-and-shimmering-pacific-houses</p>

<p>Postgraduate Supervisions</p>
<p>Completed PhD/Doctoral/MPhil Students:</p> <p>Paul Janman (PhD)</p> <p>Tuputau Lelaulu</p> <p>Emily Parr (PhD)</p> <p>Lana Lopesi (PhD)</p> <p>Rafik Patel (PhD)</p> <p>I'uogafa Tuagalu (PhD)</p> <p>Cecelia Faumuina Khakh (PhD)</p> <p>Tessa Probanz (Doctor of Architecture: University of Hawai'i at Mānoa)</p> <p>Rosanna Raymond (MPhil)</p> <p>Terje Koloamatangi (MPhil)</p>

Anoalii Rowena Fuluifaga (MPhil)

Current PhD students:

Marina McCartney

Nova Paul

Raymond Sagapolutele

Lama Tone (University of Auckland)

Terje Koloamatangi

Julia Mapusua

Rosanna Raymond

Christine Todd (Victoria University - Vancouver, Canada)