**URBAN HUT CLUB AUDIO DESCRIPTION**

**By Perry Piercy**

**KAITAWA HUT**

A small winding pathway cuts left off the main track and meanders through the bush towards the stream.  To the left, up ahead, through the randomness of the trees, we notice a complex interweaving of  hazel wands that can only be human.  The path opens up to a small clearing, and reveals a cocoon of hazel rods, densely woven into an upright nest. The majority are vertical, with some crossing in and out on an angle.  The opening, which faces the stream, is wide enough for two people to pass through with ease.  The rods are fixed by their thicker ends, at the base.  The structure thrusts upwards vertically, to form three edges of a rough square above.  The roof is made of four strong manuka poles, stripped back and lashed together with rope. On the inside, an old portion of canvas is attached, which brings a history from somewhere else to this incarnation.  It is weather beaten, with a seam across it, the outside edge folded downwards reminding us of the inside of a tent.  It is green on top and blue on the inside.

The base itself is a hexagonal platform – like a tiny stage. The base slopes down and inwards to form a solid platform about a handspan thick. Looking from above, there is a honey coloured hexagon of dressed, oiled wood in the middle, with a fine hexagonal frame made of the same wood. The two further concentric hexagonal frames are made of wider, rougher wooden boards, meticulously cut to shape, a beige wood for the first ring, paler wood for the outside.  The joins are fine and the edges match in a craftsman like way.  Steel nails pin the corners of each piece down.

One panel at the back lifts up, hinged at the outer edge, with a circular hole toward the middle that allows a finger to lever the panel up and outwards.  This is the lid of a box-like cavity, and inside we can find a green spiral bound logbook and festival programme.

Sitting in the hut, we have a view of the stream, clean and shallow, flowing past from right to left about three metres away, beyond a small bank.  The bush around is young and slender, matai, nikau, taupata about five metres tall, and assorted small seedlings scattered about.  It is a bush that is regenerating fast, and the hut looks as though it too, might take root.