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Mana & Ea

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Mana & Ea

Abstract
This work, Mana and Ea, expresses Polynesian indigenous sovereignty struggles with colonialism and globalism in the Pacific Islands.

Author/Artist Bio
Dan Taulapapa McMullin is a painter and poet. His new book of poetry Coconut Milk is available through University of Arizona Press. He is working on a painting commission for the Bishop Museum of Honolulu, Hawai‘i. His paintings can be viewed at www.taulapapa.com.

Keywords
art, painting, Polynesia, Polynesian, Samoa, Samoan, indigenous, indigenous art, Samoan art, indigenous painting, indigenous sovereignty, contemporary art

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This work, *Mana and Ea*, expresses Polynesian indigenous sovereignty’s struggles with colonialism and globalism in the Pacific Islands. “Mana” is a Polynesian word for the power we get from our relationships and connections with community. “Ea” is the word for struggle and breath, and, also today for indigenous sovereignty or the desire of Pacific Islanders for representation and self-governance in the colonized areas of the Pacific. The fluorescent yellow of the painting represents colonialism and global warming with its attendant rise in sea levels and effects on Pacific storms, all of which are causing relocations and economic loss.