the measure of a man's worth (after MLK and the content of his character)

Alice Te Punga Somerville

1. Small

seeds tucked away, water stored, some dogs, a few rats

look into the faces of relatives you will not see again for several hundred years

sit quietly at night surrounded by constellations and a dizzying stretch of liquid

the most humbling metaphor and word trick of them all: ocean-going vessels, blood vessels; genealogy and water mix in our part of the world

2. Smaller

our poi make the sound of the horses which were met by children

our poi make the sound of the horses which were met by children our poi make the sound of the horses which were met by children whenever we remember the day the Crown morally defeated itself we play a trick on time, become our own ancestors and our own descendents: we are those little kids, we hold their poi.

3. Smallest

who consented to our belittlement? we're shrink-wrapped, vacuum-packed, disassembled, sold for parts you forget to measure, don't think to check, underestimate:

our ocean-going navigating vessels will not fit the whare you've built to house them