



"Afastina" (2013)  
Jahra Rager, Artist/Model  
Richard Symons, Photographer

## Polytricks of Afakasi

The Afakasi woman  
knows her place

The white Afakasi woman  
pays to display her Sāmoanness  
to a Māori tattooist on K Road  
he electrifies a taulima onto her arm

The white Afakasi woman  
is invited to enter the Miss NZ Sāmoa pageant  
the white Afakasi woman  
knows not to enter the Miss NZ Sāmoa pageant

The white Afakasi woman  
creates afaSāmoan language  
she laughs at her fobby Sāmoan  
the white Afakasi woman  
goes to community classes to learn Sāmoan  
she cries at her fobby Sāmoan

The white Afakasi woman  
tries to help with fa'alavelave  
she works the hardest in the kitchen at the  
funeral  
the white Afakasi woman  
tries too hard

The white Afakasi woman  
sits next to  
did she just?

yes, that is what she does—  
she sits next to the Head of State at the  
fono

The white Afakasi woman  
can hula shake her hips  
wiggle and giggle  
when she siva Sāmoa  
she is so pretty brettyful  
all the boys in the village want to kiss  
her  
foreign lips  
squeeze her curvy white muli

The white Afakasi woman  
is the only Pacific representative on the  
committee

The white Afakasi woman  
has mastered reading body language  
she learns by watching,  
memorising Fa'a Sāmoa

The white Afakasi woman  
can be Sāmoan  
The white Afakasi woman  
can be Palangi  
The white Afakasi woman  
is not Palangi  
She is English  
get it right

Afakasi  
they say is political

but it is polytical  
poly is many  
imaginary battles

These are the polytricks of Afakasi

She is fa'a Afakasi