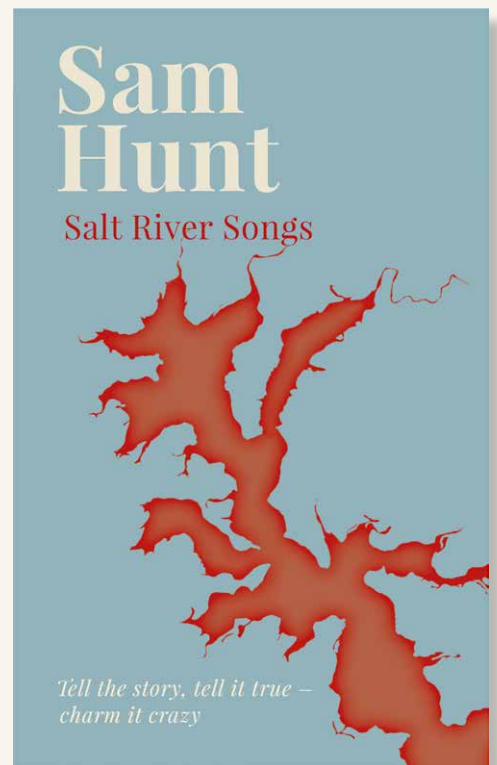


SALT RIVER SONGS
A COLLECTION OF POEMS
TO CELEBRATE OUR
NATIONAL TREASURE'S
70TH BIRTHDAY

Salt River Songs is Sam Hunt's latest collection of poems, written over the last few years in his house that sits amongst a grove of totara trees on the Arapaoa, one of the five main salt rivers of the Kaipara Harbour.

As always, his unflinchingly honest, elegiac and moving poems roam around familiar themes of family, friends and lovers, and the challenges of ageing and mortality.

Salt River Songs will also have an introduction from writer and journalist Colin Hogg, an old friend of Sam's and, appropriately, will be published to mark Sam's 70th birthday.



When I was a kid, I was always up some tree. I had a particular tree hut, in the last pine down the section to the sea – I made poems up there. I could, I remember, hear the poems before I knew them.

Today, I'm 70. Nothing's changed.

AUTHOR INFORMATION

Born at Castor Bay in 1946, **SAM HUNT** is one of New Zealand's best-known and most celebrated poets. He has been touring and performing his poems for over 50 years, and has published many collections of his poems, from *Between Islands* in 1963, to his most recent, *Knucklebones: Poems 1962–2012*.

Twelve years ago, Hunt moved onto the Arapaoa River of the Kaipara Harbour – 'five / gunshots from humanity'.

Hunt has received major accolades for his services to poetry, including a QSM, a CNZM and, in 2012, the Prime Minister's Poetry Award.

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For more information contact

Raewyn Davies, freelance book publicist

PHONE 027 425 7768

EMAIL raewyn@247PR.co.nz

pb potton & burton

PHONE +64 3 548 9009 EMAIL info@pottonandburton.co.nz WEB www.pottonandburton.co.nz