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“In order to have a better grasp of the Cultural Landscape of Taputapuātea, it is essential that we appropriate the tales and testimonies brought to us by oral tradition, from the myth of the creation of the Polynesian world until the *paripari fenua* declaimed for the glory of 'Ōpoa.

As an actual Polynesian sacred space, this Cultural Landscape, stretching from the mountainous peaks Tea'etapu and Te Oro fati'u down to the pass Te Ava mo'a, is said to be located in “Te Pō”, the world of spirits, of the island of Raiatea.

Relatively well preserved from the ravages of time and from the impact of galloping urbanization, that space still holds today the tangible traces of a rich cultural past, as witnessed by the various archaeological structures that can be found here and there across the valleys of 'Ōpoa and Hotopuu.

In particular, it comprises the ceremonial complex of the iconic *marae* Taputapuātea, the key-element of the heritage of Raiatea because of its “international” character within the Polynesian triangle.

But, most of all, what makes the Outstanding Universal Value is definitely the unique testimony it delivers about the Polynesian Society, its cultural values, its extraordinary history and its unparalleled evolution at the heart of the largest ocean on Earth.

Therefore, it is only natural that we wish it to be inscribed on the World Heritage List.

To see for yourself, I invite you to discover in this 93rd issue of *Hiro'a*, through the reading of original writings, the results of the work carried out and recently remitted to the community of 'Ōpoa and Taputapuātea.

Such operation could be carried out thanks to converging energies to preserve and enhance in an exemplary fashion that Polynesian richness we now want to share in order to preserve its transmission down to the next generations.

To conclude, I would like to inform you that an official delegation of the *Fenua* (French Polynesia) will defend on next 23 June, with all the conviction needed for such an aspiration, the candidacy of Taputapuātea as a Cultural Landscape before the *Comité national des Biens Français* (French Committee for the Protection of Culture and Heritage). We extend our best wishes to the members of that delegation.

Happy reading to all.”