The project *Phenomenal Dress* explores posthuman notions of dress as particular, dynamic surfaces and forms that enfold with different situations through physical and metaphysical forces. The project draws from perspectives and methods from fashion, art, science, technology, ecology and indigenous frameworks, to develop intra-active forms of dress that engage with and are activated through localised phenomena including human, biological and material agents.

This hybridisation of dress as a nexus of technological, physiological, material, and cultural perspectives recognises matter as history and narrative and place as having both physical and metaphysical dimensions. The different modes of working through these complex relationships, engaging a team of collaborators from diverse disciplinary and cultural positions, foreground the project. This shifts it beyond a response to material properties or location as site, to an engagement with matter, media, place and forms of being, and the agential and aesthetic potential of these entanglements.

The first iteration of this project is based in Karekare, a west coast black sand beach in the Waitakere Ranges Regional Park, 50 kilometres from Auckland, New Zealand.

**Can the material, technical and embodied dimensions of dress be utilised to activate a deeply localised engagement with phenomena and place that is both physical and metaphysical?**

**Outcomes & future directions**

- **Live Performances**
- Videos and photographs documenting experiments and performances
- Digital artifacts using 3D media developed from material artifacts and documentation
- Material and digital iterations as exhibitions/installations
- Writing about the Karekare work in papers and a book
- Future collaborations with other places

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**Methodology Statement**

This project is an experimental, creative inquiry that takes an interdisciplinary approach drawing from the fields of fashion and textile design, embodied interaction and digital design, kaupapa Māori and the sciences, through intra-active engagements with localised matter and phenomena. The project is built on collaboration with people from diverse disciplinary and cultural backgrounds, with non-human agents and particular places.