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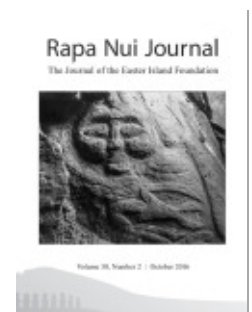
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## What's New Elsewhere

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the best Chilean surfers participated in the competition. The event was significant for Rapanui islanders to see two of their most promising athletes, Roberto Araki and Poukura Varas, compete for the championship. Tavake Pakomio, president of the Club Hakanini of Rapa Nui, noted that “for the community, it is very rewarding to see these two young people who have great influence. Araki is the current junior champion and Varas is a little younger, but has great talent.” Araki noted that it was very rewarding to be competing at home, and even more so to have the opportunity to compete against Danilo Cerda for the open title. The competition, which has been held on the island each spring for the past few years, was also significant because it was the first time in the history of the island that this competition could be viewed by people all over the world via webcast.

### **Rapa Nui participates in breast cancer awareness program**

(Source: [www.caras.cl](http://www.caras.cl))

A world campaign is underway to raise awareness of the importance of early detection of breast cancer; on Rapa Nui, there is a joint project between Estee Lauder, the Municipalidad de Isla de Pascua, and LATAM Airlines; these organizations are promoting an alliance between the Hangaroa Hospital and INCANCER (Instituto Nacional de Cáncer) with various activities to highlight prevention of the disease on Rapa Nui. Hundreds of women on Easter Island need mammograms and this project will provide support by holding workshops, consultations, and follow-ups as required. The promotion also featured a special ceremony with pink lighting of Ahu Riata at Hanga Piko.

## **WHAT’S NEW ELSEWHERE**

### **Cantores Ancestrales features Rapanui singer**

(Source: <http://www.elmostrador.cl>)

Cantoras Ancestrales is a gathering of music and dialogue for outstanding indigenous singers at Casa de la Ciudadanía Montecarmelo, organized by the Department of Neighborhoods and Heritage of the City of Providencia. Sofia Painiqueo (Mapuche), Rosa Quispe (Aymara), and Alicia Makohe Ika (Rapanui) performed at the gathering on 27 October, which was part of a week of activities paying tribute to Violeta Parra during the month of her birthday and the beginning of centenary celebrations to be held in 2017.

Each singer performed interpretations of traditional and contemporary repertoire in their native language

and explained the origin, content, and meaning of the pieces. The performances of these women share their world view, ancestral wisdom, and expression of forms of everyday, festive, and ceremonial life and their social and cultural manifestos. Their performances contribute to the growing phenomenon of recognizing the self-worth of indigenous peoples, local identities, and the social role of women that help to conserve and transmit identity and culture in the family, and play an increasingly important role within community organizations.

Alicia Makohe Ika is an outstanding athlete and teaches surfing on Rapa Nui. A lover of nature and the sea, Alicia is also a singer and interprets traditional themes rooted in the landscape and culture of Rapa Nui. Alicia was featured in the popular ecological documentary “180° South”, which premiered in the US in 2010. She is the co-owner of Easter Island Travel, along with her husband Marcus Edensky.

### **Ecologist Jut Wynne awarded a Fulbright to study cave insects on Rapa Nui**

(Source: [news.nau.edu](http://news.nau.edu))

Jut Wynne, Ecologist and Assistant Research Professor in the Department of Biological Sciences at Northern Arizona University, has been studying cave insects found on Rapa Nui since 2008. Ten species of cave insects endemic to Rapa Nui were discovered by Wynne and his team of researchers. Wynne was recently awarded a Fulbright fellowship that enabled him to continue his research this past summer. He conducted an island-wide expedition to search for additional endemic species in caves, cliffs, along coastal areas and beaches, and in the island’s crater lakes. Wynne notes that there has been a dramatic environmental shift on the island, which is now inhabited primarily by non-native invertebrate species that compete with native species for survival. A combination of factors that include extreme isolation, which restricts the ability for plants and animals to colonize the island, and a fragile, fire-intolerant ecosystem, along with extended drought contributed to the catastrophic ecological shift. Some of the earliest documented endemic species may now be extinct due to substantial environmental change and from competition with and predation by nonnative invasive insects. Preliminary results indicate the discovery of at least nine potential new species; once the specimens collected are examined, it is estimated that the number of known native insect species will double. The multidisciplinary project involved CONAF and other Chilean and US institutions.