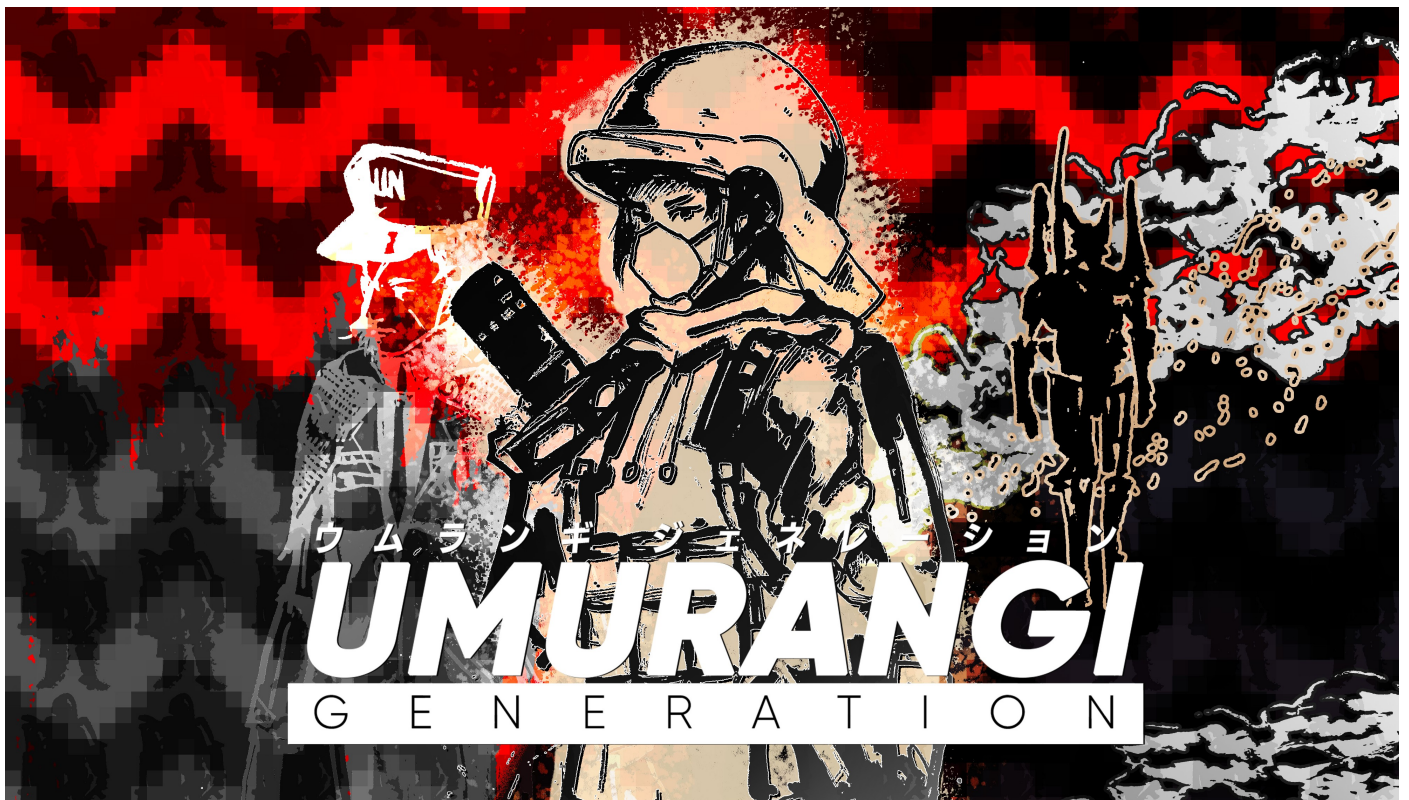




Umurangi Generation, the end is nigh



PC Photographer simulator

This year i finally decided to buy a gaming laptop. And having one of those, i could finally catch up with the Retro Club games, so, the Game Pass proposal for June (i have been lazy with the reviews, i know) was this Umurangi Generation.

In this first person photography game, we control a Māori courier based on New Zealand. UN has deployed military in the area to fight against an unknown alien threat and we need to document the situation. Our goal is to fulfill a series of objectives in each level by taking photos, which will require some exploration. As long as we progress in the game, we will get new lenses, effects, etc.



At the very beginning, this was supposed to be only a photographer simulator to capture the experience of learning how to take photos, but the game was heavily influenced by 2020 Australia bushfires and COVID 19 crisis, evolving into a story with a deep anticapitalist and climate change awareness message. This story is told through environment only and we will feel in every corner the apathy of a young generation facing a shitty future, consequence of previous generations and government inaction.

The beautiful low poly models in a cyberpunk environment will enhance even more this pessimistic feel we will have during the whole game. A very good fitting music and some really interesting Māori references complete this picture.



Sadly not everything is as consistent as the narrative and the message. Controls are really imprecise, there are some annoying bugs and collecting all the films in each level can be a tedious task. Also, even if the objectives are forcing you to explore and look for the best angles to take a photo, taking one with the wide angle lens is sometimes enough to fulfill several of them, which breaks a bit the gameplay.

Despite of the problems, i would still recommend it if you're looking for something different and powerful. The narrative, message and asthetics of this title are totally worth the effort [6].



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Gamer and one of the most recent members of the Retroclub. He has a lot of unopened games, but for some reason he keeps buying new ones.

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