

# “Writing the Pacific, Re-Writing Australia”

## 'Australia in the World' History Symposium

In recent times Pacific history has generated new interest among a range of historical researchers in Australia – see for example the new collection edited by David Armitage and Alison Bashford, *Pacific Histories: Ocean, Land, People* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2014) – even as fewer historians are employed to teach Pacific history in universities. At the same time it is clear that different kinds of Pacific history are now being written that have new implications for how Australian history is itself taught and understood. With a shift away from ethnographical approaches towards analytical frameworks that highlight transnational, imperial, and colonial histories we gain new understanding of the inter-connectedness, dynamics and power relations of regional and global histories that offer in turn new perspectives on and provoke new narratives about the Australian past and present. One study that pointed the way in this regard is Tracey Banivanua-Mar's 2007 study *Violence and Colonial Dialogue: The Australia-Pacific Labor Trade*, (University of Hawai'i Press). Another – completely different – is Fiona Paisley's 2009 book *Glamour in the Pacific: Cultural Internationalism and Race Politics in the Women's Pan-Pacific* (also University of Hawai'i Press).

This symposium brings together historians from around Australasia, engaged in historical research on the Pacific, many enjoying ARC Research Fellowships, to share and discuss their new work within these shifting historiographical frameworks.

### Presenters include:

Professor Warwick Anderson, Professor Alison Bashford, Dr Sarah Walsh, and Dr Christine Winter (The University of Sydney)  
Dr Ingrid Sykes and Dr Tracey Banivanua Mar (La Trobe University)

Dr Claire Lowrie, Associate Professor Julia Martínez and Dr Frances Steele (University of Wollongong)  
Dr Katerina Teaiwa and Dr Patricia O'Brien (Australian National University)  
Dr Angela Wanhalla (The University of Otago)

A full program is available on the website below.

Friday, 12 September 2014  
9.30am - 5.30pm

Gryphon Gallery  
1888 Building  
The University of Melbourne  
PARKVILLE VIC 3010

**Admission is free.**  
**Bookings are essential.**  
**Seating is limited.**

To register visit: <http://alumni.online.unimelb.edu.au/writingthepacific>

For further information please contact **Emma Shortis**:  
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**'Australia in the World' is a lecture and seminar series that presents international and transnational perspectives on the past. The series highlights the interconnectedness of past worlds and future challenges with speakers from around the country and across the globe.**

**Supported by the School of Historical and Philosophical Studies.**



Fijian women in ceremonial dress, 1935. Image courtesy of Stinson's Studios, Fiji.

# AUSTRALIA IN THE WORLD HISTORY LECTURE AND SEMINAR SERIES PUBLIC SYMPOSIUM