

Speakers Program
DAY 1



BARKS BIRDS & Billabongs

Exploring the Legacy of the 1948 American–Australian Scientific Expedition to Arnhem Land
INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM • NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA • 16–20 NOVEMBER 2009
DAY 1 – HISTORIES • TUESDAY 17 NOVEMBER • SPEAKERS PROGRAM

TIME	ACTIVITY	TIME	ACTIVITY
MORNING		AFTERNOON	
8 am – 3 pm	Registration desk open	12 noon – 12.30 pm	'A Robinson Crusoe in Arnhem Land ...': Howell Walker, National Geographic and the 1948 Arnhem Land Expedition Mark Jenkins Writer, editor and historian (formerly writer and historian for the National Geographic Society)
9–9.20 am	Official opening of symposium Craddock Morton Director, National Museum of Australia	12.30–1 pm	Fossicking memories Expedition botanist Raymond Louis Specht interviewed by Martin Thomas
	Overview of symposium Margo Neale Project director and Principal Advisor to the Director (Indigenous), National Museum of Australia	1–2.30 pm	Lunch
9.20–9.50 am	Overview of the Expedition A history of the 1948 Expedition Sally K May Convenor, Graduate Program in Liberal Arts (Cultural and Environmental Heritage), Research School of Humanities, Australian National University	1.30–2.20 pm	Aboriginal astronomy: film screening with Mr Ydum-duma Bill Harney, Senior Elder and Law man of the Wardaman people
9.50–10.30 am	Unpacking the testimony of Gerald Blitner: An Indigenous perspective on the Arnhem Land Expedition Martin Thomas Research Fellow, Department of History, University of Sydney	2.30–4.30 pm	Session: Charles P Mountford Chair and respondent: Emeritus Professor John Mulvaney
10.30–11 am	Morning tea	2.30–3 pm	Inside Mountford's tent: Paint, politics and paperwork Philip Jones Senior Curator, Department of Anthropology, South Australian Museum
11–11.30 am	Locating the Expedition politically: 1948 American–Australian relations Kim Beazley Professorial Fellow, University of Western Australia and Chancellor, The Australian National University	3–3.30 pm	'Bastard barks' and 'anyhow' paintings: Issues of legitimacy and authority for Mountford's collection of works on paper Margo Neale Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Historical Research, and Senior Curator, National Museum of Australia
11.30 am – 12 noon	Historic perspectives on the Smithsonian's participation in the Arnhem Land Expedition: Transformations of the expeditionary enterprise Paul Michael Taylor Director, Asian Cultural History Program, National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution	3.30–4 pm	The responsibilities of leadership: The records of Charles P Mountford Suzy Russell Content services librarian, State Library of South Australia <i>paper co-authored with</i> Denise Chapman Content services librarian, State Library of South Australia
		4–4.30 pm	Session responses and discussion
		4.30–5 pm	General discussion and questions Led by Margo Neale (National Museum of Australia), Sally K May (Research School of Humanities, Australian National University) and Peter Veth (Deputy-Director, National Centre for Indigenous Studies, Australian National University)
		8 pm	MANIKAY PERFORMANCE and the 'American clever man'





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DAY 2 – LEGACIES • WEDNESDAY 18 NOVEMBER • SPEAKERS PROGRAM

TIME	ACTIVITY	TIME	ACTIVITY
MORNING		AFTERNOON	
8 am – 3 pm	Registration desk open	12 noon – 12.30 pm	Snapshots of musical life: Simpson's 1948 recordings Allan Marett Professor Emeritus, University of Sydney and Professor of Ethnomusicology, Charles Darwin University <i>and</i> Linda Barwick Pacific and Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures, University of Sydney
9–10.30 am	Session: Natural sciences		
9–9.30 am	Beneath the billabongs: The scientific legacy of Robert Rush Miller Gifford H Miller Professor, INSTAAR and Geological Sciences, University of Colorado, Boulder <i>and</i> Robert C Cashner Emeritus Research Professor of Biological Sciences, Vice-Chancellor for Research and Dean of the Graduate School, University of New Orleans, Louisiana	12.30–1 pm	Hidden for 60 years: The motion picture films of the American–Australian Scientific Expedition to Arnhem Land Josh Harris Senior Electronic Resources Technician, Department of Collections and Technical Services, University of Kentucky (formerly Archives Manager, Film and Audiovisual Archives, National Geographic Society)
9.30–10 am	Appraising the legacy of the Arnhem Land Expedition: An insider's perspective Raymond Louis Specht Emeritus Professor of Botany, University of Queensland and 1948 Expedition member	1–1.30 pm	Collecting Australia at the Smithsonian: 150 years and still going Adrienne L Kaeppeler Curator (Oceania), Department of Anthropology, National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution
10–10.30 am	The 'exciting thing was the landscape': Raymond Specht, a botanist in the field Lynne McCarthy Research Fellow, Centre for Historical Research, National Museum of Australia	1.30–2.30 pm	Lunch
10.30–11 am	Morning tea	2.30–3.30 pm	Politics of repatriation panel: The collection and return of human remains and cultural materials
11 am – 1.30 pm	Session: Collections across media	3.30–4 pm	Making a sea change: Rock art, archaeology and the enduring legacy of McCarthy's research on Groote Eylandt Anne Clarke Program Convener, Heritage Studies, Department of Archaeology, School of Philosophical and Historical Inquiry, University of Sydney <i>and</i> Ursula Frederick PhD candidate, School of Art, Australian National University
11–11.30 am	Boomerang to Australia the big sky country: Photographic legacies in books of the 1950s and 1960s Catherine de Lorenzo Senior Lecturer, Faculty of the Built Environment, University of New South Wales	4–5 pm	Indigenous community panel Expedition camp 1 – Groote Eylandt
11.30 am – 12 noon	Birds on the wire: Colin Simpson and the emergence of the radio documentary feature Tony MacGregor Arts Editor, ABC Radio National	5–5.30 pm	General discussion and questions Led by Peter Stanley (Head, Centre for Historical Research, National Museum of Australia) and Ann McGrath (Director, Australian Centre for Indigenous History, Australian National University)
		7.30 pm	SYMPOSIUM DINNER



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DAY 3 – CONTINUITY & CHANGE • THURSDAY 19 NOVEMBER • SPEAKERS PROGRAM

TIME	ACTIVITY	TIME	ACTIVITY
MORNING		AFTERNOON	
8 am – 3 pm	Registration desk open	12.30–1.30 pm	Lunch
9–10 am	Session: Fibre	1.30–3.45pm	Session: North-east and central Arnhem Land
9– 9.30 am	The forgotten collection: Baskets reveal histories Louise Hamby Postdoctoral Fellow, Research School of Humanities, Australian National University		Chair and respondent: Howard Morphy Director, Research School of Humanities, Australian National University
9.30–10 am	Missing the Revolution! Negotiating disclosure on the pre-Macassans (Bayini) in north-east Arnhem Land Ian McIntosh Director of International Partnerships and Adjunct Professor of Anthropology, Indiana University – Purdue University at Indianapolis	1.30–2 pm	Forget the barks! Bring on the string figures! The string figures of Yirrkala: Activating a legacy Robyn McKenzie PhD candidate, Research School of Humanities, Australian National University
10–10.30 am	Morning tea	2–2.30 pm	Yolngu ways of knowing Country: Insights from the 1948 Arnhem Land Expedition Ad Borsboom Chair, Pacific Studies, Department of Anthropology and Development Studies, Radboud University Nijmegen (the Netherlands)
10.30 am–12.30 pm	Session: Western Arnhem Land	2.30–3.30 pm	Indigenous Community panel Expedition camp 2 – Yirrkala
10.30–11 am	The forbidden gaze: The 1948 Wubarr ceremony performed for the American–Australian Scientific Expedition to Arnhem Land Murray Garde Research Fellow, Research School of Humanities, Australian National University	3.30–3.45 pm	Session responses and discussion
11–11.30 am	From Fish Creek to the Mann River: Hunter-gatherer transformations in western Arnhem Land, 1948–2008 Jon Altman ARC Australian Professorial Fellow, Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research, Australian National University	3.45–4 pm	Afternoon break (<i>if necessary</i>)
11.30 am – 12.30 pm	Indigenous community panel Expedition camp 3 – Gunbalanya (formerly Oenpelli)	4–5 pm	General discussion Led by symposium steering committee (Margo Neale, Martin Thomas and Sally K May), Howard Morphy (Director, Research School of Humanities, Australian National University), Ann McGrath (Director, Australian Centre for Indigenous History, Australian National University) and Peter Veth (Deputy Director, National Centre for Indigenous Studies, Australian National University)
			Closing remarks Peter Stanley, Head, Centre for Historical Research, National Museum of Australia
		6 pm	CHARLES MOUNTFORD'S MOVIES Film night at the National Film and Sound Archive