

News from the collections

Grainger Museum reopening

The Grainger Museum officially re-opened on Friday 15 October, following a seven-year closure.

Over the past few years substantial conservation works were carried out on the heritage-registered building under the supervision of conservation architects Lovell Chen, along with improvements to the facilities for visitors, collections and staff. The new suite of exhibitions, curated by the Grainger Museum staff and designed by Lucy Bannyan of Bannyan Wood Design, explore Grainger's life, times and work. Funding was provided by the University, the University Library, the University Annual Appeal, bequests and donors. The guest speaker at the launch was Professor Malcolm Gillies, Vice-Chancellor of London Metropolitan University and a leading Grainger scholar. The evening was hosted by the Chancellor, the Hon. Alex Chernov AO QC and included musical performances by Vivien Hamilton, Glen Riddle and the University of Melbourne Saxophone Ensemble conducted by Ian Godfrey.

The following day a symposium on the theme '*Let us sit in wait no longer: Future directions in Percy Grainger scholarship, performance and interpretation*' was held in Melba Hall and chaired by Professor Gary



MacPherson, Ormond Professor of Music and Director of the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music. Professor Gillies' keynote paper 'Grainger 50 years on' explored Percy Grainger's current place in both the world of music and in Australian studies more broadly. Following this was a series of shorter presentations from Dr David Pear and Dr Belinda Nemeč, editors of the forthcoming publication *Grainger Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal*; Vincent Plush of the National Film and Sound Archive; poet Jessica L. Wilkinson and composer Simon Charles who performed a 'Suite for Percy Grainger'; Dr Suzanne Robinson, Research Fellow at the

Melbourne Conservatorium of Music; Dr Peter Tregear of Monash University; and Brian Allison and Astrid Krautschneider, Curators of the Grainger Museum.

The Grainger Museum is located on Royal Parade, near Gate 13, Parkville Campus. The opening hours are Tuesday to Friday 1pm to 4.30pm and Sunday 1pm to 4.30pm. Closed Monday and Saturday, public holidays and Christmas through January. Percy's Café is open 8am to 5pm, Monday to Friday. For further information or to join the mailing list see www.grainger.unimelb.edu.au.

G.W.L. Marshall-Hall: A symposium

The collections of the Grainger Museum provide an invaluable research resource that extend far beyond the life and music of Percy Grainger. As is the case with most museums, the items on public display at any given moment are but a tiny fraction of the collection as a whole. Among the Grainger Museum's comprehensive archival holdings are the papers of G.W.L. Marshall-Hall (1862–1915), conductor, composer, critic and the first Ormond Professor of Music at the University of Melbourne. In 1890s Melbourne, Marshall-Hall assisted the precocious young Percy Grainger in travelling

to Europe to further his studies. Some four decades later, Grainger purchased from Marshall-Hall's widow and son his early benefactor's collection of musical manuscripts and published scores, correspondence, scrapbooks, albums, photographs and artworks.

On 11 and 12 November the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music convened a symposium dedicated to studies of Marshall-Hall's music, conducting, links with Melbourne bohemians, and associations with friends and colleagues. These provided an up-to-date portrait of the musician who dominated music in Melbourne for 20 years but whose career was marred by controversy. The symposium concluded with a concert of works by Marshall-Hall, Percy Grainger and Fritz Hart.

Coinciding with the symposium was the reprinting of Thérèse Radic's important work based on the Grainger Museum's holdings: *G.W.L. Marshall-Hall: A biography and catalogue* (Melbourne: The Marshall-Hall Trust, 2002, reprinted 2010 by the University of Melbourne Custom Book Centre). This work can be downloaded at www.grainger.unimelb.edu.au/publications/radicmarshallhall.pdf or purchased from the Melbourne University Bookshop.

Cultural Treasures Day

The University held its second Cultural Treasures Day on Sunday 14 November, giving all members of the community the chance to visit the University's museums and other collections.

In addition to having the opportunity to see and hear about many of the collections, in particular those not open to the public, other highlights included the family tour 'Discover more secrets of Melbourne University!' with the inimitable and ever popular Professor Reynard Eastley (PhD, *Stories and Adventures*), aka Bernard Caleo; the Friends of the Baillieu Library seminar *The glorious garden: Books and beyond* which included discussion of the newly purchased *Highgrove florilegium* and its beautiful illustrations of plants from Prince Charles' garden at Highgrove, and the launch of the *Men of flowers* by Peter Lyssiotis and Humphrey McQueen, commissioned by the Library as part of its 50th anniversary celebrations (to be discussed in a future issue of *University of Melbourne Collections*); and finally the concert *To rend the heart with chords: Choral music of Percy Grainger*, featuring the Consort of Melbourne, conducted by Peter Tregear, with pianists Timothy Young and Anna Carson.

Opposite: The Grainger Museum's Duo-Art reproducing piano, on display in the Grainger Museum, with a large-scale photograph of Percy Grainger 'in the round'. Exhibition design by Bannyan Wood Design. Photography by Michael Silver.

Below: Professor Reynard Eastley (actor Bernard Caleo) reminiscing with his former lecturer, Ms Monica MacCallum, outside Wilson Hall on Cultural Treasures Day.



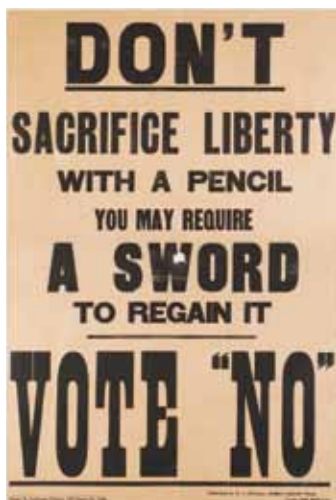
Visitors enjoyed numerous other talks, exhibitions, demonstrations and tours across the campus.

Cultural Treasures Day 2010 was made possible by the generosity of the late Estelle Dow.

Primary sources: 50 stories from 50 years at the Archives

This exhibition celebrating the 50th anniversary of the founding of the University of Melbourne Archives was launched in the Leigh Scott Gallery, Baillieu Library, on 8 December (and will run to 25 February 2011).

Created mainly for the benefit of researchers and students of the University, but also with the wider community in mind, UMA remains a treasure trove of primary source material which continues to grow. Items on display in *Primary*



Builders Laborers' Union, Anti-conscription campaign poster, c.1917. Acc. no. 1988.006, Victorian Trades Hall Council Collection, University of Melbourne Archives.

sources are very diverse, for example a letter book documenting the early correspondence of the University council, temporarily based at the Supreme Court, which includes Redmond Barry's notification to the colony's Lieutenant Governor of his election to the position of Chancellor of the University in May 1853; examples of the 1,250 glass plate photographic negatives from Benalla's Howship Studios dating from about 1904 to 1964; the beautifully illuminated address presented by the government of Victoria to Charles Alfred Topp in 1899 for his work relating to the impending Federation; the 1920–1922 diary of virologist and 1960 Nobel Prize winner for medicine Sir Frank Macfarlane Burnet; and a photograph of the delegates at the 1937 Jubilee Convention of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, Victoria.

A commemorative publication accompanies the exhibition.¹

Cavities, keys and camels: Early dentistry in Victoria

This intriguing exhibition from the Henry Forman Atkinson Dental Museum in the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences was held in the Leigh Scott Gallery, Baillieu Library, from 9 September to 28 November.

It explored the social history, technical developments and professional foundation of dentistry in Victoria. Drawing upon the extensive collection of the Henry Forman Atkinson Dental Museum and other cultural collections of the University of Melbourne including the Ian Potter Museum of Art, Baillieu Library Special Collections, the Medical History Museum, the University of Melbourne Herbarium and the University of Melbourne Archives, the displays told the story of dentistry in Victoria from the early days of European settlement and establishment, to the beginning of the 20th century and the emergence of an organised, qualified dental profession.

The exhibition was curated by Professor Emeritus Henry F. Atkinson, Honorary Curator, and Louise Murray, Curator, of the Henry Forman Atkinson Dental Museum. An illustrated catalogue accompanied the exhibition.²

Banned books in Australia

This exhibition was held in the Leigh Scott Gallery of the Baillieu Library from 7 June to late August, coinciding with the Bibliographical Society of Australia and New Zealand's Annual Conference for 2010 titled *To deprave and corrupt: Forbidden, hidden and censored texts*

held at the State Library of Victoria.

Melbourne has a long history of banning books (both Australian and imported; past and modern) that reflects the transience of social norms and community values. The exhibition highlighted the complexity of the state's role in policing the boundaries of acceptable and unacceptable publications and how Australian publishers have deliberately challenged the authorities. The exhibition—curated by Ms Jenny Lee, Associate Professor David Bennett and Associate Professor Richard Pennell, from the Faculty of Arts, and designed with the help of recent Faculty of the VCA and Music graduate Ms Jenny Chang—incorporated books, photographs and documents from the University of Melbourne's collections and private collections as well as artists' explorations of the exhibition's theme.

In conjunction with the exhibition a public forum on the topic of censorship in Australia was held on 12 August. Chaired and convened by Associate Professor David Bennett, speakers included Dr Donald McDonald, Director, Classification Board; Dr Philip Nitschke; Associate Professor Robert Nelson, Monash University; Associate Professor Richard Pennell, University



of Melbourne; and Dr Lauren Rosewarne, University of Melbourne. Many of these presentations can be heard online at <http://tinyurl.com/2do8vef> and are included in the publication which is available from the University Bookshop.³

Museums Australia National Conference 2010

The University of Melbourne was the principal partner and host of the 14th Museums Australia National Conference from 28 September to 2 October, on the theme of *Interesting times: New roles for collections*. The event was highly successful, with well over 600 Australian and international delegates attending. The formal opening in Wilson Hall included a welcome from our Vice-Chancellor, Professor Glyn Davis AC, who spoke of the importance of the cultural collections in teaching, research and engagement at the University of Melbourne. The conference was officially launched by the Hon. Peter Batchelor MP, then Victorian Minister for the Arts.

The plenary presentation by Professor Warren Bebbington, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (University Affairs) and Chairman of the University's Cultural Collections Advisory Group, entitled 'Cinderella awaits her wedding: Managing

university collections', spoke of both the progress that has been made, but the challenges still ahead, in managing that substantial portion of Australia's distributed cultural heritage that is managed by universities, some 15 years after the publication of the two *Cinderella collections* reports.⁴

The international speakers, to name but a few, included Professor Richard Sandell, Director and Head of Department of Museum Studies at the University of Leicester (whose visit was supported by the University's Cultural and Community Relations Advisory Group); David Revere McFadden, Chief Curator and Vice-President, Museum of Arts and Design in New York; Michelle Hippolite, Kaihautū of Te Papa Tongarewa, Museum of New Zealand; Professor Stephen Heppell, CEO of Heppell.net; Professor Dietrich Wildung, Professor of Egyptology, Free University Berlin and former Chief Curator, Egyptian Museum and Papyrus Collection, Berlin; and Professor Morris Vogel, President of the Lower East Side Tenement Museum in New York. Delegates, among whom were many University staff and students, also enjoyed the opportunity to visit some of the University's many cultural collections, including a welcome reception for regional and remote

museums delegates in the newly refurbished Grainger Museum.

Many of the conference papers will be published online at www.ma2010.com.au.

Barry Tuckwell Collection

In 2009 the Louise Hanson-Dyer Music Library at the University of Melbourne purchased a substantial collection of materials belonging to the eminent Australian French horn player and conductor Barry Tuckwell AC OBE.⁵ Tuckwell is widely recognised both as the foremost horn player of his generation and for extending the instrument's technical possibilities.

The collection was acquired with the generous assistance of a grant from the Ian Potter Foundation to support the linking of education and the arts. On 11 October this year, the University welcomed Lady Potter AC and other representatives of the Potter Foundation, who included Professor Geoffrey N. Blainey AC, the Hon. Sir Daryl Dawson AC KBE CB QC, Mr Charles Goode AC and Mrs Janet Hirst (Chief Executive Officer) as well as Barry Tuckwell and other distinguished guests, to view selected items from the collection and to hear about the work that the Library has been undertaking in cataloguing and preserving the

Museums Australia National Conference 2010, the Hon. Peter Batchelor MP, then Victorian Minister for the Arts, officially launching the conference on 29 September in Wilson Hall. Simon Fox Photography.



collection. All the music scores, manuscripts, and commercial sound recordings have been catalogued, and the collection of approximately 4,000 concert programs has been listed and transferred to archivally safe conditions. A finding aid has been published and is available online at <http://unimelb.libguides.com/tuckwell>.

Donald Thomson Collection on tour

In 2009 the Ian Potter Museum of Art at the University of Melbourne hosted the exhibition *Ancestral power and the aesthetic: Arnhem Land paintings and objects from the Donald Thomson Collection*, a joint project of Museum Victoria and the Potter.⁶ The Donald Thomson collection is housed at Museum Victoria but includes material owned by the University and by the Thomson family.

The exhibition was very successful and is now going on tour. Thanks to funding from Visions of Australia, the exhibition will be seen at Benalla Regional Art Gallery; Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory (Darwin); Wagga Wagga Regional Art Gallery; Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, Launceston; Albury Regional Art Gallery; Ballarat Fine Art Gallery; and Gippsland Art Gallery in Sale.

Acquisition: The Marshall Browne Archive

Earlier in 2010 Baillieu Library Special Collections acquired the archive of the award-winning novelist Marshall Browne. The collection consists of unpublished manuscripts, original drafts of published novels, research material, articles and reviews. It complements other holdings of Australian crime and popular fiction in Special Collections, such as the papers of Arthur Upfield, creator of the well-loved character Detective Inspector Napoleon Bonaparte, or 'Bony'.

Marshall Browne was born in Melbourne in 1935. A banker by profession, while living in Hong Kong between 1974 and 1981 he started writing novels in his spare time. These early works, including *City of masks*, a thriller set in the banks and back streets of Hong Kong, have a Far-East flavour. He has also written a series of historical novels set in Melbourne in the 1880s and 1890s: *The gilded cage* (1996), *The burnt city* (1999) and *The trumpeting angel* (2001) bring to life many of the characters, locations and events of that lively period of our city's history.

Marshall Browne's other novels include *Dragon strike* (1981); *Dark harbour* (1984); *The wooden leg of Inspector Anders* (1999); *Inspector*

Anders and the ship of fools (2001); *The eye of the abyss* (2002); *Inspector Anders and the blood vendetta* (2006); *Rendezvous at Kamakura Inn* (2006) and *The iron heart* (2009).

A list of the Marshall Browne Archive is available at www.lib.unimelb.edu.au/collections/special/guides/brownearchivist.pdf.

Notes

- 1 Helen McLaughlin, Michael Piggott, Cecily Close and others, *Primary sources: 50 stories from 50 years of the Archives*, Melbourne: University of Melbourne Library, 2010.
- 2 Henry Atkinson, Louise Murray and others, *Cavities, keys and camels: Early dentistry in Victoria* (exhibition catalogue), Melbourne: Henry Forman Atkinson Dental Museum, University of Melbourne, 2010.
- 3 David Bennett, Jenny Lee, Richard Pennell and others, *Banned books in Australia* (exhibition catalogue), Melbourne: University of Melbourne Custom Book Centre, 2010.
- 4 Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee, University Museums Review Committee, *Cinderella collections: University museums and collections in Australia: The report of the University Museums Review Committee*, Canberra: Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee, 1996; *Transforming Cinderella collections: The management and conservation of Australian university museums, collections and herbaria: The report of the DCA/AV-CC University Museums Project Committee*, Canberra: Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee, 1998.
- 5 Evelyn Portek, 'Acquisitions', *University of Melbourne Collections*, issue 5, November 2009, p. 47.
- 6 'Ancestral power', *University of Melbourne Collections*, issue 4, June 2009, p. 55.