

News from the collections

A date for your diary: Cultural Treasures Day 2010

Visit the University's collection treasures all on one day. Following the success of the inaugural event held in 2008, Cultural Treasures Day 2010 will be held on Sunday 14 November 2010. Activities will include curators' talks, workshops, campus and collection tours, and special programs for families. This will be an opportunity for the whole community to visit many of the University's cultural collections, some of which are not otherwise easy for the public to visit without an appointment. Discover the Grainger Museum, Ian Potter Museum of Art, Medical History Museum, Henry Forman Atkinson Dental Museum, Centre for Cultural Materials Conservation, Special Collections and Print Collection of the Baillieu Library, University of Melbourne Archives, Rare and Historic Maps Collection, East Asian Collection, Louise Hanson-Dyer Music Library, Tiegs Zoology Museum, School of Physics Museum, School of Chemistry Collection, and the University of Melbourne Herbarium. Cultural Treasures Day 2010 is made possible by a gift from the late Estelle Harriet Dow. To register your interest and join our mailing list for regular updates, please email treasures-days@unimelb.edu.au



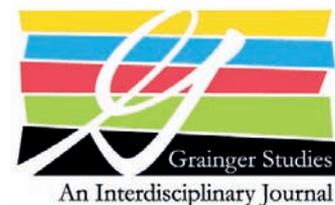
Grainger Museum

Grainger scholars, musicians and music-lovers in Melbourne and around the world are keenly awaiting the re-opening later this year of the Grainger Museum. The museum has been undergoing extensive building conservation work, upgrades to staff and visitor facilities including construction of a café, and the creation of a suite of exciting new exhibitions. The building can now operate to internationally accepted standards of environmental control, lighting and security.

Work is continuing apace on the re-fitting of the gallery spaces, which will tell the story of Percy Grainger's life as well as investigating aspects of broader Australian musical culture. It is anticipated that the Museum will be open to the public in September.

Grainger Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal

As well as welcoming visitors to its refurbished building, the Grainger Museum's role in supporting original research will be enhanced by the launch of a new, scholarly, peer-reviewed journal, *Grainger Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal*. To be published annually by the University Library and edited by Dr David Pear in the UK and Dr Belinda Nemeč in Melbourne, and with an Advisory Board of distinguished international academics chaired by Professor Warren Bebbington, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (University Affairs), this international journal will cover the wide range of subjects which interested Percy Grainger himself, and are therefore represented in his museum. The journal will be published electronically, with printed copies available via 'print-on-demand'. For further information see www.msp.unimelb.edu.au/index.php/graingerstudies/index or email david.pear@cantab.net or bnemec@unimelb.edu.au





Previous page: Cultural Treasures Days 2008: Visitors comparing 18th century fashion illustrations from the Baillieu Library Print Collection with present-day fashion magazine illustrations. Photography by Kerriane Stone.

Left: The Grainger Museum building following recent conservation work. Photography by Brian Allison.

New museums and collections brochure funded by CCRAG

A new brochure highlighting the University's museums and other cultural collections was published recently, thanks to the support of the University's Cultural and Community Relations Advisory Group.

The full-colour brochure, designed by 3 Deep Design, gives the location and other information about the most frequently used among the collections at Parkville and other campuses, as well as a handy map. It can be downloaded electronically from www.unimelb.edu.au/culturalcollections/collections/melbunicollections.pdf or for printed copies please email bnemec@unimelb.edu.au or tel (03) 8344 0269.

Medicalia: Melbourne's health and medical collections unveiled

Melbourne's health and medical collections constitute a remarkable resource, often familiar only to professionals and students from related fields. This series of eight public lectures in April–May informed the public about the histories and stories of medicine, dentistry, surgery, anaesthesia, obstetrics and gynaecology and other related specialties through the rich

collections held at the University of Melbourne (the Medical History Museum, Harry Brookes Allen Museum of Anatomy and Pathology and the Henry Forman Atkinson Dental Museum), and at the professional colleges and other health and medical museums in Melbourne. It drew on the expertise of medical and museum professionals, including the University's Susie Shears, Louise Murray and Professor Emeritus Henry F. Atkinson, to bring their collections' stories to life.

Ian Potter Curator of Academic Programs

The new position of Ian Potter Curator of Academic Programs at the Ian Potter Museum of Art is the first of its kind at an Australian university. Supported by a grant from the Ian Potter Foundation, this three-year position links the University Art Collection and the Potter's exhibitions to the academic programs of the University of Melbourne. Establishing partnerships between academic and museum staff, the Curator will develop undergraduate and postgraduate curriculum engagement activities in a variety of disciplines. These may include class visits to exhibitions, small-group teaching using the art collection, online learning resources, tailored

assignments and tours, individual research projects and semester-length subjects.

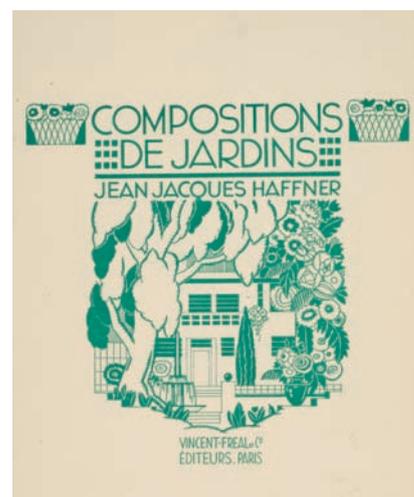
The Potter was very pleased to appoint Ms Amanda Burrirt to the position. Ms Burrirt brings with her substantial experience in education and curriculum development. Prior to commencing in her new role, Ms Burrirt was Senior Education Officer and Manager, Risk Framework, at the National Gallery of Victoria. An alumna of the University of Melbourne, Ms Burrirt holds a Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in fine arts, Bachelor of Theology, Diploma of Education and Master of Education.

Innovation grants

Several of the University's cultural collections will benefit from the University Library's Inaugural Scholarly Information Innovation Grants. These grants engage the University community in the possibilities of our scholarly information future. Of the 11 successful projects, those five involving the cultural collections are:

- Medical History Museum: Database upgrade.
- School of Chemistry Collection: *Virtual Museum*.
- Grainger Museum: *Digital and*

Jean-Jacques Haffner, *Compositions de Jardins*, Paris: Vincent, Fréal et Cie, 1931 (detail of extra title page). Architecture and Planning Library Rare Materials Collection, University of Melbourne. One of the works to feature in the forthcoming touring exhibition *Cultivating modernism: The literature of the modernist garden*.



print dissemination of the Marshall-Hall Collection.

- Special Collections and Print Collection, Baillieu Library: *Recapturing and publicising Renaissance and early modern print culture in Australia: Scholarly documentation, conservation, and display of early prints and rare books.*
- Architecture and Planning Library: *Cultivating modernism: The literature of the modernist garden*—a touring exhibition.

For further information on the grants, visit www.library.unimelb.edu.au/about_us/innovation_grants

Collections at a click

The University Library has been upgrading its capacity for creating digital collections to support teaching, research and knowledge exchange. For example, late last year, three groups of items of particular historical interest from the cultural collections were scanned and made available online. The first was the complete transcript of evidence given to the *Royal Commission to inquire into the causes of and measures taken to prevent the bush fires of January, 1939*. This very rare document was located at the Creswick Branch of the University Library, then scanned and published online at <http://repository.unimelb.edu.au/10187/3652> along with the complete final report and recommendations of the Commission. Previously only the final report had been published. The online version contains digitally scanned facsimile copies of the report and transcripts of 34 days of evidence, with a searchable index. It has already proved itself to be of great interest to researchers interested in bushfires, emergency management, land and forest management, primary industry, and the social and legal history of Victoria, as well as to families and descendants of those affected by the 1939 bushfires.

The second digitised collection comprises the annual reports of the Board for the Protection of Aborigines in Victoria, 1861–1925. This project was undertaken in cooperation with the Public Records Office Victoria. The remarkable collection reveals intriguing details about how Aboriginal missions and reserves—places like Coranderrk, Lake Condah and Lake Tyers, whose names continue to resonate in living memory—were established and administered. The reports summarise annual expenditure, describe the operation of farming and business enterprises, report on the movement of people into and out of the reserves, and describe the various health,

education and welfare programs that were intended to improve the lives of Aboriginal Victorians. Some list the names of families and individuals who lived at particular locations. The collection is available at <http://repository.unimelb.edu.au/10187/4228> and will be of particular interest to historians, members of the Stolen Generations, and descendants of those who lived on missions and reserves.

The third, and largest, collection to have been digitised is the University's annual Calendars from 1858 to 2006. This is a register of all those who have gone before us in the history of this University as well as the various component parts of the University community that have become established over the years. For example, a virtual visit to the very first Calendar shows us the Act of Incorporation of the University (1853), in which we find that the University is to be 'open to all classes and denominations' to whom 'no religious test is to be administered'. We see that the Council was proclaimed on 11 April 1853 and the selection of professors was 'entrusted to a committee of gentlemen in England'. Statute 1.1 of the 1858 Act required Council to meet on a Monday; it still does so in 2010. The 1858 Calendar contains lists of

'Timetable of lectures, 1858',
 from *Melbourne University Calendar*,
 Melbourne: William Fairfax & Co., 1858, p. 57,
 University of Melbourne Archives.

TIME TABLE OF LECTURES, 1858.

		FIRST YEAR.		SECOND YEAR.		THIRD YEAR.	
		Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.	Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.	Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.	Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.	Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.	Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.
C	A.M. 10 to 11.	ALGEBRA. Professor Wilson.	GEOMETRY. Professor Wilson.	CONSTITUTIONAL HISTORY, PART I. Professor Hearn.	ZOOLOGY. Professor McCoy.	LATIN. Professor Irving.	GREEK. Professor Irving.
	A.M. 11 to 12.	GREEK. Professor Irving.	LATIN. Professor Irving.	GREEK. Professor Irving.	LATIN. Professor Irving.	POLITICAL ECONOMY. Professor Hearn.	CONSTITUTIONAL HISTORY, PART II. Professor Hearn.
	NOON. 12 to 1.		ENGLISH. Professor Irving.	LOGIC. Professor Irving.	MATHEMATICS. Professor Wilson.	GEOLOGY. Professor McCoy.	
	P.M. 1 to 2.		*CHEMISTRY. Professor McCoy.	NATURAL PHILOSOPHY. Professor Wilson.	*ANCIENT HISTORY. Professor Hearn.	NATURAL PHILOSOPHY. Professor Wilson.	*ANCIENT HISTORY. Professor Hearn.
	P.M. 5 to 6.	LAW LECTURE. J. W. Stephen, Esq., M.A.		LAW LECTURE. R. A. Billing, Esq., M.A.			

N.B. The Class Rolls will be called punctually at the time specified for the commencement of the Lecture.
 * On Saturdays these Lectures will be delivered from 9 to 10.

TABLE OF LECTURES.
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staff, dates of terms and fee schedules: non-matriculated students could attend lectures for £2 per term. There are details of the curriculum as well as examination papers, regulations for courses, lecture timetables, book lists and so on. The Calendars can be searched at www.lib.unimelb.edu.au/collections/archives/collections/calendars.html

With all of these and other digitised cultural collections, those scholars who need to consult the original documents are welcome to do so in the Cultural Collections Reading Room in the Baillieu Library, but the availability of a searchable online version will speed their work considerably, as well as making the collections usable by distant users.

Annual Appeal

Each year the cultural collections benefit from money generously donated to the University's Annual Appeal by alumni, parents, staff, students and other supporters. Gifts directed by donors in 2009 to 'Library and cultural collections' will support several important projects in 2010: cataloguing of the collection of Chinese books donated to the East Asian Library by Professor Harry Simon; uploading of data into the searchable online collection catalogue

of the Henry Forman Atkinson Dental Museum; improving the performance of the online catalogue of the University of Melbourne Art Collection on the website of the Ian Potter Museum of Art; digital photography of some 2,500 artefacts in the Medical History Museum collection and uploading to the online database; and the creation of new display labels for the Tiegs Zoology Museum. All of these projects make these collections more accessible for students, staff, other researchers and the general public. Projects to be supported with funds to be sought in 2010 include digitisation and online publication of unique and rare documents relating to the capture of Ned Kelly, held by University of Melbourne Archives, and the conservation of works by William Hogarth and other artists, in the Baillieu Library Print Collection.

You can support the cultural collections in the 2010 Annual Appeal by visiting www.unimelb.edu.au/alumni/giving/ or calling the Advancement Office on (03) 8344 1751.

Wilson Hall: Centre and symbol of the University

The exhibition *Wilson Hall: Centre and symbol of the University* was held in the Leigh Scott Gallery, Baillieu

Library, from 15 March to 23 May 2010. Curated by Jason Benjamin, Coordinator of Conservation Projects (Cultural Collections), with assistance from student Emily Wubben, the exhibition highlighted the place of Wilson Hall in the history and minds of the University of Melbourne community. Since the 1880s Wilson Hall has been the ceremonial heart of the University, serving as a venue for significant University occasions, including commencements, examinations and graduations. The exhibition traced the Hall's past, starting from its conception and construction of the original gothic building in 1878–1882 with funds donated by pastoralist Sir Samuel Wilson.

Wilson Hall quickly achieved iconic status and dominated the campus until it was destroyed by fire in January 1952. The exhibition recorded that tragedy and the ensuing community response to the Wilson Hall Appeal Fund, demonstrating the emotional attachment people had formed with the building. This led to strong opinions in the debate of whether to restore the gothic ruins or rebuild in modern style. It is here that the story of the 'New Wilson Hall' begins.

The exhibition drew upon several of the cultural collections of the

Four terracotta female figurines, Hellenistic, 4th century BCE. Gift of Peter Joseph, Marilyn Sharpe and Susan Rubenstein in honour of their parents Keith and Zara Joseph, 2009. The University of Melbourne Art Collection.



University of Melbourne to provide a rich display of original architectural drawings, artworks, photographs and artefacts. A detailed essay on the subject will appear in issue 7 of *University of Melbourne Collections* later this year.

Devotion and ritual

This exhibition at Ian Potter Museum of Art from 17 April to 17 October 2010 features a diverse selection of objects from the Classics and Archaeology Collection, David and Marion Adams Collection, Keith and Zara Joseph Collection, and Leonhard Adam Collection of International Indigenous Cultures. Curated by Dr Andrew Jamieson, Lecturer Spencer-Pappas Grant, School of Historical Studies (Centre for Classics and Archaeology), the exhibition's objects speak of many different belief systems, customs and traditions. Selected archaeological and ethnographic works from the Mediterranean, Indus Valley, African, Mesoamerican and Oceanic regions represent ceremonial practices and faiths of the ancient and tribal worlds.

50 years for the University of Melbourne Archives

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the founding of the University of Melbourne Archives. Plans are afoot to honour the occasion with a range of events.

The commemorations will get under way in July with a cocktail party to commemorate the appointment of the founding archivist, the late Frank Strahan. The event will be a celebration of the achievements of the Archives, and will re-unite former staff and thank donors and key stakeholders for their support over the past 50 years.

Later in the year an exhibition in the Baillieu Library will showcase some of the Archives' treasures. This will give the public an opportunity to see some of the Archives' most significant but rarely seen documents and objects, carefully chosen from amongst the several million that it holds. The exhibition will run from December 2010 through to February 2011, with curators' tours conducted throughout its duration. A commemorative publication will accompany the exhibition.

Museums Australia National Conference 2010

University of Melbourne will host the 14th Museums Australia National Conference from 28 September to 2 October 2010, in Wilson Hall and other Parkville campus locations. This annual conference is the flagship event for the museums sector in Australia and involves local and international speakers and delegates from museums and other collecting institutions. The theme of this year's conference is *Interesting times: New roles for collections*. For further information please visit the conference website at www.ma2010.com.au and register your interest for future updates.

