

October Seminar

You are warmly invited to the next Global Encounters Network seminar. The featured speaker this month is Dr Drew Pettifer from RMIT University. Myles Russell-Cook will be the Discussant. Hosted by Professor Lynette Russell AM.

'A Sorrowful Act': The Wreck of the Zeewijk project

In this Global Encounters Network presentation Dr Drew Pettifer will argue that creative practice can play a key role in transforming our understanding of Australian history by foreground critical histories which have been systematically excluded from dominant archives. Using his recent project *A Sorrowful Act: The Wreck of the Zeewijk* which interrogated an obscured queer history as a case study, Dr Pettifer will contend that creative practice can create embodied, affective encounters that facilitate new ways of seeing such events.

Speaker: Drew Pettifer

Dr Drew Pettifer is an artist, academic, curator and non-practicing lawyer who divides his time between Yorta Yorta Country in Victoria's Goulburn Valley and Wurundjeri Country in Narm/Melbourne. He is currently a Senior Lecturer in the School of Art at RMIT University where he leads the Bachelor of Arts (Fine Art) Hong Kong program.

His research interests include archives, photographic theory, queer theory, gender, power, desire, and social justice. Working across photography, video, printmaking, textiles, performance and installation, his creative practice involves collaborating with museums, archives, collections, historians, archivists, legal scholars, and libraries to unearth under-represented queer narratives and make them visible through artworks, publications, and public programs. His work is held in various art collections, including the National Gallery of Victoria, Art Gallery of South Australia, and City of Melbourne Arts and Heritage Collection.



Thursday 14 October



6.00pm - 7.00pm AEDT

Webinar
[Register](#)

Discussant:

Myles Russell-Cook is the Curator of Indigenous Art at the National Gallery of Victoria. Myles' passion is for First Nations contemporary art. He is responsible for the National Gallery of Victoria's collections of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art, the Art of Oceania, as well as work by a broad range of First Nations artists globally.

Myles has lectured in Art History, Design Anthropology and Indigenous Studies at Swinburne University. He is also the co-editor of the NGV's annual scholarly publication, *The Art Journal*.

Myles is a member of the NGV's Contemporary Art and Design Curatorium (CADC), a team that oversee major contemporary art exhibitions including *NGV Triennial* and *Melbourne Now*. He has curated significant exhibitions including *Colony: Frontier Wars* (2017), *From Bark to Neon* (2019), *DESTINY* (2020), and *Maree Clarke: Ancestral Memories* (2021), and is currently working on upcoming exhibitions *Rosalie Gascoigne: Lorraine Connelly Northey, Bark Ladies, and Queer*.

Host

Professor Lynette Russell AM is one of Australia's leading historians and internationally recognised experts on Indigenous histories. She has published over twelve books on topics as diverse as museums and museum displays, Aboriginal faunal knowledge, colonial history, and the early Australian whaling industry.

She has held fellowships at both Cambridge and Oxford. Her research focus is on developing an anthropological approach to the story of the past, challenging not only what we know but how we know it. Her work is frequently collaborative and interdisciplinary. She is Deputy Director of the Australian Research Council's Centre of Excellence in Biodiversity and Heritage.

For more information please visit our [website](#) or contact [Dr Leonie Stevens](#).