

Biographies

Dr PETER EMMETT (Curator), guest curator 100 objects

Dr Peter Emmett is a leading Australian museum curator and historian with more than 30 years' experience working with major institutions around the world.

He was the senior curator and project leader for several award-winning museum projects, including Hyde Park Barracks Museums (1991), Museum of Sydney (1995) and the Museum of Economic Botany, Adelaide (2009).

He has curated many temporary exhibitions from significant regional, state, national and international collections, including the Natural History Museum, London, and the Peabody Essex Museum, Salem. He has also worked on projects in Point Nepean National Park in Victoria (2009-2017), Rouse Hill House and Farm in Sydney (2014), Victoria Square/Tarndanyangga in Adelaide (2009-12), The Regent Theatre in Brisbane (2010-11), the Separate Prison at the Port Arthur Historic Site in Tasmania (2005-08) and Shark Bay Interpretation Centre in Western Australia (2004-06).

Dr PATRICIA O'BRIEN (Historian), guest author and historian on the 14-person selection committee 100 people

Dr Patricia O'Brien is an Australian Research Council Future Fellow in the School of History at the Australian National University. She is currently examining the interwar colonial period and the histories of League of Nations Mandated Territories, as part of a broader study of Imperial histories from around the world.

She is the author of a biography of Samoan nationalist leader Ta'isi O.F. Nelson, titled Tautai: Samoa, World History and the Life of Ta'isi O.F. Nelson, published in 2017, and The Pacific muse: Exotic Femininity and the Colonial Pacific, published in 2006. She has also written numerous works on gender, empire and colonial cultural histories, with a particular focus on Australia and the Pacific. From 2001 to 2013, Dr O'Brien was the resident Australian and Pacific historian at Georgetown University, in Washington D.C. She has held several international fellowships, including the J.D. Stout Fellow in New Zealand studies at Victoria University Wellington (in 2012), and the Jay I. Kislak Fellow in American Studies at the John W. Kluge Center at the Library of Congress, in Washington D.C (2011).

AARON MAESTRI (Designer), Australian Museum designer of the *200 Treasures of the Australian Museum* exhibition

Aaron Maestri is an award-winning exhibition designer for leading museums across Australia and the world. Since joining the Australian Museum in 2011, his work has been recognised by two Museums & Galleries National Awards for Best Temporary or Travelling Exhibition, for *Trailblazers: Australia's 50 greatest explorers* (2016) and *Tyrannosaurs, meet the family* (2014). From 2002 to 2011, he worked for major museums in the United States, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, in New York. While at the Met, he designed the museum's 1800-square metre project New galleries for the Art of the Arab Lands, Turkey, Iran, Central Asia and Later South Asia, which traced the course of Islamic civilization across 15 new galleries.

He also worked as exhibit designer for The Walt Disney Family Museum, in San Francisco, on a new museum dedicated to the life of Walt Disney, which won a Themed Entertainment Association Award for Outstanding Achievement. Prior to this, Maestri worked as an exhibit designer in NSW, for the Australian Museum, The National Maritime Museum and State Library NSW, and in Queensland, for the Cobb & Co Museum and Townsville Museum.

Maestri studied design at the UNSW College of Fine Arts. In 2000, he was awarded a Churchill Fellowship to study exhibit design in Europe and the US.

FRAN DOREY (Project Manager), Australian Museum exhibition project manager

Fran Dorey is a project manager, author and educator, with more than 20 years' experience working on major museum exhibitions. Since joining the Australian Museum in 1996, she has worked as a project manager, text writer or content expert on major exhibitions and projects, including *Dinosaurs*, *Alexander the Great: 2000 Years of Treasures*, *Aztecs*, *Wild Planet*, *Life Beyond the Tomb: Death in Ancient Egypt*, *Tyrannosaurs – meet the family*, *Art of the Pharaohs* and *Trailblazers: Australia's 50 greatest explorers*. Prior to this, Dorey worked for the Australian Museum as an interpretive officer and educator.

She has a BA (Hons) and Dip Ed, along with certificates in project management. She has been co-author of several books covering archaeology, history and palaeontology.

VANESSA FINNEY (Archivist), Australian Museum archivist

Vanessa Finney is a curator, historian and archivist with a special interest in natural history in colonial Australia. At the Australian Museum, she manages the country's oldest and largest natural history archives and its collection of rare books.

She has published on the history of Australian natural history, the history of museums in Australia and the Australian Museum's Scott sisters' 19th century natural history and art collection. She curated the exhibition *Transformations: the Art of the Scott Sisters* (2017).

She has a BA (Hons) and MA (Hons) and is writing a PhD examining the rich visual and descriptive archives of natural history in colonial Australia.

COLIN MACGREGOR (Conservator), Australian Museum manager of materials conservation

Colin Macgregor is a materials conservation specialist with more than 30 years' experience working for leading museums in Australia and overseas.

He has been working with the Australian Museum's ethnographic, archaeological and natural history collections since 1989. In 2001, he was appointed manager of materials conservation, with responsibility for the conservation treatment of archaeological material and the transportation of artefacts. He has worked on a number of the Australian Museum's major exhibitions, including *200 Treasures of the Australian Museum* and the Wild Planet Gallery. He has also worked on the museum's disaster preparedness and response for cultural collections.

Prior to settling in Australia, Colin worked with the Scottish Museums Council, Sheffield City Museums and the National Museum of Scotland, where he worked on the conservation of material ranging from the Neolithic to Industrial periods. He has also worked on archaeological projects in the United Kingdom, Italy, Cyprus, Australia and Vanuatu.

Colin has also worked throughout NSW on the conservation and relocation of Aboriginal carved and scarred trees. He has a Bachelor of Science from the University of Edinburgh and post-graduate diploma in Archaeological Conservation from Durham University.

KIM EBERHARD, Head of Historical Services, Westpac Group

Kim Eberhard is a professional archivist and historian and is the Head of Historical Services for Westpac Group. She contributed to the book produced for the Bank's 200th Anniversary, and has also arranged for the listing of the Bank's earliest records – dating from 1816 – on UNESCO's Memory of the World Register.

Kim has worked extensively in the private sector, with community-based organisations, businesses, religious orders and independent schools. She is working towards her doctorate which focuses on recordkeeping in the private sector, particularly in relation to the current Royal Commission into child sexual abuse.

A former President of the Australian Society of Archivists (2006 -2008) and member of the Executive Board of the International Council on Archives (2009 – 2012), Kim was one of the authors of the Universal Declaration on Archives, which was adopted by UNESCO in 2011.