

# The Art of Exploration

European and American artistic responses to exploration 1750-1860. A three-day international conference (Wednesday 14 July to Friday 16 July 2004) at the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London. Jointly organised by The Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art and the National Maritime Museum.

**Wednesday 14 July to Friday 16 July 2004 -  
National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London**



*'Landing at Mallicolo (Malekula), one of the New Hebrides' (1774). Copyright NMM London 1904.*

The Art of Exploration examines the relationship between art and science from the mid-eighteenth to the mid-nineteenth centuries within the context of the global impact of Cook's three voyages to the Pacific. The artists travelling with Cook had a considerable influence on the visual culture of science, particularly through their ensuing publications. The voyages set a model for the expeditions of other colonial and post-colonial nations and helped contribute to the formation of national identities. This was particularly true of the Lewis and Clark expedition, the bi-centenary of which is to be celebrated in 2004.

The Art of Exploration will not just focus on British art, but will look at the art of private and government-sponsored expeditionary science across continents and oceans. It will discuss how the art of exploration was exhibited and received within the artistic establishment and how it became an essential medium for the

dissemination of navigational and scientific knowledge.

The conference complements a major exhibition of William Hodges' work, which will open at the National Maritime Museum in July 2004. The exhibition, also supported by The Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art, will bring together many of his finest and most important paintings from the Pacific, India and Britain for the first time. Keynote Speakers are Sir David Attenborough and Professor David Bindman.

For further details or to purchase tickets, please contact Janet Norton, Research Administrator, National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London UK T: +44 (0)20 8312 6716 F: +44 (0)20 8312 6521  
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## Conference Programme

### Wednesday 14 July

**17.30-18.15** Registration

**18.15-18.30** Welcome by Roy Clare, Director, National Maritime Museum

**18.30-19.30** Caird Medal Lecture by Sir David Attenborough *Imagining the unknown*

**19.30-21.00** Reception, Queen's House

### Thursday 15 July

**09.00-09.30** Registration and coffee

#### Session 1 **Expanding Horizons**

**Chair: Margarette Lincoln,**  
National Maritime Museum

**09.30-10.00** Sarah Monks, National Maritime Museum and Courtauld Institute of Art

*Beyond the sea: desire, fear and the construction of space in eighteenth-century British marine art*

**10.00-10.30** Geoffrey Quilley, National Maritime Museum

*The pencil in the first person: the artist as eyewitness on voyages of exploration*

**10.30-11.00** Coffee

**11.00-11.30** Peter Brunt, Victoria University



## forthcoming events conferences

Et in Rapanui ego: an allegory of unnatural history in two paintings by William Hodges

**11.30-12.00** Pieter van der Merwe, National Maritime Museum  
The virtuous Swiss: the legacy of John Webber

**12.00-12.30** Discussion

**12.30-14.00** Lunch

### Session 2 'Acquiring a More Complete Knowledge'

**Chair: Nigel Rigby,** National Maritime Museum

**14.00-14.30** David Mabberley, Australian National Herbarium  
Ferdinand Bauer's Australian plant drawings, 1801-03

**14.30-15.00** Leonard Bell, University of Auckland  
Not quite Darwin's artist: the travel art of Augustus Earle and the topography of human knowledge

**15.00-15.30** Tea

**15.30-16.00** Simon Schaffer, University of Cambridge  
The scientist as artist: the case of William Gooch and Vancouver's voyage of 1791-95

**16.00-16.30** Michael Bravo, Scott Polar Research Institute  
The whaler as artist: William Scoresby's

arctic visions

**16.30-17.00** Jordan Goodman, University of Manchester, Institute of Science and Technology  
The naval officer as artist: Captain Owen Stanley and the voyage of HMS Rattlesnake

**17.00-17.30** Discussion

### Friday 16 July

**09.00-09.30** Registration and coffee  
Keynote Address  
Chair: Brian Allen, Paul Mellon Centre

**09.30-10.30** David Bindman, University College London  
A 'philosophical eye': the Forsters and human variety

**10.30-11.00** Coffee

### Session 3 Colonial Expansion

**Chair: Brian Allen,** Paul Mellon Centre

**11.00-11.30** Michael Godby, University of Cape Town  
Samuel Daniell's travels in South Africa, 1800-1803, and the engravings he made from them

**11.30-12.00** Roy Bridges, University of Aberdeen  
Did African travellers produce attractive illustrations or visual records? The art of J.A. Grant on the Nile expedition of 1860-63

**12.00-12.30** Discussion

**12.30-14.00** Lunch

### Session 4 Exploring Nation

**Chair: Amy Meyers,** Yale Centre for British Art

**14.00-14.30** Barbara Groseclose, Ohio State University  
Circum-Atlantic aristocracy: the image of the Indian Queen and voyages of discovery

**14.30-15.00** Natasha Eaton, University of Manchester  
Landscapes of interaction? Trafficking Mughal and British images of place in early colonial India

**15.00-15.30** Tea

**15.30-16.00** Stéphanie Pratt, University of Plymouth  
Contexts for the images of American Indians in North American expeditionary art, 1778-1840

**16.00-16.30** Robert Peck, Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia  
Plates for the book that never appeared: the lost visual legacy of the Lewis and Clark expedition

**16.30-16.45** Discussion

**16.45-17.30** Closing remarks  
Nicholas Thomas, Goldsmiths College, University of London  
Cook, Hodges, exploration and art.

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# The Edwardians: Secrets and Desires

(The Centre is organising this event in association with the Menzies Centre for Australian Studies)

**Symposium, Friday 24 September 2004, at the Paul Mellon Centre**



The Edwardians: Secrets and Desires exhibition, shown at the National Gallery of Australia from March to June 2004 and at the Art Gallery of South Australia from July to September; reassessed the art of the Edwardian era. It showed that era to have been a time of dramatic change in art as in life - from a period of established order to the beginnings of a more modern world. This Symposium provides a forum for new research and an opportunity for exploration of visual and cultural ideas relating to the Edwardian age. British and Australian speakers will address a broad range of topics, including portraiture, landscape, the roles of artists and of art criticism and institutions.

**Confirmed speakers are:** Anna Gray (National Gallery of Australia, curator of the exhibition), Ann Galbally (University of Melbourne), Hilary Fraser (Birkbeck College, London), Kenneth McConkey (Northumbria University), Christine Riding (Tate Britain), MaryAnne Stevens (Royal Academy of Arts) and Angus Trumble (Yale Center for British Art). Full details will be available shortly from the Centre or from its website.

**Tickets** are free but must be applied for by contacting Maisoon Rehani at the Paul Mellon Centre. Lunch is not provided but the Symposium will conclude with a drinks reception, sponsored by the Menzies Centre for Australian Studies.

*John Singer Sargent 'The Fountain, Villa Torlonia, Frascati, Italy' (1907). The Art Institute of Chicago, American Art Collection.*