Contributors

Jon Altman

Jon Altman is a Research Professor at the Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research at the Australian National University. He has a disciplinary background in economics and anthropology. In 1990, he was appointed the foundation Director of the Centre—a position he held until 2010. In 2003, Professor Altman was elected a Fellow of the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia.

Professor Altman undertook fieldwork for his doctorate in the Maningrida region, Western Arnhem Land, in 1979–81, residing with Kuninjku people at Mumeka outstation on the Mann River and collaborating on research about local livelihood options. These people share strong kinship, linguistic, economic and ceremonial ties with other groups in Gunbalanya (formerly Oenpelli)—one of the bases of the 1948 Arnhem Land Expedition. This research was published in the book Hunter-Gatherers Today: An Aboriginal Economy in North Australia. Since 1979, he has undertaken more than 40 field visits to Kuninjku country.

Professor Altman has regularly undertaken collaborative research with Kuninjku on the customary economy and wildlife harvesting, the arts, natural-resource management, and on the transformations of their unusual regional hybrid economy made up of customary, state and market sectors. His current research focuses on economic hybridity and critical development studies in remote Australia.

Linda Barwick

Linda Barwick is Associate Professor in the School of Letters, Art and Media at the University of Sydney and Director of the Pacific and Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures (PARADISEC), an internationally acclaimed research facility established in 2003 by a number of Australian universities, led by the University of Sydney with support from the Australian Research Council (ARC).

Linda is an ethnomusicologist who has undertaken fieldwork in Australia, Italy and the Philippines, and is particularly interested in the uses of digital technologies for extending access to research results by cultural-heritage communities. Recent song documentation projects include the ARC-funded Murriny Patha song project, the Western Arnhem Land song project, funded by the Hans Rausing Endangered Languages Program (School of Oriental
and African Studies, University of London), and the Iwaidja Documentation Project, funded by the Volkswagen Stiftung (based in the Max Planck Institute, Nijmegen).

Her many publications include multimedia CDs accompanied by extensive scholarly notes, produced in collaboration with Indigenous singers and their communities, and her work is cited in anthropology, cultural studies, linguistics and library science as well as within her own discipline.

She is a Deputy Director of the University of Sydney’s Digital Innovation Unit, and has contributed to a number of other initiatives to develop awareness and capacity in the digital humanities, including the Australian e-Humanities Network and several projects funded under the ARC’s e-research special research initiatives program.

**Kim Beazley**

Kim Beazley completed a Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts at the University of Western Australia in 1970. He was awarded the Rhodes Scholarship for Western Australia in 1973, and completed an MPhil at Oxford University in 1976. In February 2010, he took up an appointment as Australian Ambassador to the United States.

Ambassador Beazley taught at Murdoch University in the Department of Social Inquiry from 1976 to 1980. He was a Member of the Australian Parliament from 1980 to 2007. He was a minister from 1983 to 1996 in the Hawke and Keating Labor governments, holding at various times portfolios that included Defence, Finance, Transport and Communications, Employment, Education and Training, Aviation and Special Minister of State.

Ambassador Beazley was Deputy Prime Minister during 1995–96 under Prime Minister Paul Keating and was Leader of the Australian Labor Party and the Opposition from 1996 to 2001, and again from 2005 to 2006. While in Parliament, he served on a number of parliamentary committees, including Joint Intelligence and Joint Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade.

Following his departure from Parliament in 2007, Ambassador Beazley was appointed Winthrop Professor of Political Science and International Relations at the University of Western Australia. He is Joint Chairman of the international advisory board of the Australian American Leadership Dialogue, and is a member of the advisory boards of Defence SA and the *Australian Army Journal*.

In July 2008, he was appointed Chancellor of the Australian National University—a position he held until December 2009. He was awarded the Companion of the Order of Australia for service to the Parliament of Australia
through contributions to the development of government policies in relation to defence and international relations, as an advocate for Indigenous people, and to the community. In July 2009 he was appointed a member of the Council of the Australian War Memorial.

Bruce Birch

Bruce Birch is an anthropological linguist who has been based in the Cobourg region of North-West Arnhem Land for the past seven years, and is currently a Departmental Visitor in Linguistics at the Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies at the Australian National University. Bruce originally moved to the community of Minjilang on Croker Island to take up a position as principal field linguist for the DoBeS-funded Iwaidja Documentation Project in 2003. As a result of this project—which has recently received funding for a second phase—Iwaidja now has the largest online archive of annotated video and audio texts of any Australian Indigenous language.

Bruce has initiated and consulted on a number of projects in the area of Indigenous ecological knowledge, particularly marine knowledge, and is also consulting linguist for the Minjilang-based Iwaidja Inyman—a project committed to the publication and maintenance of the Iwaidja language and associated cultural knowledge, initiated and coordinated by his partner, Sabine Hoeng.

Robert C. Cashner

Robert C. Cashner, son-in-law of Robert Rush Miller, is an Emeritus Research Professor of Biological Sciences at the University of New Orleans. He received his doctoral degree from Tulane University and joined the faculty at the Louisiana State University in New Orleans (now the University of New Orleans) in 1973. Over the next 35 years, he advanced in the faculty ranks to Professor and was selected for the honour of Research Professor in 1993. He served as Chair of the Department of Biological Sciences from 1993 to 1996, before moving into the central administration. He was Dean of the Graduate School from 1996 to 2008 and Vice-Chancellor for Research from 2001 to 2008. He was awarded the Mackin Medallion in 2008 for Outstanding Service to the University.

His research area is ichthyology, with primary interests in freshwater fishes in the species-rich south-eastern United States and the stability of estuarine fish assemblages along the US Gulf Coast. He has conducted ichthyo-faunal studies throughout most of the continental United States, Mexico and Australia. He was appointed as a Visiting Scientist to Australia’s Northern Rivers University (now Southern Cross University) in 1991 and 2001 and conducted a study of fish assemblages of the Nymboida River. He has served as major advisor for more
than 30 masters of science and PhD students and has published more than 70 research articles and book chapters on fish diversity, ecology and assemblage stability.

He is an associate of the Sam Noble Natural History Museum at the University of Oklahoma and has current research projects with several colleagues. He has garnered more than $2 million in extra-mural funding. In 1997, he was elected President of the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists (ASIH); he continues to serve the ASIH as a permanent member of the Board of Governors. He has also been involved in Darwin Day events at the University of New Orleans and in the New Orleans community. In 2007, he received a Friend of Darwin Award from the National Center for Science Education.

Denise Chapman

Denise Chapman began work at the State Library of South Australia in 2003. She has contributed to the management of collections with Indigenous content, including photography, manuscripts, audiovisual pieces and artworks. The work has involved managing access to collections, policy development, digitisation priorities, research inquiries, and coordinating tours and training. During the past four years, she has been involved in processing the Mountford–Sheard Collection, which was listed on the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) Australian Memory of the World register in 2008.

Before joining the State Library of South Australia, Denise worked in the public library environment for two years, following the completion of a Graduate Diploma in Information Studies in 2001. She also has a Bachelor of Arts in Geography and History. She is a member of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Library and Information Resource Network.

Anne Clarke

Anne Clarke is a Senior Lecturer in Heritage Studies in the School of Philosophical and Historical Inquiry at the University of Sydney. She has carried out archaeological research in the Northern Territory since 1982. Anne has held teaching appointments in archaeology and heritage management at Charles Sturt University and the Australian National University. She has also held postdoctoral research fellowships at the ANU at the North Australia Research Unit, Darwin, and in the Department of Archaeology and Anthropology, Canberra.
Margo Daly

Margo Daly is a writer, editor and educator currently working as a researcher at the University of Sydney on an Australian Research Council-funded study of the 1948 Arnhem Land Expedition. She has a BA (Communications) from the University of Technology, Sydney (UTS), and an MA (Writing) from Sheffield Hallam University in the United Kingdom.

Travel writing is Margo’s chief area of interest. She has authored guidebooks to Australia, Sydney and Tasmania for the Rough Guides series (Penguin, UK), and, during a decade based in London, researched destinations including northern Thailand, Morocco, France (Paris, the north, Poitou-Charentes and the Atlantic coast) and Brussels. Margo has published travel fiction in *Wild Ways: New Stories about Women on the Road* (Sceptre, 1998), which she co-edited with Jill Dawson. Travel memoirs appeared in *Gas and Air: Tales of Pregnancy, Birth and Beyond*, also co-edited with Jill Dawson (Bloomsbury, 2002), in *Meanjin* and *Women Travel* (Penguin, 1999).

Margo has taught travel writing for many years, at Sydney University’s Centre for Continuing Education and more recently at the NSW Writers’ Centre. She has taught narrative writing and creative non-fiction at UTS and creative writing in schools, community centres, adult education and to home-school students. She is currently undertaking a Bachelor of Teaching (Secondary) at Charles Sturt University to teach English and history.

Ursula Frederick

Ursula Frederick is an archaeologist with a special interest in art, archaeology, cross-cultural exchange and the contemporary past. Her expertise lies in the area of rock art research and visual arts. Her honours thesis (University of Western Australia) examined the ways in which Indigenous artists based at Cairns TAFE in far north Queensland incorporated rock art imagery into their contemporary artworks. Her master’s thesis (ANU, 1997) was the first in-depth archaeological investigation of contact rock art undertaken in Australia and was based on an analysis of charcoal drawings in rock shelters in Watarrka National Park. In 1995 and 1996, Ursula carried out archaeological fieldwork with Dr Anne Clarke on Groote Eylandt, recording rock art sites with traditional owners and their families.

Ursula is currently enrolled in a PhD at the School of Art, and is employed by the Research School of Humanities, the Australian National University. She presents and publishes in the areas of art, archaeology, and visual-culture research. Her first book, *Women Willing to Fight: Essays on the Fighting Woman in Film*, co-edited with Silke Andris, was published in 2008. The volume included an
exploration of popular representations of archaeology through the character of Lara Croft, thus combining Ursula’s interests in archaeology, visual media and popular culture. Ursula is currently finalising Cruising Country: Automobilities in Non-urban Australia—a special issue of Humanities Research.

Murray Garde

Murray Garde is currently Research Fellow in the School of Archaeology and Anthropology at the Australian National University. From 1988 to 1999, he lived in the north-central Arnhem Land community of Maningrida and also on outstations in the Liverpool and Mann rivers districts of Western Arnhem Land. During this time, he first worked as a visiting homeland centre teacher and then as Curator of the Djómi Museum in Maningrida, and Cultural Research Officer for the Bawinanga Aboriginal Corporation. He enjoyed close friendships with the Kuninjku people who lived on outstations at the eastern margins of the Arnhem Land Plateau, and it was these people who first introduced him to some of the great regional cult ceremonies of the area in the tradition of those witnessed by members of the 1948 Arnhem Land Expedition.

In 1993, Murray instituted a rock art documentation project that focused on recording the cultural significance of rock art for the traditional Aboriginal owners in the Mann and Liverpool rivers districts. Much of this work also allowed him to study the dialects of Bininj Kunwok spoken across Western Arnhem Land, and, eventually, he became fluent enough to work as an interpreter in legal, medical and cultural contexts.

Louise Hamby

Louise Hamby is a Research Fellow at the Research School of Humanities and the Arts at the Australian National University in Canberra. She received an MFA degree from the University of Georgia in textiles. Containers of Power, her PhD from the School of Archaeology and Anthropology at the Australian National University, focused on fibre container forms from North-East Arnhem Land. Her previous position was an ARC Postdoctoral Fellow (Industry) working with Museum Victoria on the project ‘Anthropological and Aboriginal Perspectives on the Donald Thomson Collection: Material culture, collecting and identity’.

Material culture—particularly fibre forms and bodywear from Arnhem Land—is the main content of her work. The interconnections between historical and contemporary forms are part of ongoing research with Aboriginal people from the region. This often involves working with dispersed collections of different types. She has curated and co-curated numerous exhibitions, most recently Women with Clever Hands: Gapuwiuyak Miyalkuruwurr Gong Djambatjmala,
which opened at Wagga Wagga Art Gallery. Her most recent publication is *Containers of Power: Women with Clever Hands*. Louise’s expertise in historical Aboriginal material culture resulted in a consultancy for costume and set design for the Baz Luhrmann film *Australia*.

Her current Australian Research Council Discovery Grant, ‘Contexts of Collection’, examines the role of Indigenous people in the formation of collections from Arnhem Land. The collection from the 1948 Arnhem Land Expedition plays an integral part in mid-century relationships between collectors, institutions and the makers of the objects.

**Joshua S. Harris**

Joshua S. Harris is the former Archives Manager of the Film and Audiovisual Archives of the National Geographic Society. An archaeologist and historian by training, Joshua has been involved in collections management, preservation and research within a diverse array of museum, archive and university collection settings.

Josh began his career as an archaeologist with the Illinois State Museum, participating in prehistoric site identification and excavation throughout the American Midwest and South, with a primary focus on the processing and analysis of prehistoric botanical collections. Josh joined the University of Tennessee as an archaeologist in 2000 for large-scale excavation of multiple Native American prehistoric sites in the Smoky Mountain National Park. In 2001, he joined the Smithsonian Institution National Museum of Natural History in the Department of Invertebrate Zoology. He participated in and managed a large preservation project to design, re-curate and prevent the degradation of the mollusc collection (the world’s largest). In addition, he was involved in digital imaging and multimedia catalogue development of invertebrate collections with a focus on Antarctic biological collections.

Josh moved to the National Geographic Society Film and Audiovisual Archives in 2004. In his time with the Society, he participated in a diverse range of activities, managing a collection representing more than 100 years of film and recorded sound history. He concentrated on preservation and preventative conservation, digital asset migration and management, access to moving-image collections and the use of archival moving-image collections across diverse platforms. In addition, he has worked on outreach, guidance and training to collections managers throughout the world, including in South-East Asia, Greece, Mexico and Central America, and has published numerous papers in the field. Josh recently joined the University of Kentucky Libraries in the Electronic and Digital Resources Division, where he is the lead designer of a new electronic resource-management system for use across the university library system.
Mark Collins Jenkins

Mark Collins Jenkins is a writer, editor and historian, who, for many years, was on the staff of the National Geographic Society. His books include *Vampire Forensics: Uncovering the Origins of an Enduring Legend* (2010); *The Book of Marvels: An Explorer’s Miscellany* (2009); *The Image Collection* (2009); *Odysseys and Photographs: Four National Geographic Field Men* (2008); *Worlds to Explore: Classic Tales of Travel and Adventure from National Geographic* (2006); and *High Adventure: The Story of the National Geographic Society* (2004).

Jenkins has also written for National Geographic Society products ranging from the Genographic Project—an attempt to map prehistoric migrations via traces left in the genetic code—to articles for the Society’s award-winning website. During his 22 years as a historian with the Society’s Archives, Jenkins was creator, editor and principal writer of an electronic encyclopedia of society history comprising more than 1200 entries. He also helped establish an oral-history program and served as one of the curators of the museum exhibit *Latitudes, Lenses, and Lore: The World of Luis Marden* (November 2000 – March 2001). Alongside his colleagues, he was profiled in the ‘Behind the Scenes’ section of the February 2002 *National Geographic*.

A graduate of St Christopher’s School in Richmond, Virginia, Jenkins studied at Washington and Lee University, where he was awarded a Bachelor’s degree in English. After receiving a Master’s degree from the University of Virginia, he joined the Geographic staff in 1987. Presently living in Fredericksburg, Virginia, he is a former trustee of the Historic Fredericksburg Foundation, where he helped start its long-running oral-history program and edited the *Journal of Fredericksburg History*.

Philip Jones

Philip Jones has worked as a Curator at the South Australian Museum since the mid 1980s. During that time, he has curated about 30 exhibitions dealing with Aboriginal art, history and material culture, anthropological and expeditionary history, and, more recently, the ethnography and history of Australia’s ‘Afghan’ cameleers. He is a graduate in law and history from the University of Adelaide, where he also completed a PhD thesis titled “A box of native things”: Ethnographic collectors and the South Australian Museum, 1830s–1930s’ (1996).

Philip has undertaken fieldwork in the Simpson Desert and Birdsville Track region, particularly in collaboration with linguist Dr Luise Hercus. As well as a series of publications dealing with the history and ethnography of the region, this fieldwork has involved a site-recording project with descendants of the Wangkangurru and Yarluyandi people of the region.
His particular interest in the provenance of artefacts and in the history and context of their collection underpins much of his exhibition research and writing. In 2007 he published *Ochre and Rust: Artefacts and Encounters on Australian Frontiers*, which won the 2008 Prime Minister’s Literary Award for Non-Fiction. The book traces the paths artefacts follow—from their makers to their collectors—as a means of re-examining frontier history.

Philip Jones is currently engaged in an investigation of the respective roles of Francis Gillen and Baldwin Spencer in anthropological history, a history of the South Australian Museum, the social and economic contribution made by the ‘Afghan’ cameleers, a biography of the colonial artist George French Angas, and an analysis of the distribution and significance of red ochre.

**Lynne McCarthy**

Lynne McCarthy was a Research Fellow in the Centre for Historical Research at the National Museum of Australia from 2008 to 2010. Her doctoral research in the Flinders Ranges, South Australia, developed from her training in the disciplines of environmental science and palaeoecology. This research reconstructed vegetation and climate histories of the Flinders Ranges over the past 10 000 years, based on the analysis of pollen and plant macrofossil material preserved in native stick-nest rat deposits. This work—analagous to well-established research on packrat nest deposits in the United States—was a first for this type of palaeoecological study in semi-arid environments in South Australia.

Lynne joined the National Museum of Australia in 1999 as a Curator in the People and the Environment section. This provided an opportunity for contributing a deep-time perspective to the development of the *Old New Land* exhibit—the permanent gallery exploring environmental histories of Australia. Other curatorial work in the Museum has included the development of exhibits for another permanent gallery exhibition, *Australian Journeys*, and extensive work on the research and documentation of collections in the National Historical Collection. Prior to joining the Centre for Historical Research, Lynne worked more broadly across the Museum, including a period as an Exhibitions Coordinator and Senior Curator in the field of environmental history.

Lynne’s interest in the botanical and ecological work from the 1948 Arnhem Land Expedition stems from her passion for fieldwork, and the opportunity to explore the complexities of the scientific and cultural dimensions of plant ecology and landscape histories of tropical environments across Arnhem Land. In addition, the honour of working with eminent Australian plant ecologist Raymond Specht has proved invaluable in capturing personal insights of his experiences on the 1948 Expedition as well as his other contributions to plant ecology in Australia.
Tony MacGregor

Tony MacGregor is the National Arts Editor for ABC Radio National, and has more than 20 years’ experience as a documentary maker, sound artist and broadcaster. In 2008 he won a Walkley Award for Excellence in Radio Documentary Production. His radio documentary features have been broadcast in Europe, the United States and Australia, and he has created sound designs for galleries, museums and performance works in Australia, Germany, Austria and the United Kingdom, including collaborating in the creation of major works for the Biennale of Sydney, the Melbourne International Festival of the Arts, the Adelaide Biennial, Open Art Munich, the Steirischer Herbst (Graz) and Fotofeis, Edinburgh.

Among his writing credits is the libretto for the opera Cosmonaut, with music by David Chesworth, which premiered at the Melbourne International Festival of the Arts in 2002.

Tony has an MA in History and Cultural Studies from the University of Technology, Sydney (2001). His thesis, ‘Sympathetic vibrations: effecting sound histories’, used a set of early sound recordings as an entry point into a series of highly original critical readings of significant cultural relationships and experiences.

Ian S. McIntosh

Ian S. McIntosh is the Director of International Partnerships at Indiana University Purdue University at Indianapolis (IUPUI) and an Adjunct Professor of Anthropology in the IUPUI School of Liberal Arts. He is also an Associate Director of the Confucius Institute in Indianapolis. At IUPUI, he teaches a class on truth and reconciliation and also runs the Global Crossroads lab, which facilitates cross-cultural communication between diverse academic and activist populations.

An applied anthropologist, Ian is a former Managing Director of the Harvard-based indigenous-rights organisation Cultural Survival Inc., and is Senior Editorial Advisor for the Cultural Survival Quarterly—the premier journal focusing on the rights, voices and visions of the world’s indigenous peoples. He is also a former Deputy Country Director of the Armenia Tree Project, for which his work in the Caucasus was recognised with a 2008 Energy Globe Award for Sustainability.

Ian has published two books and more than 100 articles and has worked on human-rights projects in a number of countries, including Mali, Kenya, Armenia and Australia. His greatest interests, however, are the religions and cultures of
Aboriginal Australia. He worked in a number of Indigenous communities in the Northern Territory and Queensland in the 1980s and 1990s and has written extensively on the historical and spiritual dimensions and legacy of Yolngu (North-East Arnhem Land Aboriginal) relations with Macassan (Sulawesi) seafarers who frequented the northern Australian coast from the early eighteenth to the early twentieth centuries.

**Robyn McKenzie**

Robyn McKenzie is a PhD candidate in the Interdisciplinary Cross-Cultural Research Program at the Research School of Humanities and the Arts, the Australian National University. Having trained as an art historian in the Fine Arts Department at the University of Melbourne, she taught in academic art history departments and in history/theory units in art schools. In this environment, an early focus on avant-garde modernisms was superseded by an interest in the neo-avant-garde conceptual art movements of the 1960s and 1970s and their influence on contemporary art making and criticism.

In the late 1980s and early 1990s, she directed a number of public programs under the auspices of the gallery 200 Gertrude Street in Melbourne, among them *The Present and Recent Past of Australian Art & Criticism*, in 1988. Robyn has published extensively in contemporary art magazines (both local and international) and exhibition catalogues. From 1995 to 1997, she was art critic for *The Age* newspaper in Melbourne, and from 1996 to 2002 she was Editor of *LIKE, Art Magazine*. She has also practised as a curator. Her most recent exhibition, *A Bird in the Hand: Paintings by Tony Clark and John Wolseley*, was held at the Art Gallery of New South Wales’ Contemporary Project Space in 2006–07.

Robyn’s PhD study on the string figures of Yirrkala marks a departure from—but also continues aspects of—her previous research and professional interests in the visual arts. A major objective of her research—focused on the Australian Museum collection made by Frederick McCarthy during the 1948 Arnhem Land Expedition—will be realised through an exhibition. Working in collaboration with the Yirrkala community, her aim is to reanimate the links between the collection and the intangible heritage of knowledge, practice and belief systems that it reflects, thinking through the ways in which contemporary audiences might read and interact with the collection today. In 2008 she received an Australian Museum Postgraduate Award allowing her to work closely with the collection and the Museum’s expert staff.
Allan Marett

Allan Marett is Emeritus Professor of Musicology at the University of Sydney, where he was Professor until 2007. Previously, he was Professor of Music at the University of Hong Kong. He was the founding Director of the National Recording Project for Indigenous Performance in Australia—an initiative that aims to record and document the highly endangered traditions of Australian Indigenous music and dance.

His book *Songs, Dreamings and Ghosts: The Wangga of North Australia* won the 2006 Stanner Award, and the CD *Rak Badjalarr: Wangga Songs by Bobby Lane, Northern Australia*, which he co-authored with Linda Barwick and Lysbeth Ford, won a Northern Territory Indigenous music award. Together with Linda Barwick and others, he has edited a number of anthologies of writing on Australian Indigenous music and endangered cultures, including *The Essence of Singing and the Substance of Song: Recent Responses to the Aboriginal Performing Arts and Other Essays in Honour of Catherine Ellis* (1995), *Researchers, Communities, Institutions, Sound Recordings* (2003) and *Studies in Aboriginal Song: A special issue of Australian Aboriginal Studies* (2007).

His current research focuses on the classical song traditions of Western Arnhem Land as well as the music and culture of the Daly region, where he has worked for more than 20 years. Together with Linda Barwick and Lysbeth Ford, he is completing a new book on Wangga entitled *Wangga Songs of Northwest Australia: Recordings, song-texts and translations in their historical and ethnographic contexts*.

Marett is also active in the field of Sino–Japanese music history. Since the 1970s, he has been a member of the Cambridge-based Tang Music project, which has produced the series *Music from the Tang Court*—now in its seventh volume. Marett is a past President of the Musicological Society of Australia and past Vice-President of the International Council for Traditional Music.

Sally K. May

Sally K. May is Lecturer in the School of Archaeology and Anthropology at the Australian National University. She is also was Convenor of the Cultural and Environmental Heritage stream of the Graduate Program in Liberal Arts. Sally was previously also an ARC Postdoctoral Fellow based at Griffith University (Queensland) and a Lecturer in the Department of Archaeology at Flinders University (South Australia). Sally works closely with Indigenous communities around Australia on projects relating to museum collections, repatriation, archaeology, anthropology, cultural heritage management and rock art.
Since 1999, Sally has undertaken historical research relating to the 1948 Arnhem Land Expedition, producing numerous articles, book chapters and the book *Collecting Cultures: Myth, Politics, and Collaboration in the 1948 Arnhem Land Expedition*. Sally also worked with the Groote Eylandt and Gunbalanya (formerly Oenpelli) communities to help bring home a large percentage of the human skeletal remains taken during this Expedition and held for 60 years at the Smithsonian Institution.

Currently, Sally is working on a major ARC Discovery Project: ‘Picturing Change: 21st century perspectives on recent Australian rock art.’ In this five-year project, contact-period rock art from across Australia is being documented, with fieldwork in Western Arnhem Land (NT), Wollemi National Park (NSW), the Pilbara (WA), and Central Australia, west of Alice Springs (NT). Working closely with Australian Aboriginal colleagues, Sally and her collaborators are documenting the cultural significance of recent rock art sites. Sally May was an academic advisor for the Barks, Birds & Billabongs symposium.

**Gifford Miller**

Gifford Miller is a Professor of Geological Sciences and a Fellow of the Institute of Arctic and Alpine Research (INSTAAR) at the University of Colorado, Boulder. He uses the record of the recent geological past to gain a better understanding of Earth’s climate system. His early research was predominantly in the cold deserts of the polar regions, with a focus on the eastern Canadian Arctic, and later the European Arctic (Svalbard), Russian Arctic (Franz Josef Land) and Greenland. He currently has active polar research programs in Iceland and Baffin Island, Arctic Canada. Recognising the need for improved tools to date events of the recent past, Miller established a laboratory for amino acid racemisation dating, and it was through this tool that he was caught up in the climate and human histories of the world’s hot deserts, beginning with the Sahara Desert. Involvement in the history of climate and human colonisation of the Australian deserts was a natural extension of this work, as his late father, Robert Rush Miller, was a member of the 1948 Arnhem Land Expedition.

Miller’s involvement in Australia began in the late 1980s, with an active research campaign since the early 1990s, focusing on the pacing of the Australian summer monsoon, causes of megafaunal extinction, and the footprints of human colonisation. This research is connected with the Research School of Earth Sciences at the Australian National University. Recently, Miller’s research group, building on the Australian experience, expanded their fieldwork to Madagascar, where they are evaluating causes for the extinction of the elephant bird.

He has published more than 200 scientific papers and is a Fellow of the Geological Society of America and the American Geophysical Union. In 2006 he was granted...
the Geological Society of America’s Easterbrook Distinguished Scientist Award and in 2008 was elected to the Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters as a foreign member. He also chaired the Department of Geological Sciences from 1993 to 1998, and was featured in two recent made-for-television documentaries about Australia: *The Bone Diggers* (2007) and *Death of the Megabeasts* (2009).

**Margo Neale**

Margo Neale is a Senior Research Fellow at the Centre for Historical Research, a Senior Curator and Principal Advisor (Indigenous) at the National Museum of Australia. She was inaugural Director of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Program at the Museum for opening, after previously working at the National Gallery of Australia, the Art Gallery of New South Wales and the Queensland Art Gallery.

She is also an Adjunct Professor in the History Program of the Australian Centre for Indigenous History at the Australian National University. Since 2004, Margo has been involved in numerous interdisciplinary projects, including the investigation of frontier narratives through non-text-based history telling in collaboration with Yale University, films such as *Frontier Conversations*, and exhibitions on multicultural communities and Indigenous urban identity.

Margo is a co-recipient of seven Australian Research Council grants, a judge on the Prime Minister’s Prize for Australian History and was a participant in the 2020 Summit. She has lectured and published widely across disciplines including social history, art and culture in the Asia-Pacific region and co-edited *The Oxford Companion to Aboriginal Art and Culture* (2000). Her 2008 international touring exhibition, *Utopia: The genius of Emily Kame Kngwarreye*, was shown in Japan and won the Manning Clark House National Cultural Group Award 2008. In 2010 she organised and curated *Rituals of Life: The spirituality and culture of Aboriginal Australians through the Vatican Collection* to coincide with the canonisation of Mary MacKillop.

Margo, of Aboriginal and Irish descent, is originally from Victoria. She lived and worked in Arnhem Land in the 1970s and on Christmas Island in the 1980s before joining the National Museum of Australia in 2000. She was Director of the National Museum of Australia’s Barks, Birds & Billabongs symposium.

**Suzy Russell**

Suzy Russell completed a Graduate Diploma in Information Studies in 2000, and has a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology and Women’s Studies.
Since joining the State Library of South Australia in 2003, she has worked on various aspects of the library’s Indigenous collections, with a special focus on the Mountford–Sheard Collection. Her work entails reference and research, cataloguing, developing policy and staging events, as well as supplying content for online and physical exhibitions. She is a member of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Library and Information Resource Network and edits the network’s quarterly newsletter.

Martin Thomas

Martin Thomas is an Australian Research Council Future Fellow in the School of History at the Australian National University and an Honorary Associate Professor in PARADISEC at the University of Sydney. His main interests are the perception of landscape, the history of cross-cultural encounter and inquiry, and the impact of technologies such as sound recording and photography that have transformed attitudes to space and time.

Martin is an oral-history interviewer for the National Library of Australia and has had long experience as a radio producer and broadcaster. His radio work began in New York in 1991 when interviews with homeless people became the basis for the ABC documentary *Home Front Manhattan* (1991)—a reflection on the First Gulf War. Since then he has made more than a dozen documentaries, including *This is Jimmie Barker* (2000), a study of the Aboriginal sound recordist, which was awarded the NSW Premier’s Audio/Visual History Prize.


Martin became interested in the 1948 Arnhem Land Expedition when he heard recordings from 1948 in the archives of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation. This was the stimulus for ongoing fieldwork in Arnhem Land that involves study of historical film, audio and photography with senior traditional owners. In 2008 he was awarded a Smithsonian Institution Fellowship to study Arnhem Land collections and archives in Washington, DC. He is part of a team (including Linda Barwick and Allan Marett) that is studying the history and impacts of the Expedition, funded as a five-year Discovery Project by the Australian Research Council. Martin was an academic advisor for the Barks, Birds & Billabongs symposium.