

Nikita Vanderbyl

CONTACT INFORMATION

Department of Archaeology and History
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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Nineteenth century Aboriginal artists, Aboriginal cultural objects, Australian art histories, colonial-era collecting and visual culture, Australian mission tourism, legacies of British slavery in Australia and histories of emotion.

EDUCATION

- 2014-2019 **PhD, History**, La Trobe University
Thesis title: Artist and Statement: William Barak and the Trans-imperial Circulation of Aboriginal Cultural Objects
Supervisors: Dr Liz Conor, Professor Alan Lester and Professor Diane Kirkby
- 2010-2013 **B.A. (Hons 1) Art History and Gender Studies**, La Trobe University
Thesis title: Pavel Ovchinnikov and the Russian Style: Defining Russian National Identity in the Applied Arts
- 2009 **Certificate III in Business Administration**, The Metropolitan South Institute of TAFE (MSIT) (Loganlea QLD) as part of a traineeship at Flying Arts Alliance Inc., Brisbane

HONOURS AND AWARDS

- 2018 Community History Award for best journal article (peer-reviewed), administered by the Royal Historical Society of Victoria and the Public Records Office of Victoria
AUD\$250
- 2014-2018 La Trobe University Postgraduate Research Scholarship (LTUPRS)
AUD\$25,392.00 per annum
- 2016 La Trobe Internal Research Grant for archival research in Switzerland, Germany and England
AUD\$7,500
- 2015 Copyright Agency Limited Bursary for mentoring at the Australian Historical Association Annual Conference, Sydney
AUD\$700
- 2013 La Trobe University Art History Alumni Prize
AUD\$250
- 2012 The Alice and Isabel Watson Essay Prize
AUD\$1,000
- 2012 Second Year Australian History Prize
- 2012 Executive Dean's Award for Academic Excellence

2011 Dean's Award for Academic Excellence

2010 Dean's Honour List

GRANTS

Intellectual Climate Fund (Unconference-style knowledge-share to learn Zotero referencing software)

AUD\$500

RESEARCH ACTIVITY

Articles

Vanderbyl, N., (2017) 'The Happiest Time of My Life...': Emotive Visitor Books and Early Mission Tourism to Victoria's Aboriginal Reserves, *Aboriginal History* 41, pp 95-120.
<<http://dx.doi.org/10.22459/AH.41.2017.05>>

Vanderbyl, N., (2016) 'Explainer: the importance of William Barak's Ceremony' *The Conversation*, (15/06/2016). <<https://theconversation.com/explainer-the-importance-of-william-baraks-ceremony-60846>>

In Press

Vanderbyl, N., (2019) William Barak's Paintings at State Library Victoria, *La Trobe Journal*, 103, (forthcoming).

Papers under review

Banivanua Mar, T., Lester, A., and Vanderbyl, N., 'Ending Slavery in the Caribbean and Beginning Settler Colonialism in Australia'.

Selected non-academic publications and art criticism

- 'Melbourne Now, one bite at a time' [exhibition review], *Rabelais*, vol. 48, no. 1, 2014, p. 28.
- 'Interview with Céleste Boursier-Mougenot', *Rabelais*, vol. 47, no. 4, 2013, pp. 37-40. Recorded for SYN radio.
- 'What makes a good gallery', *Rabelais*, vol. 47, no. 1, 2013, p. 34.
- 'Interview with the director of La Trobe University Museum of Art', *Rabelais*, vol. 46, no. 4, 2012, p 22.
- 'The Mad Square' [exhibition review], *Rabelais*, vol. 46, no. 1, 2012, pp. 12-15.
- 'On Pollock', *Fragmented Magazine*, issue 1, 2011, pp. 29- 31.
- 'Women: Pawns of Porn', winner of the Alice and Isabel Watson Essay Prize 2011 - Victorian Women's Trust and Gender, Sexuality & Diversity Studies, La Trobe University.
- 'The Asia Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art' [exhibition review], *Textile Fibre Forum Magazine*, issue 2, no. 98, 2010, pp. 34-35.
- 'Desert Psychedelic... Jimmy Pike' [exhibition review], *Textile Fibre Forum Magazine*, no. 95, 2009, pp. 8-9.

International conference presentations

2019 'The Imperial Literacy of Wurundjeri Art William Barak', Native American and Indigenous Studies Association (NAISA) conference, Hamilton, Aotearoa/New Zealand

- 2016 'Aboriginal art at the intersection of anthropology and tourism: the case of William Barak (1824-1903)', Native American and Indigenous Studies Association (NAISA) conference, Honolulu, Hawai'i

Domestic conference presentations

- 2019 Presentation to the Youth Board at Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, Abbotsford
- 2018 Presentation of research in progress to Elders at Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, Abbotsford
- 2018 Guerrilla gallery talk (with curator's permission) on William Barak's paintings, during 'Colony: Frontier Wars' at NGV Federation Square
- 2018 'Countering colonial vision: William Barak's paintings', Colonialism and Its Histories conference, University of Melbourne
- 2018 William Barak and the Victorian Artists' Society, Art Association of Australia and New Zealand (AAANZ) conference, RMIT, Melbourne
- 2017 Presentation of research in progress to Elders at Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, Abbotsford
- 2017 'Aboriginal engagements with colonial collecting: the case of Wurundjeri artist William Barak', Art Association of Australia and New Zealand (AAANZ), Perth, WA
- 2017 La Trobe Postgraduate History Seminar 3rd paper 2017, Bundoora
- 2016 La Trobe Postgraduate History Seminar 2nd Paper, Bundoora
- 2016 'Savage. Noble. Artist. William Barak and transnational collecting', Colonial Formations conference, Wollongong, NSW
- 2016 'Aboriginal art and missionary collections: William Barak's artwork in Herrnhut Germany', Graduate researcher conference, La Trobe University, Bundoora
- 2015 'Heart too full for words': Concern through satisfaction on Victorian Aboriginal Mission Stations', Australian Historical Association conference (AHA), University of Sydney, NSW
- 2015 'Spectacle and progress: tourism to Ramahyuck and Lake Tyers missions in colonial Victoria, Race, Mobilities and Imperial Networks conference, La Trobe University and RMIT, Melbourne
- 2015 La Trobe Postgraduate History Seminar 1st Paper, Bundoora

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Deakin University

- 2018 Exploring Australia's Pasts, Trimester 2 (Subject Coordinator: Dr Tiffany Shellam)
Guest lecturing and collaborating of seminar delivery with Dr Kate Laing

La Trobe University

- 2017 Australian Aboriginal History, Semester 1 (Subject Coordinator: Dr Nadia Rhook)
Tutorial preparation and delivery, assignment marking and feedback

GUEST LECTURES AND PUBLIC OUTREACH

- 2018 Guerrilla gallery talk (with curator's permission) on William Barak's paintings during the Colony: Frontier Wars exhibition, National Gallery of Victoria, Federation Square

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

La Trobe University

January 2019-Present Project Officer, Alumni and Advancement Office

- Organising events for students and university donors
- Conducting detailed confidential prospect research

2018 Archives Assistant, Records and Archives Department

- Cataloguing and indexing records using HP Records Manager
- Contributing to Archival audit and careful management of university records and publications

Wheeler Centre for Books, Writing and Ideas, Melbourne

2010-2018 Usher in Front of House Team (Supervisor: Gabrielle Ryan)

- Developed excellent knowledge of event management and production in an arts context for diverse audiences
- Responsible for general front of house duties including greeting patrons and taking tickets, occasional shift supervision

La Trobe Student Union

2014 Co-editor, *Rabelais* Magazine

- Developed strong relationships with students and staff while sourcing, editing and proofing all magazine content
- Developed excellent collaboration and teamwork skills while shaping magazine layout and design
- Strong experience gained working to deadlines with minimal supervision

Flying Arts Alliance Inc

2008-2010 Administration Assistant

- Contributed to curation and installation of the Regional Art Awards
- Developed excellent logistical and administrative skills in a non-profit arts context working with visual artists and schools
- Provided personal assistance to programming staff as well as support during local projects including art residencies for high school students

Gallery 159, The Gap QLD

2009 Gallery Attendant

- Responsible for welcoming patrons, handling enquires and payments, maintenance of bookshop and resource library, duties as needed

RESEARCH ASSISTANT POSITIONS

- 2018 Composing a book index for Professor Diane Kirkby

- 2018 Supporting the production of the Graphic Encounters conference, La Trobe University, with Associate Professor Liz Conor
- 2017 Archival research Melbourne University Archives, Victoria, for Professor Alan Lester
- 2017 Proof reading and manuscript preparation for Liz Conor
- 2016 Archival research at the National Archives, Kew, England, for Associate Professor Tracey Banivanua Mar
- 2015 Supporting the production of the Race, Mobilities and Imperial Networks conference with Tracey Banivanua Mar and Dr Nadia Rhook

SERVICE

La Trobe University

- 2016-2018 Graduate Research Student Representative, School of Humanities and Social Sciences
- 2014 Peer reviewing for *Writing from Below*, volume 1

Non-academic service

- 2010-2013 Editorial Committee member and *Voiceworks* Magazine Intern (volunteer) at Express Media, Melbourne
- 2007-2012 Event Organiser's Assistant with the Australian Forum for Textile Arts, Ltd (TAFTA) Orange, NSW and Geelong, VIC (one week-long forum per year)