



Oceanic Art Society Incorporated  
Registration No: INC 3442080  
PO Box 3287  
Wareemba NSW 2046  
Australia.

## **OAS 11<sup>th</sup> Forum, Melbourne, 20<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> October 2023: Programme Details.**

Dear Forum Delegates,

Thank you for booking to attend our latest Forum in Melbourne this month. I am giving below the details and joining instructions for the various parts of the event. **Please read all this carefully to ensure you don't miss out on any part of this exciting schedule.**

### **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October Events.**

#### **1. Museums Victoria, Storage Facility Tours, between 0930-1215.**

For the holders of the first thirty Forum tickets booked, these tours will be conducted in three groups, starting at 9:30 (group A), 10:30 (B) and 11:30 (C). **Please note that the tour is in the storage facility building (Merri-Bek Annexe located at 10-22 Cameron Street, Coburg, Melbourne), not in the main Museums Victoria buildings.**

Further details, including group allocation by name, for eligible delegates are contained in an appendix to this letter. Please arrive at the facility at least ten minutes before the scheduled time with your ticket. Please note that numbers in each group are strictly limited and that we cannot change group allocations. **However, if any eligible ticket holders are unable to join their allocated group, please let me know now, so I can assign your place to someone else:**  
[info@oceanicartsociety.org.au](mailto:info@oceanicartsociety.org.au)

#### **2. Visits to Two Private Oceanic Art Galleries in Melbourne by Arrangement in the Afternoon.** Delegates may decide to visit the following private galleries, by appointment. Please contact them directly to arrange a suitable time:

**Alex Philips Oceanic** – [tribal.oceanic@gmail.com](mailto:tribal.oceanic@gmail.com) – 0412 390 384  
**Art Oceanic** – **Malcolm Davidson** – [info@artoceanic.com](mailto:info@artoceanic.com) – 0419 355 126

#### **3. OAS Dinner and Book Auction starting at 6.30pm (cost \$65 for food, drinks extra - pay in the evening).**

Ombra Restaurant, 76 Bourke St, Melbourne – the private room booked only has a capacity of about 50 people, **so please arrive on time to avoid disappointment.**

## Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> October Events.

### 1. Melbourne Savage Club, 12 Bank Place, Melbourne, 0900-1640.

Please arrive promptly and bring your registration tickets so that we can make a quick start to the program. The schedule of activities is as follows:

**0900 Doors open** - assembly in the Great Room (dress code, smart casual).

**0915-0930 Acknowledgement of Country and Opening Address** - President Bill Rathmell and Convenor Michael Martin.

**0930-1010 Crispin Howarth (Curator of Pacific Arts, National Gallery of Australia)** "Masterpieces of Pacific Art at the National Gallery of Australia".

**1010-1050 Michael Hamson (Oceanic Art Gallery owner, USA)** "Connoisseurship of New Guinea Art – From Fake to Great".

**1050-1120 Morning break** – refreshments.

**1120-1200 Nicolas Garnier (Director, Centre for Social Research, Divine Word University, PNG: Formerly Curator, Oceanic Art, Musée du Quai Branly, France)** "Herman Somuk, a pioneering artist from Bougainville".

**1200-1240 Ross Bowden (Anthropologist, Australia)** "Creativity in Art in a New Guinea Society – a Cross-cultural Perspective".

**1240-1400 Lunch in the MSC restaurant** (included in reservation).

**1400-1440 Eric Kjellgren (Formerly Curator of Oceanic Art at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York)** "More Than You Might Think: Exploring Micronesian Sculpture".

**1440-1520 Kevin Conru (Oceanic Art Consultant, Belgium)** will show rare early 20th century footage and images of Polynesian god-figure rituals from the Ontong Java atoll.

**1520-1550 Afternoon break** – refreshments.

**1550-1630 Michael Martin (Forum Convenor, Australia)** "The Seaman Collection of New Guinea Art", his book which has been launched at the *Parcours des Mondes* in Paris this year.

**1630-1640 Closing remarks, thanks and announcements** - Bill Rathmell.

Attendees will be free to view the MSC and its extensive collection, reconvene at the Tavern pub opposite the club, or make their own plans before the next event.

### 2. Melbourne Savage Club, 1830-2200: OAS Gala Dinner with a Distinguished Guest Speaker.

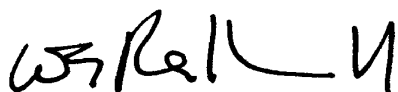
The dinner will be followed by a talk on New Guinea exploration and art by a significant international speaker whose name will remain secret until the time.

**Please will all Forum Attendees and Gala Dinner ticket holders notify me by Monday 16<sup>th</sup> of any special dietary requirements they may have:**

[brathmell@cantab.net](mailto:brathmell@cantab.net)

Michael Martin, the forum convenor as well as myself and the organizing Committee members of the Oceanic Art Society are greatly looking forward to meeting you in Melbourne.

Kind regards,



President, Oceanic Art Society.

## APPENDIX. Museums Victoria, Storage Facility Tour, 0930-1215 on October 20<sup>th</sup>.

For the first thirty tickets booked, this tour will be conducted in three groups, starting at 9:30 (group A), 10:30 (B) and 11:30 (C). Please note that the tour is in the storage facility building, not in the main Museums Victoria building. MERRI-BEK ANNEXE is an off-site storage facility: It is located at 10-22 Cameron Street, Coburg, Melbourne, on the corner of Cameron & Allen Streets, opposite Moreland train station.

Group allocations are given below. Please print your tickets to present when you arrive. If your name does not appear in one of the lists below, the groups were filled before you booked your ticket. As places are limited, and the three groups are all full, it will not be possible to change these allocations.

### Group Allocations for Museum Storage Visits.

Friday October 20th, 2022

GROUP A 9:20am for 9:30am start.	GROUP B 10:20am for 10:30am start	GROUP C 11:20am for 11:30 start
Andrew Baldey	Ross Bowden	Bill Rathmell
Kerry Woodall	Frederic Mathieu	Noëlle Stiels
Jean Paul Brunetti	Frederic Mathieu (Partner)	Ian Wamijo
Joh Bails	Mark Blackburn	Michael Martin
Martin Hiscock	Jerry Liew	Elizabeth Popova
Paula Latos-Valier	Phil Mead	Margaret Cassidy
Byron Latos-Valier	Michele Boscia	Crispin Howarth
JD Mittmann	Tony Boscia	Jim Elmslie
Dominic McGeary	Mike Francis	Speaker Conru
Chris Boylan	Alex Phillips	Speaker Garnier
Andrea Siegling-Blohm	Thelma Murphy	Speaker Hamson
Gunter Siegling-Blohm	Peter Murphy	Speaker Kjellgren

Public transport: [www.ptv.vic.gov.au/](http://www.ptv.vic.gov.au/). Trains are on the Upfield line (departs every 20 mins). You can also get to Merri-Bek Annexe by the route 19 tram (departs every 12 minutes, alight at the corner of Sydney Rd and Moreland Rd, stop 28) or the route 6 tram (Moreland – Glen Iris, stop 133).

OAS Visitors: You should arrive **ten minutes** prior to the time of the commencement of your tour. You can congregate in the foyer where this is a round table and a few seats. An MV staff member will attend to you at the appointment time. OAS visitors will please sign into the building in the foyer of Merri-Bek.

The First Peoples' office area (level 1) will serve as the cloakroom for bags etc. The meeting area of the First Peoples' office will also provide seating, water/glasses, if required. Toilets are close by.

If the visitors need to secure personal items, there is a cloak room on the ground floor of the annexe (also close to toilet facilities).

Store rules: No bags, coats or umbrellas are permitted in any store at any time. Footwear must be worn. In accordance with Museums Victoria policy, all visitors must be informed that due to light and, in some cases, cultural sensitivities, **no unauthorised photography is allowed in any store at any time**. In accordance with Museums Victoria's Integrated Pest Management policy, no food or drink is allowed in any store at any time. All visitors must follow the instructions of Museums Victoria staff:

- Shannon Faulkhead (Head, First Peoples Dept) will provide an Acknowledgement to Country.
- Penny Ikingier (Collection Manager, International Collections, First Peoples' Dept) will provide an overview of the store.