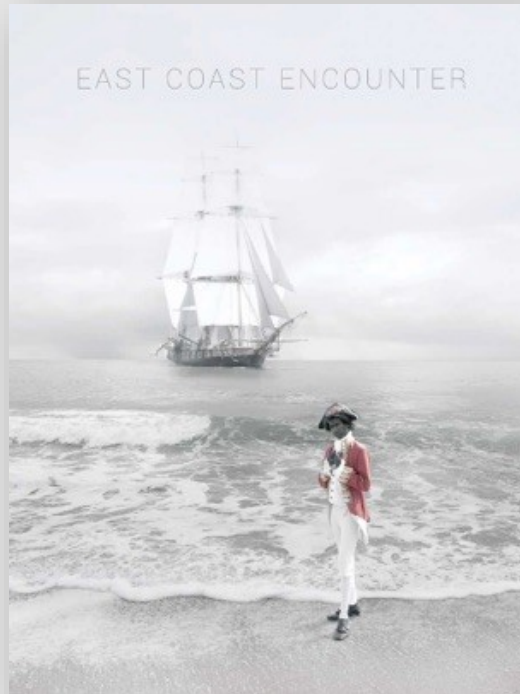


**Title:** 'Re-imagined Encounters' in L. Chandler, ed., East Coast Encounter, One Day Hill, Collingwood, Victoria

**Creator:** Lisa Chandler

**Year:** 2014



## Research Background

Drawing on postcolonial approaches, many contemporary artists have employed creative practice to reassess Eurocentric accounts of Australian history. This essay contributes to this field by examining works in East Coast Encounter. This exhibition re-imagines James Cook's 1770 Australian journey and its impact from Indigenous and non-Indigenous perspectives. The essay asks how this seminal story might be re-envisioned from diverse viewpoints to reveal unheard voices. It examines how the exhibition works critically reflect on these encounters and considers their relevance to contemporary experience.

## Research Contribution

The essay contributes to understandings of Australian postcolonial art in its examination of works by emerging and prominent practitioners such as Judy Watson, Michael Cook, Bianca Beeton, Euan Macleod and Reg Mombassa. It is innovative in its analysis of ways in which creative practice can critically reflect on absences in Australian historiography. In exploring multiple views of these contact encounters, the essay draws out themes of civilisation, power, foreignness, exchange and custodianship of country to shed fresh perspectives on Cook's legacy and the ongoing impacts of colonisation.

## Research Significance

The essay is significant in re-examining Australian history and adding to critical interpretations of the work of prominent Australian artists. It contributes to the scholarly catalogue accompanying the East Coast Encounter exhibition which opened at the Australian National Maritime Museum (ANMM) and toured to 11 regional galleries. All works discussed in the essay have been acquired by the ANMM and 1000 catalogues were sold or distributed at exhibiting venues, the Qld Gallery of Modern Art and the National Museum of Australia. The exhibition received over 81,000 visitors and substantial media coverage. The project's impact was recognised via a Queensland Gallery and Museum Achievement Award.