# THE GRIMWADE COLLECTION MIEGUNYAH STUDENT PROJECT AWARD 2021





Goodman Teale (draughtsman) Nathaniel Whittock (etcher) The City of Melbourne, Australia, 1 May 1855 hand coloured etching and engraving The University of Melbourne Art Collection. Gift of the Russell and Mab Grimwade Bequest 1973

The Ian Potter Museum of Art is offering six Awards of \$2000 each to University of Melbourne students for small projects to be completed and submitted in November 2021. The Award requires each student to undertake a research-based minor project on works of art in **The Russell and Mab Grimwade** 'Miegunyah' Collection, in the University's Art Collection. This scheme aims to give students experience in working in an interdisciplinary context with a material and visual culture collection. In recognition of the changing face of academic engagement, these projects also give students the opportunity to think about how to share their research with a range of audiences and to make use of multiple modes of distribution.

#### **Creative Brief:**

We are seeking innovative and interesting engagements with art held in the Collection that take full advantage of interdisciplinary ways of thinking.

The Russell and Mab Grimwade 'Miegunyah' Collection is varied, reflecting Russell Grimwade's own interests as a collector, industrialist, chemist, and keen botanist, with a fascination, in particular, with British exploration and colonisation and Melbourne's early history. While principally works on paper, it also includes works of art in various media, including paintings, photographs, decorative arts, furniture, and textiles. The Collection also includes a substantial collection of 19th- and 20th-century books, held at the Baillieu Library, and archival material housed at Melbourne University Archives. This project may reference this additional material but recipients of the Award are invited to choose to research a single work of art, or a small group of works housed by the University Art Collection.

Outcomes of each project will include an 800–1000 word written summary of the research strategy and findings, and a 20–30 minute public presentation at Parkville campus focussing on research outcomes.

As this project is designed to reflect the intersection between material/visual culture collections and the wide range of academic disciplines at the University of Melbourne, the outcomes of the project will take forms that are directly relevant to each student's principal discipline, and there is latitude for a variety of approaches within the broad framework of written, in-person and digital productions. Project outcomes will be linked to the Ian Potter Museum of Art's website, related to Academic Programs.

# **Details:**

Award Recipients are encouraged to attend a group seminar at the beginning of the program early in semester two which will feature an overview of The Russell and Mab Grimwade 'Miegunyah' Collection from Alisa Bunbury, Grimwade Collection Curator, and advice on working with material culture. This is an opportunity to meet the other Award Recipients, discuss ideas, and learn how to research and present on material and visual culture. Selected works of art will also be viewed in a group collection store visit. While conducting research and preparing outcomes, Award Recipients will have access to advice and support from the University of Melbourne Museums and Collections department Academic Programs Curators and the Grimwade Collection Curator. Final presentations will be given in a series of public talks at Parkville campus in November 2021.

Written work is to be submitted by 15 November 2021.

Public project presentations will be scheduled for the week of **22-26 November 2021**.

### **Applications:**

- To apply for the Award, candidates must complete the attached Applicant Details Form, including a 300-word maximum Project Description, outlining the intended focus and outcomes of the Project. In the case of a group application, each participant must complete the Applicant Details form individually, and submit these with a single Project Description for the whole group.
- The applicants will be University of Melbourne students at any level, currently enrolled at the University of Melbourne at least until end October 2021.
- The project will be undertaken during the 2021 Academic Year.
- The project may be undertaken by a group of students, but the \$2000 Award will be shared between participants, with one student taking responsibility for accepting the funds on behalf of the group.
- The Award is not intended to cover associated costs, and there is no requirement to submit a budget. Payment will be made at the completion of the project and presentation.
- Applicants will need to make effective use of print and digital resources on The Russell and Mab Grimwade 'Miegunyah' Collection to structure their ideas prior to seeking engagement with objects in the collection.

#### **Resources:**

# Brief Biographies of Sir Russell Grimwade:

ADB (with his brothers) http://adb.anu.edu.au/ biography/grimwade-sir-wilfrid-russell-7054

Encyclopedia of Australian Science: http://www.eoas. info/biogs/P002563b.htm

#### **Publications:**

A major publication exploring the rich visual and textual material in the Grimwade Collection, and providing a perspective on Australia's colonial history was launched in 2020, edited by our Grimwade Collection Curator Alisa Bunbury. This is a key resource for current scholarship on Russell Grimwade's collection of material relating to the British occupation of this continent and its settler history, and also gives an overview of the Collection's development:

Alisa Bunbury, ed. Pride of Place: Exploring the Grimwade Collection, The Miegunyah Press, 2020. https://art-museum.unimelb.edu.au/resources/ articles/pride-of-place-exploring-the-grimwadecollection/ This book is available from Melbourne University Press (MUP), or the University of Melbourne Library, and is held on reserve at the Baillieu Library on Parkville campus. [Note that University of Melbourne students get a 25% discount with MUP by registering at https://www.mup. com.au/register.]

Two earlier books have been written about Russell and Mab:

John Poynter, Russell Grimwade, The Miegunyah Press, 1967

This was the first Miegunyah Press publication—which the Grimwades funded through their bequests —and can be accessed free at: https://www.mup. com.au/ books/russell-grimwade-electronic-book-text

John Poynter and Benjamin Thomas, Miegunyah: The Bequests of Russell and Mab Grimwade, The Miegunyah Press, 2015. https://www.mup.com.au/ books/miegunyah-hardback.

This provides both biographical information and chapters focusing on how their bequest has been subsequently used. This is available from the University of Melbourne library.

See also this essay by Henry Skerrit, Grimwade Intern 2010–11 and curator of Experimental Gentlemen.

https://henryfskerritt.com/2012/09/14/experimentalgentlemen-making-the-past-present-in-the-sir-russelland-mab-grimwade-miegunyah-collection/

# Web resources:

Miegunyah Collection overview https://art-museum. unimelb.edu.au/collection/the-russell-mab-grimwademiegunyah-collection/

Art collection search (in the Advanced Search function in the Credit line field, choose 'Russell and Mab Grimwade Bequest' on http://storeroom.its.unimelb. edu.au/ipm/

2019 Student Project Awardees Reports https:// art-museum.unimelb.edu.au/learn/research/the-ianpotter-museum-of-art-miegunyah-student-projectaward-presentations-2019

2018 Student Project Awardees Reports https:// art-museum.unimelb.edu.au/learn/research/the-ianpotter-museum-of-art-miegunyah-student-projectaward/

# Submission date: 9 AUGUST 2021

# Please return a signed digital copy of the application to: mc-academicengagement@unimelb.edu.au

Please include 'Miegunyah Award application' in the subject line of your email.

- The application information is required for payment to be processed.
- Depending on the date for delivery of the student presentation, payment may be made prior to the presentation.
- In order for payment to be made the applicant must be a currently enrolled student of the University of Melbourne (enrolled through to October 2021).

# **Applicant Details Form**



Please return a signed digital copy of the application to: mc-academicengagement@unimelb.edu.au

Please include 'Miegunyah Award application' in the subject line of your email.



Please attach a 300 word description of project concept/outline.



Date: