



# AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL NETWORK FOR EARLY EUROPEAN RESEARCH

is a national framework for enhancing and supporting current Australian research into the culture and history of Europe between the 5th and early 19th centuries. It is funded by the ARC (AU\$1.6m) and hosted by The University of Western Australia.





# AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL NETWORK FOR EARLY EUROPEAN RESEARCH

The original core members were fifty named network participants representing a spread of disciplines and geographical locations, the majority of whom were accredited by holding current ARC grants.

The network now boasts a register of over 300 additional scholars including Early Career Researchers and postgraduates as well as International participants. Names are continually added.





# AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL NETWORK FOR EARLY EUROPEAN RESEARCH

ARC defined the aims for research networks as:

'To develop and implement coherent and integrated research plans among researchers working independently and in small teams on topics of common interest'.





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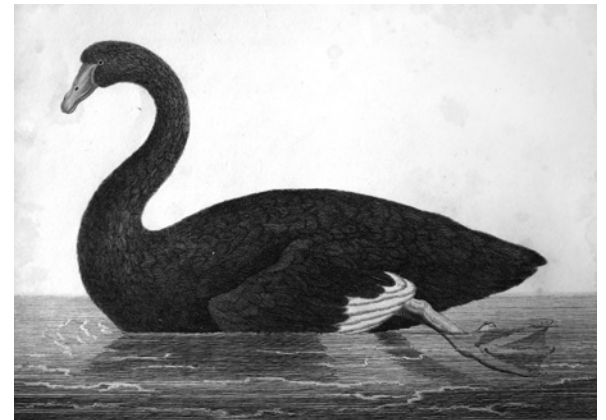
ARC Networks are required to coordinate and communicate their research activities across

disciplinary,

organisational,

institutional

geographical boundaries.





# AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL NETWORK FOR EARLY EUROPEAN RESEARCH

ARC Networks are required to nurture the careers of young investigators and research students by promoting a sense of community, collaboration and strong, effective mentoring, and encouraging them to shape the future direction of the research fields.



NOUVELLE-HOLLANDE : le King.

LE WOMBAT. (Bancroft's Pocket 7.)



# AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL NETWORK FOR EARLY EUROPEAN RESEARCH

**NEER has set out to fulfil these aims by structuring its activities around five programmes:**

- The NEER Digital Services programme
- Advanced Training Programmes for Postgraduates and Early Career Researchers
- Dedicated publication opportunities
- Fourteen research clusters
- Five research themes





# AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL NETWORK FOR EARLY EUROPEAN RESEARCH

## The NEER Digital Services Programme

**Collaborative software environment:** the Network's collaborative Web service – [Confluence](http://confluence.arts.uwa.edu.au/dashboard.action)

<http://confluence.arts.uwa.edu.au/dashboard.action>

**Digital research repository** to house the digital assets of the Network, including research outputs and research data.

**Australian Collections service – Europa Inventa -** to provide a single Web gateway to holdings of unique Early European materials in the collections of Australian cultural heritage institutions.





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## Postgraduate Advanced Training Seminars (PATS)

Cultural Memory. Melbourne May 2005

Manuscripts and Records of Medieval England. Hobart June 2005

Visual and Material Culture. Perth April 2006

Theory and interpretation in editing Early Modern literary texts. Brisbane July 2006

Intellectual History. Brisbane September 2007

Palaeography. Perth May 2008





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**NEER offers two dedicated publication series:**

**Early European Research**, Brepols

**Long Histories**, University of Western Australia  
Press

NEER also sponsors **Parergon**, the refereed international journal of the Australian and New Zealand Association for Medieval and Early Modern Studies (Inc) which is published twice-yearly, and is also available online in ProjectMuse.





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## Fourteen Research Clusters

With its research clusters NEER aims to mobilise existing strengths to build up national and international research partnerships in key emerging areas of scholarly enquiry, and to coordinate large-scale cross-disciplinary investigations.





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The NEER Research Clusters comprise the following projects:





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## Australasian Medievalism

Coordinator: Dr Louise D'Arcens, University of Wollongong

Members from: Melbourne, Sydney, Tasmania, Western Australia, UC Riverside (USA), State Library of Victoria, Art Gallery of South Australia

The function of this cluster is to develop and co-ordinate joint research activities in the area of Australian and New Zealand medievalism.





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## **BERN: British Enlightenment Research Network**

Coordinator: Dr Mike Davis, University of Tasmania (Burnie)

Members from: Adelaide, Australian National University, Edith Cowan, La Trobe, Griffith, University of New South Wales

- To facilitate collaboration between Australian scholars to develop the capacity of innovative research in Enlightenment studies and to promote that research;
- To promote collaboration between Australian and international scholars with a view to gaining access to competitive funding for BERN projects through international funding agencies; and
- To contribute to the 'long eighteenth century' component of NEER's research interests and activities.





# AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL NETWORK FOR EARLY EUROPEAN RESEARCH

## Children in Europe and the Australian colonies c.1300-1850

Coordinators: Professor Pam Sharpe, University of Tasmania, and Dr Stephanie Tarbin, University of Western Australia

Members from: Western Australia, Sydney, Melbourne, Newcastle

The long history of childhood has yet to move beyond the general to interrogate how different discursive, legal and social contexts shape the experiences of children and representations of childhood. The Children cluster aims to bring scholars from a variety of disciplinary perspectives into a sustained dialogue about the long history of childhood and gaps in the study of children's experiences in the European past.





# AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL NETWORK FOR EARLY EUROPEAN RESEARCH

## Knowledge Networks and Reading Communities

Coordinators: Professor Michael Bennett and Dr Jenna Mead,  
University of Tasmania

Members from: York (UK), Cambridge (UK), Adelaide, Tasmania

This research cluster aims to draw together Australian and international researchers, across a broad range of cognate specialised areas, to develop collaborative projects on researching the nature of knowledge networks in the late medieval England and the reading communities consequent on and sustained by those networks.





# AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL NETWORK FOR EARLY EUROPEAN RESEARCH

## 'The voice passes but the letter remains': The Letter in Europe, 1150-1850

Coordinators: Dr Carolyn James and Professor Bill Kent, Monash  
University

Members from: Monash, Western Australia, UC Santa Cruz (USA)

This Research Cluster brings together a blend of experienced scholars and early career researchers, all of them concerned in interestingly different ways with letters not only as a literary genre and historical texts but also as important evidence for themes touching many contemporary scholarly preoccupations in the period 1150-1850 above all for Britain, France and Italy.





# AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL NETWORK FOR EARLY EUROPEAN RESEARCH

## Literary, Monastic, and Intellectual Culture in Twelfth- and Thirteenth-Century Europe

Coordinator: Dr Juanita Feros Ruys, University of Sydney  
Members from: Sydney, Adelaide, Tasmania, Australian National University, Monash, Texas A&M (USA)

This research cluster contains members dedicated to the study of twelfth- and thirteenth-century Europe, with a particular interest in all aspects of the 'Twelfth-Century Renaissance', including literary and pedagogic studies, family history, religious history, politics, law, theology, and gender studies.





# AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL NETWORK FOR EARLY EUROPEAN RESEARCH

## Manuscript Studies and Early European Research

Coordinator: Professor Margaret Manion, University of Melbourne  
Members from the universities of: Melbourne, Auckland (NZ),  
Cambridge (UK), Western Australia, Monash, Tasmania

This cluster will strengthen collaborative research in the field of manuscript studies by helping to bring together a group of scholars with related interests who have already made a valuable and sustained contribution to Australian-based research in this area, and who are interested in working with younger colleagues.





# AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL NETWORK FOR EARLY EUROPEAN RESEARCH

## Old Norse-Icelandic Studies

Coordinator: Professor Margaret Clunies Ross, University of Sydney  
Members from the universities of Sydney, Melbourne, Indiana (USA),  
Zürich (Switzerland), Charles Sturt, Kiel (Germany), Newcastle upon  
Tyne (UK), Iceland

### **Aims:**

To facilitate the regular meeting of all Australian researchers in Old Norse-Icelandic studies and

To further two major research University of Sydney projects:

The ARC-funded edition of Skaldic Poetry of the  
Scandinavian Middle Ages

'Writing from the edge of the world: medieval Icelandic literature  
and the quest for social identity'





# AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL NETWORK FOR EARLY EUROPEAN RESEARCH

## **Supernatural powers and social relations in early modern Europe**

Coordinators: Dr Sarah Ferber, University of Queensland and Dr Jacqueline van Gent, University of Western Australia  
Members from the universities of Western Australia, Melbourne, Queensland

This cluster will explore possibilities for future collaborative research on projects situated in the fields of religious and cultural history for the late medieval and early modern period in Europe. Its scholarly goal is to refine the terms of reference for this field of scholarship by identifying shared themes. The cluster seeks to strengthen inter-institutional research collaboration within Australia and with European and British scholars.





# AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL NETWORK FOR EARLY EUROPEAN RESEARCH

## Cathedral, Court, City and Cloister: Western Music and its Sources 1100-1750

Coordinator: Dr Jane Hardie, University of Sydney  
Members from the universities of Melbourne, Sydney

This Cluster aims to raise the profile of Australian scholarship into early European music through conference presentations, symposia, publication and training. In particular, it will address ways in which documentary materials (musical and liturgical manuscripts, archival documents, letters, church/state/city documents and so on) can lead to new interpretations and understandings of musical cultures and practices.



*Peacock (Pavo cristatus)* Latham



# AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL NETWORK FOR EARLY EUROPEAN RESEARCH

## Early Modern Drama in the Electronic Age

Coordinators: Brett Hirsch, UWA and  
Professor Hugh Craig, University of Newcastle  
Members from the universities of Newcastle, Western Australia,  
Toronto (Canada), British Columbia (Canada), McMaster (Canada)

The function of this Research Cluster is to create a sustained dialogue between scholars working in the fields of digital humanities, computational stylistics, and textual scholarship in order to foster collaborative and interdisciplinary research on early modern drama.





# AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL NETWORK FOR EARLY EUROPEAN RESEARCH

## Latin's long histories and interdisciplinary applications

Coordinator: A/Professor Yasmin Haskell, Western Australia  
Members from: Sydney, Warwick (UK), Pennsylvania (USA)

To raise awareness in Australia/ Australasia of the long history of Latin and its indispensability for a balanced understanding of the history, science, religion, and thought of pre-modern Europe;

To collaborate with researchers in medicine, the sciences, jurisprudence, and other fields, to develop interdisciplinary projects involving Latin;

To document largely unexplored evidence, in Latin, about historical contacts between European and non-European cultures, from Australasia to the Americas, from Africa to the Middle East.





# AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL NETWORK FOR EARLY EUROPEAN RESEARCH

## Notebooks and Note-taking in Early Modern Europe

Coordinator: Professor Richard Yeo, Griffith University

Members from the universities of Sydney, Otago (NZ), New South Wales, Harvard (USA), Western Australia

This Research Cluster pursues three interrelated strands of inquiry:

Note-taking as a cultural and intellectual practice in the Early Modern period, especially its connection with assumptions about individual and externalised memory;

The use of notebooks of various kinds in different fields, especially in medicine and natural history;

Reflection on manuscript notebooks and related material in the history of science and ideas.





# AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL NETWORK FOR EARLY EUROPEAN RESEARCH

## Re-thinking Theatre History: The Impact of Rehearsal

Coordinator: A/Professor Tim Fitzpatrick, University of Sydney  
Members from the universities of Sydney, New South Wales,  
Queensland, Queensland University of Technology, Oxford (UK)

The function of this Research Cluster is to re-examine surviving rehearsal-related documents and other relevant materials and resources (such as theatre buildings), from key historical periods of European theatre from the late 16th to the mid 19th centuries.







# AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL NETWORK FOR EARLY EUROPEAN RESEARCH

## Five research themes

Five unifying themes have been identified, which build on existing innovative Australian research of international significance:

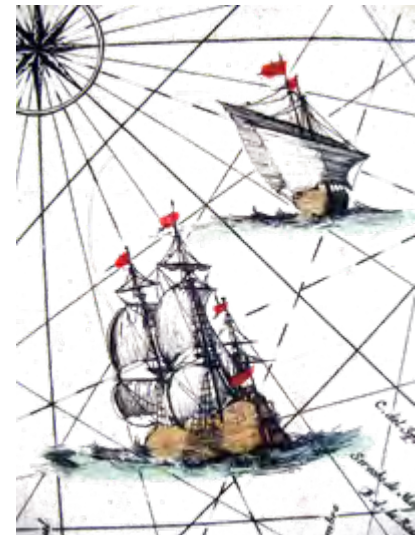
Cultural memory

Social Fabric

Intellectual Formations: Science, Medicine and Philosophy

Early European/Australasian Connections

Religion and Spirituality

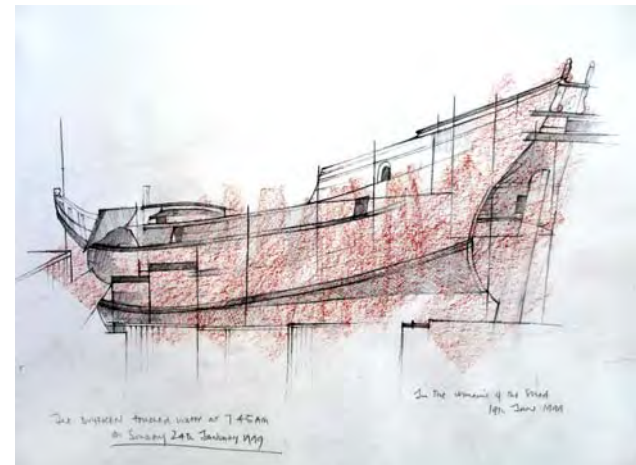




# AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL NETWORK FOR EARLY EUROPEAN RESEARCH

## Cultural Memory

This theme groups together a series of related research programmes into early European culture. It focuses particularly on the persistence of this culture into the present as the major component of Australia's cultural memory.





# AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL NETWORK FOR EARLY EUROPEAN RESEARCH

## Social Fabric

This theme draws together and builds on a wide range of research into aspects of social structures in early Europe, and their relationship to contemporary social issues. Among the topics of particular emphasis are family, gender and social structures; war, peace and conflict; and poverty.





# AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL NETWORK FOR EARLY EUROPEAN RESEARCH

## Intellectual Formations: Science, Medicine and Philosophy

A scientific culture in the contemporary sense first emerged in early modern Europe, which also marked the initial development of the scientific and medical professions. This theme brings together a range of major research programmes into aspects of science and medicine. It also covers research into environmental and climatic conditions in early Europe.



NOUVELLE-HOLLANDE: les emus.

CHATELAIN, N. & P. (1791). *Journal de Voyage en 1790*.

1. *Journal de Voyage en 1790*, p. 100. *Journal de Voyage en 1790*, p. 100.

1791



# AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL NETWORK FOR EARLY EUROPEAN RESEARCH

## Early European/Australasian Connections

This theme focuses on the significance of early European contacts with the peoples of the Australasian region. A major aspect of this research programme is the changing and varied nature of European perceptions of "Australia" during the era of European voyages and encounters, and the significance of the positioning of Australia in relation to Asia and the Pacific.

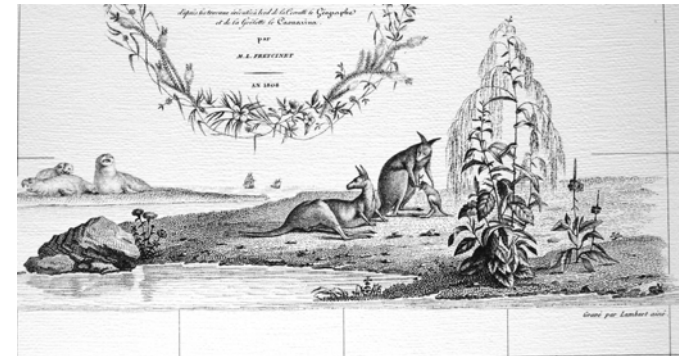




# AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL NETWORK FOR EARLY EUROPEAN RESEARCH

## Religion and Spirituality

This theme brings together research projects that relate in one way or another to the diversity of religious practice, thought and spirituality that shape European identity from late antiquity to the early modern period. While European culture has been shaped by a complex interaction of different Christian traditions, it has also been significantly influenced by Jewish and Islamic traditions, as well as by elements of pagan belief deriving from pre-Christian culture.





# AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL NETWORK FOR EARLY EUROPEAN RESEARCH

**NEER aims to assist researchers to  
develop**

**LARGE**

**COLLABORATIVE**

**INTERDISCIPLINARY**

**projects**





# AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL NETWORK FOR EARLY EUROPEAN RESEARCH

To find out more about ARC NEER visit

<http://www.neer.arts.uwa.edu.au/> and

<http://confluence.arts.uwa.edu.au/dashboard.action>

Or contact, through the website:

Dr Anne Scott, Network Convenor

Dr Claire McIlroy, Network  
Co-ordinator

Dr Toby Burrows, Digital Services  
Director





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## Welcome to the Web site of the ARC Network for Early European Research

The ARC Network for Early European Research (NEER) is a national framework for enhancing and supporting current Australian research into the culture and history of Europe between the fifth and early nineteenth centuries.

NEER sustains five main [Research Themes](#): Cultural Memory; Social Fabric; Intellectual Formations: Science, Medicine and Philosophy; Early European/Australasian Connections; and Religion and Spirituality, and a programme of digital initiatives and supports training for postgraduates and early career researchers.

NEER maintains a collaborative Web space, known as [NEER Confluence](#) which allows members of the Network and general web users to:

- access a fast-growing database of information about the research activities of more than 300 [NEER Participants](#).
- [browse researcher profiles](#), which include contact details, research interests, and publications.
- find out more about the activities of the NEER [Research Clusters](#) and the [Digital Services](#) programme.

NEER is funded by the **Australian Research Council** and by a consortium of [institutional partners](#). NEER is hosted by **The University of Western Australia**.

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