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Media Release



2022 State Library of NSW fellowships announced

15/10/2021

Eight prestigious research fellowships totalling \$216,000 have just been awarded by the State Library of NSW.

According to State Librarian John Vallance: “Each year, the State Library and its Foundation supports original research across a variety of areas through its Fellowship program.”

“The 2022 Fellows will bring fresh eyes and ears to a diverse range of topics - from modern architecture and colonial art history, Catholicism and multiculturalism, through to Sino-Australia relations and the eight-hour day movement,” says Dr Vallance.

“Our Fellowship program is generously supported by significant private benefactors, and we are enormously grateful for their commitment to original research.”

Coral Thomas Fellowship (\$100,000)

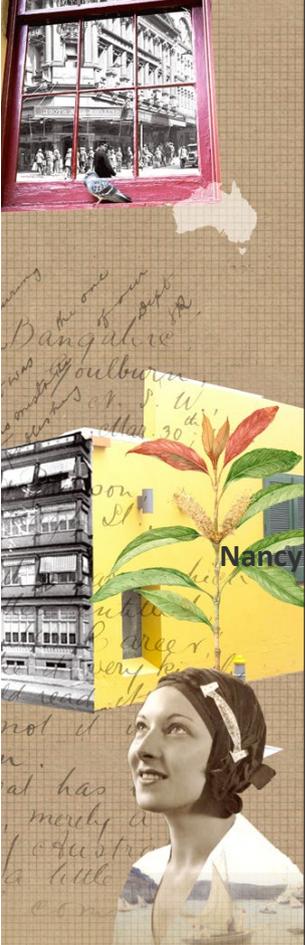
Professor Sean Scalmer’s project *A History of the Eight Hours Movement* aims to offer the first history of the movement for the eight-hour day in Australia, from its origins until its recognition as a general industrial standard. It considers its genesis, traces its mobilisation and outcomes, and ponders its memory and significance. It will also critically examine the changing tactics adopted by the proponents of the eight-hour day.

Australian Religious History Fellowship (\$20,000)

Dr Damian Gleeson’s project *Irish-Australian Catholicism in the Penal Colony of New South Wales: Evidence from the Therry collection* will explore the Irish Catholic community in New South Wales between 1820 and 1860, through the lens of their experiences. The Irish Catholic community comprised involuntary and voluntary migrants, as well as first-generation Australian Catholics born in the colony.

Dr AM Hertzberg AO Fellowship (\$20,000)

Dr Paolo Stracchi’s project *Building Knowledge: The role of modern architecture in the development of the construction industry in New South Wales, 1950–1980* will uncover how architects’ design approaches were affected by a maturing construction industry; an industry that constitutes a vital part of the country’s economy, political life, heritage and culture.



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CH Currey Fellowship (\$20,000)

Dr Alexandra Dellios's project *Greek-Australian Women and Building Alternative Multiculturalisms: Grassroots histories of migrant welfare in New South Wales, 1960s–1980s* offers a grassroots history of early multiculturalism from the perspective of ethnic minority communities (especially women) who worked at the 'front lines' of migrant welfare and service provision from the 1960s to the 1980s.

Keesing Fellowship (\$20,000)

Dr Sarah Kirby's project *The British (and International?) Music Society: Cultural renewal and musical cosmopolitanism in inter-war Sydney* will look at the political and administrative separation of Britain and Australia that officially occurred with Federation in 1901, and explore how the social and cultural separation was a more prolonged process.

David Scott Mitchell Memorial Fellowship (\$12,000)

Dr Shuxia Chen's project *Women and 1930s–1940s Sino-Australian Relations* will investigate the role women played in Sino-Australian relations during the Sino-Japanese war, from the 1930s to the 1940s, drawing from the Chinese Women's Relief Fund records as well as ACP Magazines Ltd photographic archive at the State Library of NSW.

Merewether Fellowship (\$12,000)

Dr Molly Duggins' project *Cut-and-Paste Empire: Nineteenth-century colonial albums and scrapbooks* will look at how, far more than drawing-room decorations, the ubiquitous nineteenth-century album and scrapbook were significant vehicles for a globalising visual and material culture shaped by colonial expansion, scientific exploration, increasing industrialisation, and commodity capitalism.

Ross Steele Fellowship (\$20,000)

Ms Johanna Ellersdorfer's project *The Paintings of Maurice Felton: A technical study of paintings and artistic networks in early colonial Sydney* will focus on artist Maurice Felton to explore the history of conservation in Australia. It will also explore a short but understudied period in Sydney's history.

State Library Fellows enjoy exclusive use of the Library's Donald and Myfanwy Horne Room and special access to Library expertise.

Applications for the 2023 Fellowships will open on 16 May 2022.

Media enquiries:

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