Introduction

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Volume 21.2 of Limina follows on from the themed ‘Think Forward, Look Back’ edition, which is based on the 2015 conference. The conference brought together scholars from many fields – history, creative writing and archaeology among them. While the articles in this volume loosely follow a theme, they range quite widely in the topics they cover. In her article ‘Popular Patriarchy’, Cheryl Taylor explores how the Australian magazine, Women’s Weekly, can give us insight into gender norms of 1950 Australia. While norms are also a focus of Robrecht Herfkens’ article, he also explores what the entertainment genre of Dutch cabaret can show us when norms and taboos are challenged and brought to the fore, often in a satirical manner. Karen Bird’s article – ‘The Ottoman East and the ‘Moral Geography’ of Europe’s Enlightenment’ – argues that, despite the belief that eighteenth-century European thinkers perceived the Islamic Ottoman Empire as ‘oriental’, an argument to the contrary can be made. In ‘Dividing up the Land’, Caitlin Maling uses a comparative approach to look at the poetry of William Carlos Williams and John Mateer, exploring the difference between the two artists in the context of ecopoetics. Continuing the literary theme, Claire Blomeley engages with author Alasdair Gray’s work – specifically, Lanark, 1982 and Janine – to explore how Gray investigates the influences of creating varying authorial positions in the construction of both his individual works, and his collective work.

This edition also includes a number of book reviews. A Journey Travelled: Aboriginal-European Relations at Albany and Surrounding Regions From First Colonial Contact to 1926 by Murray Arnold; Independent Filmmaking Around the Globe edited by Doris Baltruchat and Mary P. Erickson; When War Came to Fremantle, 1899-1945 by Deborah Gare and Madison Lloyd-Jones; Letters to Tiptree edited by Alisa Krasnostein and Alexandra Pierce; The Magnificent Life of Miss May Holman: Australia’s First Female Labour Parliamentarian by Lekkie Hopkins.

This diverse collection of articles and reviews reflects Limina’s vision of being a journal for supporting work that transgresses traditional disciplinary boundaries. We hope you enjoy this edition’s selection.