

# *Landfall in unknown seas*

Authors: Donna Lee Brien

Gail Pittaway



BE WHAT YOU WANT TO BE  
[cqu.edu.au](http://cqu.edu.au)



**Wintec**  
WAIKATO INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY  
Te Kōwhiri o Waikato

# Australia / New Zealand

## Pre-colonial

- ▶ Indigenous people
- ▶ Unique world view/ beliefs and values
- ▶ Cultural practices
- ▶ Unique storytelling techniques and traditions
- ▶ Unique art practices

## Colonial

- ▶ Australia - Penal colonies
- ▶ New Zealand - settlement polices
- ▶ Both social experiments
- ▶ Both whaling and gold rushes
- ▶ No interaction between indigenous cultures of each nation until after European arrival
- ▶ Geographical distance -
  - ▶ Gradual distancing in governance
  - ▶ "Across the ditch"

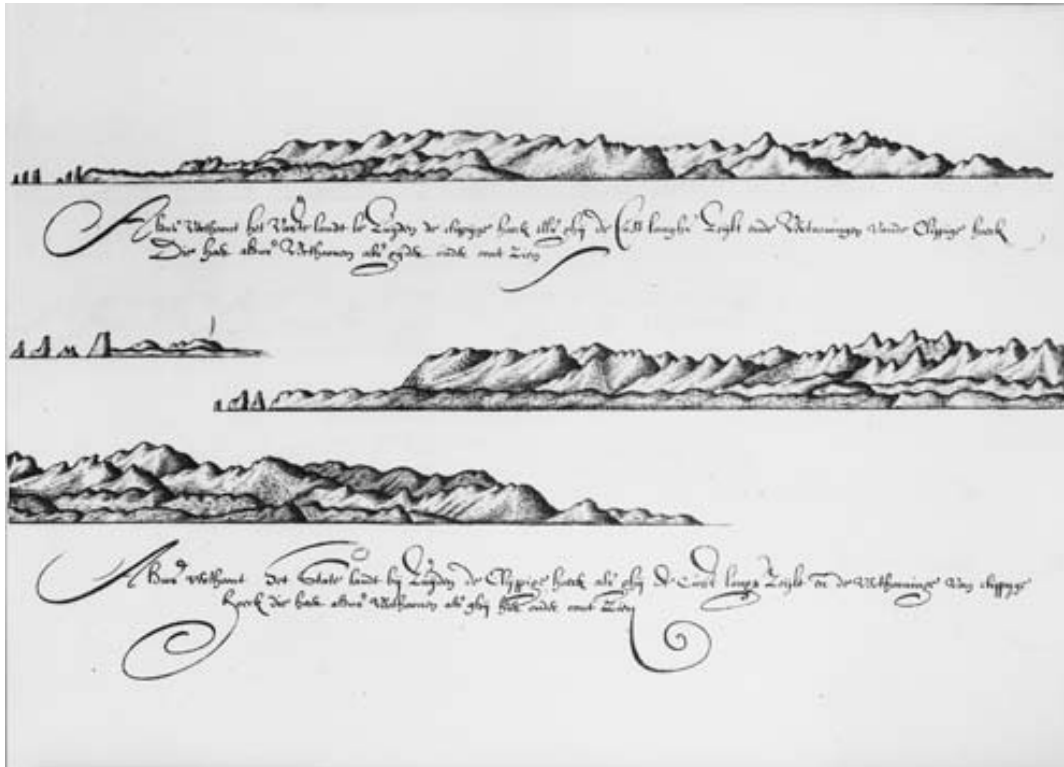
# In common: Abel Tasman

- ▶ Map
- ▶ Encounters
- ▶ Discoveries



# Tasman's first view of New Zealand

<http://www.abeltasman.org/journal-tasman.html>

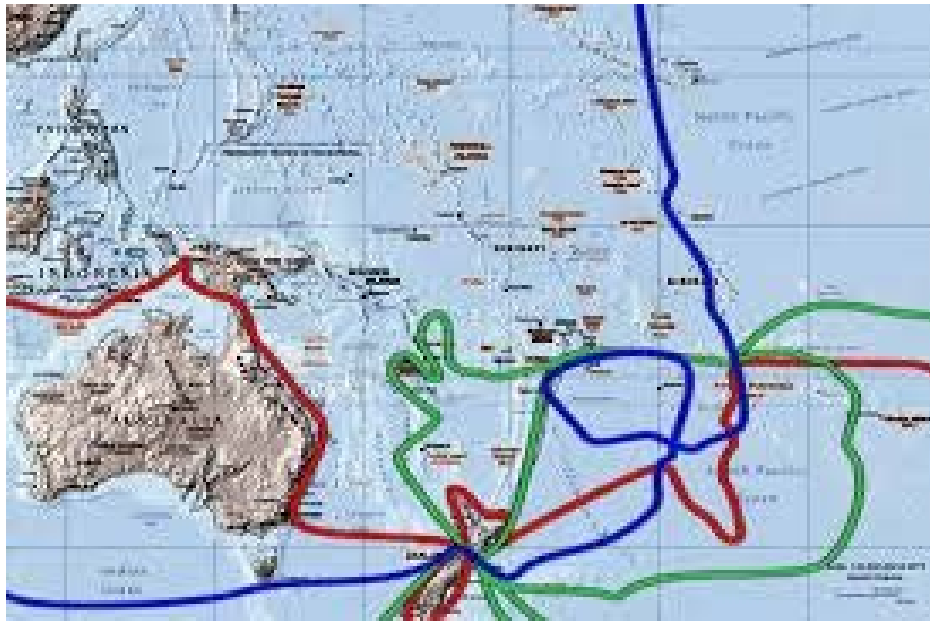


[Alexander Turnbull Library](#)

Reference: [PUBL-0086-019](#)

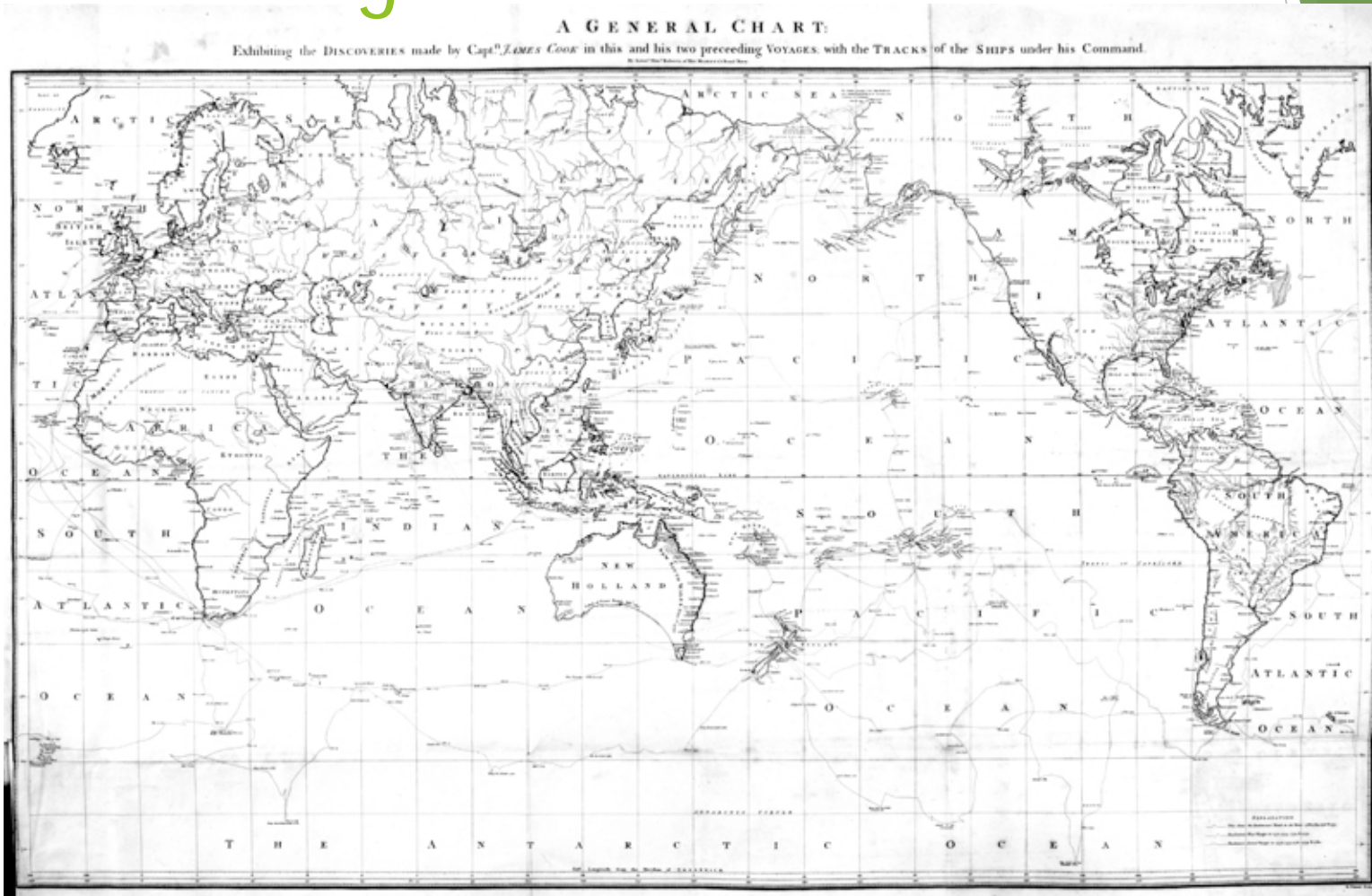
Photolithograph after a drawing by Isaac Gilsemans

# In common: James Cook



www.shutterstock.com · 243852271

# A general chart...



From the atlas volume of *Cook's A Voyage to the Pacific Ocean*  
... (London, 1784). [Rare Books Division]  
[https://libweb5.princeton.edu/visual\\_materials/maps/websites/pacific/cook3/cook3.html](https://libweb5.princeton.edu/visual_materials/maps/websites/pacific/cook3/cook3.html)



# Development of Creative Writing as a discipline

- ▶ Australia- Donna to give me details
- ▶ New Zealand- 17 Tertiary institutions, 6 Universities
- ▶ 1970's Massey University, Victoria University
  - ▶ Undergraduate course, Creative writing
    - ▶ Full majors in 1990's
      - ▶ Post graduate programmes in 2000's

# Creative practice

- ▶ Writing and publishing
- ▶ Conferences
- ▶ Editing and peer reviewing
- ▶ Career pathways and opportunities
- ▶ Higher research degrees
- ▶ Examination, moderation, quality assurance
- ▶ New mapping- into cyberspace- internet, email



# Opportunities created by collaboration

- ▶ 1980's (dates) New Zealand Communication Association
- ▶ 1990's ANZCA (Australia and New Zealand Communication Association)
- ▶ 1996 Australian Association of Writing Programmes-  
Australasian Association of Writing Programmes
- ▶ 1997 Tertiary Writing Network, Massey, Palmerston North NZ
- ▶ 1999 Tertiary Writing Network, Hamilton (Waikato Institute of Technology and University of Waikato Joint hosts)
- ▶ Great Writing (UK) 1997

# Other areas, new connections

- ▶ Popular Culture Association, (Australia and New Zealand)
- ▶ Life writing network
- ▶ Food studies
- ▶ Death Studies Network
- ▶ Gothic studies
- ▶ European Communication Association
- ▶ New Zealand Studies Association, UK and Europe
- ▶ International Autobiography Association
- ▶ Bibliographical Society of Australia and New Zealand

# Symposia (or Last suppers?)



- ▶ Writing on the wall Symposium, Waikato Institute of Technology 2007
- ▶ Massey symposium, 2014
- ▶ Ahi Kā Auckland University of Technology, 2016

# Publication opportunities

- ▶ Research: New Zealand
  - ▶ AAWP website; conference papers, peer reviewed
  - ▶ NZCA and TWN host websites; published programmes and abstracts
  - ▶ Journal of NZ Literature
- ▶ Creative work:
  - ▶ Landfall, Turbine, Takahe, Trout
  - ▶ Poetry NZ, Sport
  - ▶ In house presses and websites; OUP, CUP, VUP, AUP, Ramp, Whitireia
  - ▶ Huia Publishers

# Publication Opportunities, Australia

The background of the slide features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of green, ranging from light lime to dark forest green. These shapes are primarily located on the right side and bottom of the frame, creating a modern, layered effect against the white background.

# 'Across the ditch' collaborations

*Conferences: AAWP, 2 x New Zealand,*

*TWN, with Australian key note speakers*

*Canberra poetry centre; Elizabeth Smither - key note*

*TEXT: Research and Creative work, all peer reviewed*

*TEXT Special issues, thematic, submissions invited*

*'Scores from another ground', 2013, Emerson, Pittaway*

*Meniscus; Creative work only*

*Axon- check*

*ACWRN*

# And beyond:

- ▶ Journals and Book projects
- ▶ 'New Writing'
- ▶ 'Great Writing'
- ▶ NAWE
- ▶ Book projects from AAWP
  - ▶ *Creative Manoeuvres*; 2013/14
  - ▶ *Minding the gap*; 2014/15
  - ▶ *Inhabitation*; 2016/17



# Cross Tasman opportunities

## Research, training

- ▶ Thesis examination
- ▶ RHD supervisions
- ▶ Editing
- ▶ Peer review
- ▶ Conference planning
- ▶ Committee work
- ▶ 'Contribution to research environment'

- Creative development

- ▶ Readings- in house
- ▶ Readings- public
- ▶ Panels
- ▶ Peer reviewing
  - ▶ Editing
  - ▶ Publication

# SWOT Analysis

	Helpful in achieving the objective	Harmful in achieving the objective
Internal origin	<b>STRENGTHS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Shared experience</li> <li>▪ Developing range of expertise</li> <li>▪ Developing networks or communities of practice</li> <li>▪</li> </ul>	<b>WEAKNESSES</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Small leadership team</li> <li>▪ Majority of activity driven by small number of individuals who are senior members of the discipline</li> <li>▪ Largely enacted outside of core institutional workloads</li> <li>▪ Therefore generates pressure</li> </ul>
External origin	<b>OPPORTUNITIES</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Mentoring opportunities</li> <li>▪ Collaborative publications</li> <li>▪ Conferences support and mentor creativity as research AND research about creativity</li> </ul>	<b>THREATS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Institution may actively discourage practice</li> <li>▪ Time-consuming, may distract from core business of teaching and research as practice ( creative writing )</li> </ul>

Table 1: Summary of SWOT Analysis of our research practice conducted June 2016 by Donna Lee Brien and Gail Pittaway

# Mapping future explorations in text?

- ▶ Cook's legacy: a revealed world.
- ▶ His world map was the most accurate at its time.
- ▶ During his life, he had explored farther north ( $70^{\circ} 44'$  N) and farther south ( $71^{\circ} 10'$  S) in the Pacific than any previous human being.
- ▶ 'A Fresh breeze from the Westward all this day, which being right in our teeth, we kept beating to windward with all the sail we could Crowd...' James Cook, 20 November 1769

# *Landfall in unknown seas*

Allen Curnow,

1942

Simply by sailing in a new direction  
You could enlarge the world.  
You picked your captain,  
Keen on discoveries, tough enough to make  
them,  
Whatever vessels could be spared from other  
More urgent service for a year's adventure;  
Took stock of the more probable conjectures  
About the Unknown to be traversed, all  
Guesses at golden coasts and tales of  
monsters  
To be digested into plain instructions  
For likely and unlikely situations. All this  
resolved and done, you launched the whole  
On a fine morning, the best time of year,  
Skies widening and the oceanic furies  
Subdued by summer illumination; time  
To go and be gazed at going  
On a fine morning, in the Name of God  
Into the nameless waters of the world.