

# HUMANITIES RESEARCH CENTRE EVENT

## Cities, Imaginaries and New Publics in a Digital World

Thursday 11 April 2013, 5.30-7.00pm

**Venue: Conference Room, National Library of Australia**

Audiences for both physical exhibitions and for digital scholarship are growing and developing. How are institutions such as the National Library responding to these changing publics?

Join Professor Paul Pickering, Research School of Humanities and the Arts ANU, Robyn Holmes, Senior Curator NLA and Nat Williams, NLA in discussion. Chair Anne-Marie Schwirtlich, Director General NLA.

In association with the Humanities Research Centre, ANU and part of the 'Cities, Imaginaries, Publics' lecture series

**Professor Paul Pickering** from RSHA will speak on *'The biographical turn': studying past lives in a digital world.*

### **Abstract:**

According to the latest ICOM/CIDOC Conceptual Reference Model a 'person' is an E21, a subclass of a 'biological object' (E20). The development of a common classification system for disparate information held by institutions around the globe is, of course, a major advance, but reducing us to E21s is a pointed reminder of the impact of digital technology on the art of biography. Have we reached a point where students of past lives can't survive without a laptop?

Professor Paul Pickering is Deputy Director of the Research School of Humanities at the Australian National University. He has published extensively on nineteenth century political and social history, commemoration and public memory, historical re-enactment, biography and contemporary politics. His current project, *Sounds of Liberty*, examines the role of music in radical politics 1790-1914 and will be published in 2013.

For further information on the event contact [caroline.turner@anu.edu.au](mailto:caroline.turner@anu.edu.au)

All welcome – **FREE EVENT**

