“Other times, other customs: islands of nostalgia and hope”

**Associate Professor Martha Macintyre**
**The University of Melbourne**

This year marks the hundredth anniversary of Malinowski’s arrival in the Trobriand Islands. The primitivist nostalgia that he expressed in his conclusion to Argonauts of the Western Pacific has been repudiated by numerous anthropologists who have followed in his wake. But this nostalgic view of Melanesian islanders has taken on new forms as anthropology clings to its traditional object – the life-worlds of villagers, the local people who have continued to live in these islands. The apocalyptic forces of globalisation, climate change and environmental devastation have replaced the spectres of ‘cultural loss’ and the dire effects of colonisation. Drawing on research in the islands of Tubetube, Liur and Misima, this lecture shall explore islanders’ hopes and nostalgia, reflecting upon the ways that these affect anthropological interpretations of contemporary Melanesia.

**Martha Macintyre** is an honorary Associate Professor in Anthropology in the School of Social Sciences at the University of Melbourne. A former president of the Australian Anthropological Society, she was editor of its flagship journal, TAJA, from 2008–2015. In 2012 she was elected a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia. Initially an historian, her early anthropological research focused on the economic and social effects of colonial intrusion in Tubetube, Milne Bay Province. More recently she has concentrated on gender inequality and the broad social changes associated with resource extractive industries in Melanesia. She has published on land tenure and resource management, human rights and the status of women and local responses to environmental change and degradation. From 1986 –2005 she worked also as an independent consultant, preparing social impact reports over several years on two major PNG gold mining projects – Misima and Liur. Her academic and applied research interests are all concerned with the effects of economic change on local communities.


**Tuesday 1, December 2015**
**5.30 pm - 7:00 pm**
Carillo Gantner Theatre
Sidney Myer Asia Centre
The University of Melbourne
PARKVILLE VIC 3010

**Admission is free. Bookings are required. Seating is limited.**

To register visit: [http://alumni.online.unimelb.edu.au/marthamacintyre](http://alumni.online.unimelb.edu.au/marthamacintyre)

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