



## LUNCHTIME SEMINAR SERIES

*Presents*

### **Historical artwork as a perception of place within a social structure of colonization**

Madiha Farag-Miller

[madiha.faragmiller@utas.edu.au](mailto:madiha.faragmiller@utas.edu.au)

PhD University of Tasmania; MPhil The University of The West Indies;  
BA Cairo University

The island of Tasmania was a home for the Aborigine people before the arrival of European settlers in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. The Aborigine lived on food gathering, hunting seals, fishing, and lands were cleared by fire for catching birds and hunting land mammals. However, the establishment of an English colony was followed by significant changes to the local landscape. This study uses artwork as a means to assess European settlers' perceptions of their surroundings and achievements as Hobart, Tasmania grew, from tents full of soldiers and convicts, to a respectable city. Methodologically, in obtaining information from artwork, there is a need for awareness of differences between artists, eras in the selection of scenes, and in the composition of the elements that make up scenes. Contemporary artists provide valuable records of the modification of landscape in various mediums, which reflect changes throughout the colonial project. With a focus on time and space, this study reveals the complex identities of place as depicted through artists of different social status and background.

**Keywords:** History, Geography, Art, Colonization, Landscape, Identity, Perception

**Thursday October 6, 2016**

FFA-W, John Spence Building

Department of Geography

1:30-3pm

*Light refreshment provided*