



Diploma Lecture Series 2011
Art and Australia II: European Preludes and Parallels

Exotics: the other side.
Fairweather, Friend and Whiteley

Barry Pearce

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Lecture summary:

'Quand partons-nous pour le bonheur' wrote 19th century French poet Charles Baudelaire in his intimate journals: describing the basic, disconsolate condition of Romanticism that echoed across time and space, encapsulating a yearning in certain European artists well into the late 20th century. This yearning for an alternative world was for nothing less than the emancipation of the individual; for freedom from the constraints of the Enlightenment and academism that continued to haunt the emergence of the modern artist. At first, British and French artists recognised this alternative 'exotic' world in cultures of the middle East: Orientalism. Then Oceania and Asia came into play, particularly with the march of English and French colonization of the South Pacific. This lecture focuses on three eccentric Australians who in the middle of the 20th century pursued an exotic dream beyond their anglo-celtic-saxon heritage - not without danger and controversy - and who were natural heirs to Baudelaire's famous declarations.

Barry Pearce

Slide list:

1. **Charles Baudelaire** 1821-67, photograph by Carjat c1861-2
2. **Brett Whiteley** 1939-92, *Portrait of Baudelaire* 1970, QAG
3. **Eugene Delacroix** 1798-1863, *Death of Sardanapalus* 1827-8, Louvre
4. *Outskirts of Tangier* 1832, collection unknown
5. **Brett Whiteley** 1939-92, *Tangier postcard* 1967, private collection
6. **Paul Gauguin** 1848-1903, *Nevermore O Tahiti* 1897, Courtauld Institute, London
7. **William Dobell** 1899-1970, *Margaret Olley* 1948, AGNSW
8. *Giluwe* 1953, AGNSW
9. **Ian Fairweather** 1891-1974, photograph 1950s
- * 10. *Bathing scene, Bali* 1933, Tate, London
11. *Procession, Bali* 1933, Leicester Art Museum
12. *Hangchow* 1933, AGNSW
13. *Head* c1934, private collection
14. *Market scene, Peking* 1935, private collection
15. *Lit bateau* 1957, private collection
- * 16. *Anak Bayan* 1957, AGNSW
17. *Last supper* 1958, AGNSW
18. *The pool* 1959, AGNSW
19. *Epiphany* 1961-2, QAG

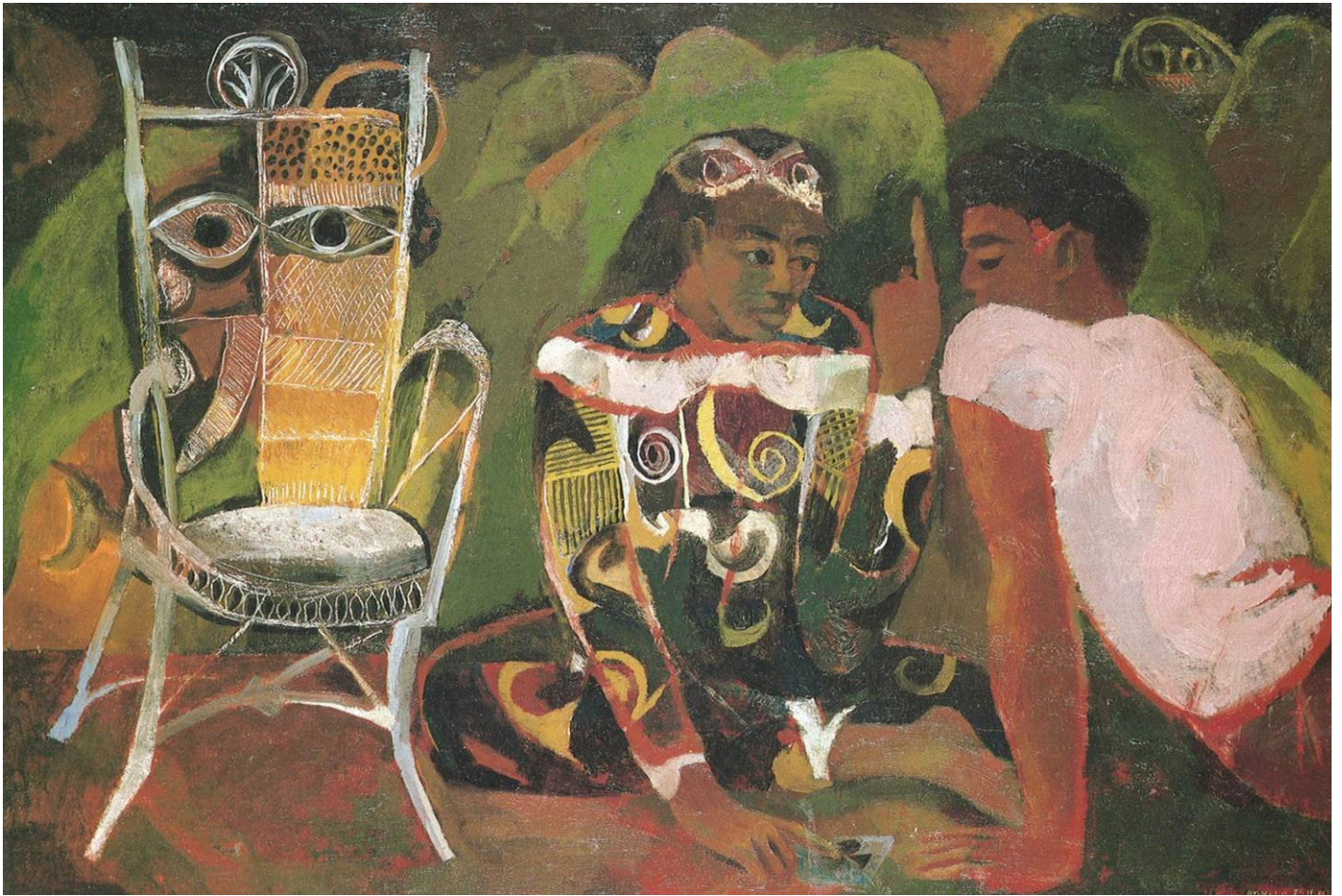
20. *Chi-tien stands burns the bugs* 1964, private collection
21. *MO, PB and the Ti Tree* 1965, QAG
22. *Elephant* c1970-1, AGNSW and *Roundabout* c1970-1, private collection
23. **Donald Friend** 1915-90, photograph by Reimunde Zunde 1987
24. *Studies of Omu* 1952, private collection
25. *Self portrait* 1937, private collection
26. *Port scene, Africa* c1939, private collection
27. *Mother and child* 1938 private collection
28. *Group of sculptured figures* c1939, private collection
29. *Self portrait* 1944, ANG
- * 30. *The fortune teller* 1956, AGNSW
31. *An exotic garden viewed at different levels* 1957, AGNSW
32. *In the rock temple I* 1961, AGNSW
33. *Sleeper, Ceylon* c1961, AGNSW
34. *Self portrait in the Barrett hat* 1966, private collection
35. *The drama, Bali* c1968, NRAG
- * 36. *Self portrait in a carved mirror* c1972, private collection
37. *Studio interior, Bali* early 1970s, private collection
38. *The prahu from Nusa* c1975, private collection
39. *Boy with screen background* 1976, Neka Museum, Bali
40. *The lagoon* c1975, private collection
41. *A dream* early 1970s, private collection
42. *Spectators in the sky* 1989, private collection
43. **Brett Whiteley** 1939-92, various photographs 1970s
44. *Art student doing a drawing of a lion* 1965, private collection
45. *Achmid getting stoned* c1964, and *Arab* 1964, private collection
46. *Calcutta* 1966, QAG
- 47-49. *The American dream* 1968-9, AGWA
50. *Gauguin* 1968, private collection
51. *Fiji head -To a Creole lady* 1969, private collection
- * 52. *The green mountain (Fiji)* 1969, AGNSW
53. *Self portrait after three bottles of wine* 1971, AGNSW
54. *Self portrait drawing calligraphically* 1975, private collection
55. *Portrait of Arthur Rimbaud* 1970-1, QAG and *Portrait of Baudelaire* 1970, private collection
56. *The river at Marulan (...reading Einstein's geography)* 1976, private collection
- * 57. *Autumn (near Bathurst) - Japanese Autumn* 1987-8, private collection



Ian Fairweather 1891-1974, *Bathing scene, Bali* 1933, Tate, London



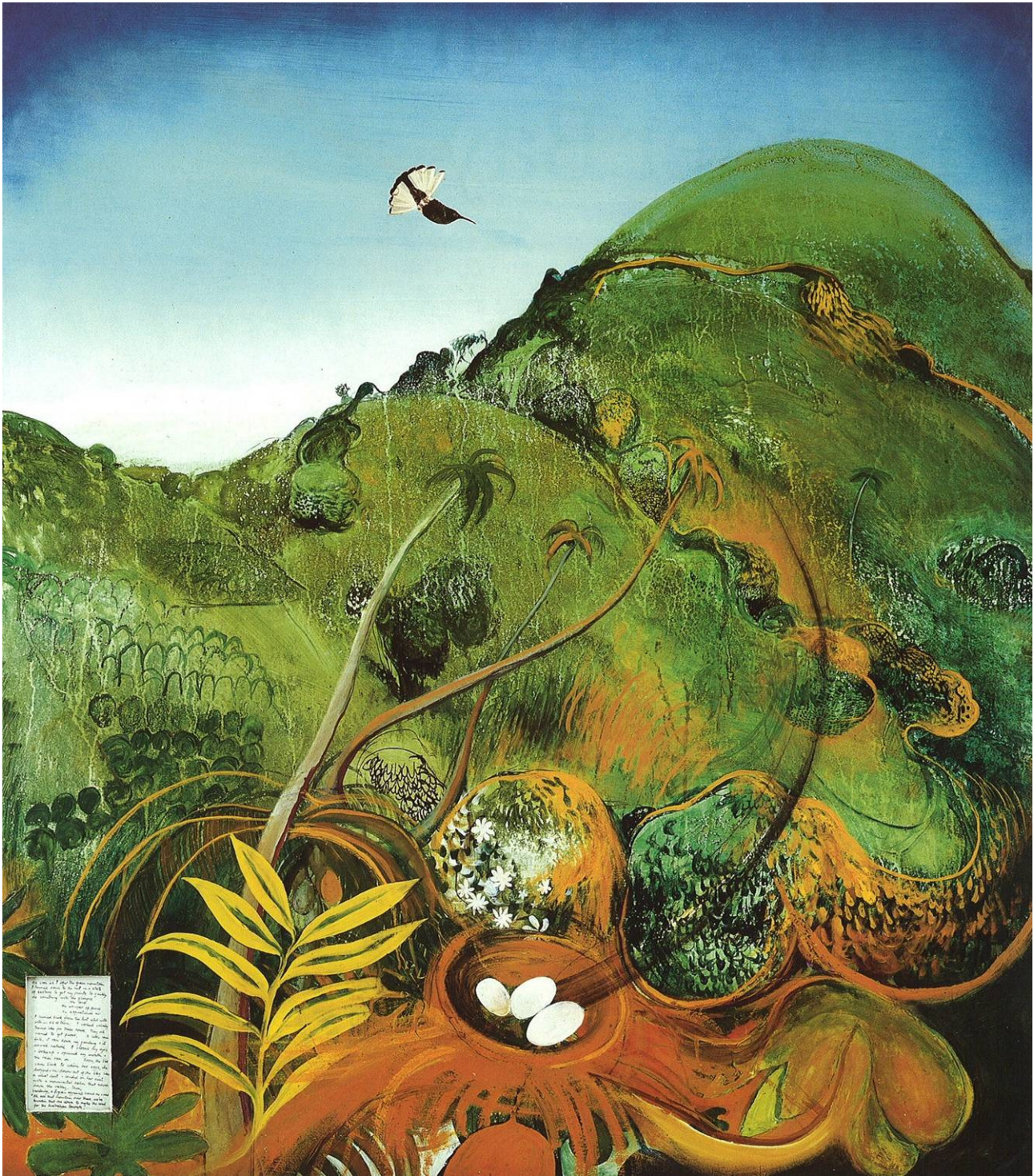
Ian Fairweather 1891-1974, *Anak Bayan* 1957, AGNSW



Donald Friend 1915-90, *The fortune teller* 1956, AGNSW



Donald Friend 1915-90, *Self portrait in a carved mirror* c1972, private collection



Brett Whiteley 1939-92, *The green mountain (Fiji)* 1969, AGNSW



Brett Whiteley 1939-92, *Autumn (near Bathurst)* - *Japanese Autumn* 1987-8, private collection