

Basic Detail Report



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Title

Heroes of Colonial Encounters - Ballodere

Date

2017

Primary Maker

Helen S Tiernan

Medium

Oil on canvas

Dimensions

Overall: 305 × 305 × 40 mm

Name

Painting

History

This painting of Ballodere by Helen Tiernan is based on a portrait by The Port Jackson Painter titled 'Balloderree' painted sometime between 1788 and 1797. Balloderree is mentioned in the First Fleet Chronicles and was said to have had close contact with the colonists. David Collins, the deputy judge advocate of the new colony at Sydney, notes that Balloderree was 'a fine young man' and admired for his fearlessness. Balloderree died from an unspecified illness a few years after colonial contact. As part of a series of portraits that make up 'Heroes of Colonial Encounters', this portrait of Ballodere is part of Helen Tiernan's exploration of the singular European view of colonial history and the way Indigenous peoples are depicted as the 'primitive' or 'other'. The portraits she paints of Bennelong, Bungaree, Colby, Bidgee Bidgee, Ballodere and Tommy sees them treated equally as their European contemporaries such as Cook, Joseph Banks, William Bligh, Arthur Philip and Matthew Flinders. All portraits are to hang together on the same wall, equally ornate, equal in style and equal in history.