

Basic Detail Report



V00055322

Title

'Captain James Cook edition 4 of 4' and 'Captain James Cook (unmasked)'

Date

2013

Primary Maker

Jason Wing

Medium

Bronze

History

The artist Jason Wing is a Sydney-based Biripi artist from New South Wales who strongly identifies with his Chinese and Aboriginal heritage. Wing feels that it is important that these works are in a NSW institution located close to where Cook landed and that there is a great synergy and conversation between the work "Crookie", the ANMM and the ENDEAVOUR replica. This to him is a very exciting and significant site-specific link. The first iteration of 'Captain Cook edition 4 of 4' artwork titled "Australia was stolen by armed robbery" which won the Parliament of NSW Indigenous Art Prize in 2012. This work took the form of a ready-made sculptural bust that Wing purchased on the website marketplace Gumtree, to which he added a real balaclava that the audience were asked to take off and put back on 'Crook'. 'Captain Cook edition 4 of 4' was subject to an alleged intellectual property and moral rights challenge, with Jason Wing also potentially facing a civil suit for defaming Captain Cook's good name. Nothing eventuated from these potential legal challenges except that they spurred Wing to recreate the work as a new balaclava-clad bronze bust. Because of this work, Wing also received death threats and hate mail with media identities Andrew Bolt and Steve Price publicly criticising him in mainstream media.