



# Images of the Pacific Rim

Australia and California, 1850-1935

by Erika Esau

Australia and California have shared aesthetic ideas through imported popular imagery for nearly two hundred years. From gold rush photography to Spanish-style houses, *Images of the Pacific Rim* tells the fascinating story of aesthetic exchange between two 'cultures on the periphery'. The absorption of images into the everyday life of these 'new' Western societies, made possible by the development of mechanical processes of production, constructed distinctive cultural iconographies and helped to create a sense of place based upon a shared ocean and climate. Through photography, graphic art, architecture, and the ubiquitous eucalyptus, Erika Esau's book reveals the source elements of what became a 'Pacific Rim' aesthetic

**Erika Esau** is a native Californian who spent more than a decade teaching art history—including the history of Australian art—at the Australian National University, Canberra. She received her Ph.D. in the History of Art from Bryn Mawr College, Pennsylvania. Her writings on Australian art and culture include the *Blue Guide Australia* (with George Boeck), *E.O. Hoppé's Australia* (with Graham Howe), and articles on the history of Australian photography.

Published by **Power Publications** in **August 2010**

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**ISBN 9780909952396** 384pp, 266 x 221mm PB, index  
21 colour & 146 black and white illustrations. **\$59.95**



## Audience

- students and academics in art, media/communications history and theory, architecture and architectural history, cross-cultural studies, and Australian and American history.
- artists, architects, graphic designers, curators, historians, and the general reader.

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