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PUBLIC LECTURE

MARYANNE DEVER

University of Newcastle

FEMINISM'S ARCHIVE

The approaches to research that defined feminist archival practice in the 1980s and 1990s positioned 'the archive' as the place where we routinely sought to 'recover' a past that we understood to have been 'hidden from history'. This tradition of archival research has been radically reshaped by recent trends in the Humanities. In this lecture I ask: where is feminism's archive if it is not something we find fully formed and awaiting our interventions? *Were we ever in it? Would we know it if we saw it now?* I take up the question of how new approaches structured by concerns with materiality can yield different orders of insight into literary lives, literary works and their archival traces. The lecture draws on the experiences working with diverse archival collections, including Greta Garbo's letters, Merle Thornton's activist archive, and the papers of writers Eve Langley and Valentine Ackland.

MARYANNE DEVER is Associate Professor in the School of Humanities and Social Science, University of Newcastle and recipient of the 2014 ANU Gender Institute, Humanities Research Centre Visiting Fellowship. Before her appointment to the University of Newcastle in 2010, she held posts at the University of Sydney, the University of Hong Kong and at Monash University, where she was Director of the Centre for Women's Studies and Gender Research for nine years. From 2015 she will be co-editor (with Lisa Adkins) of *Australian Feminist Studies*.

VENUE: Seminar Rm 1 (3.02), **Sir Roland Wilson Building** (Bdg 120), ANU

DATE AND TIME: Wednesday, **24 September 2014** 6:00pm to 7:30pm

Gender Institute 2014 Public Lecture Series Feminist Theory Now