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AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF
ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT
ISLANDER STUDIES

Audition Sheet

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TITLE	First time tragedy, second time farce
ACCESSION NUMBER	FC00016_1
COLLECTION NAME	COUNTER_001
DEPOSITOR	Counter Productions
PRODUCTION YEAR	1989
CREDITS (if applicable)	Music, Steve Skaith; editor, Jane Madsen; writers, producers, directors, John Cumming, Jane Madsen and James Swinson; narrators Robyn Archer, Bart Willoughby
PERFORMERS/SPEAKERS	Norman Fisher; Lance Dixon; Gerry Lomas; Dr Jonathan King; Francis Williams; Robbie Thorpe; Millie Ingram; Marie Bennett; Mac Silva; Ding Li; Dr Andrew Theophanous; Alf Bamblett; Sonia Sedmark; Roberto Malara; Barrarra Mimi Dancers; Yothu Yindi; the Prince of Wales; Gary Foley; Bob Hawke; Charles Harris; Galarrwuy Yunupingu; Robyn Archer; Bart Willoughby; Richard Dooley; Mathew Green; Claire Madsen; Peter Marz; Francis Williams
PLACE	Sydney map area (NSW SI56-05)
LANGUAGE/GROUP	Eora / Iora people (S61) (NSW SI56-05)
SERIES (if applicable)	
TECHNICAL NOTES	Sound quality sometimes poor
REPRODUCTION NOTES	1 videocassettes (Digital Betacam); PM07807_3
ORIGINAL VERSION	1 film reel (16 mm.); sound, colour
TOTAL DURATION	25 min.
GRANT NUMBER (if applicable)	
NOTES	

WARNING: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are warned that this material may contain images and voices of deceased persons.

Brief abstract: Filmed in Britain and Australia, this theatrical history lesson follows the official celebrations from the re-enacted voyage of the First Fleet up to the 1988 bicentennial celebration; it raises questions about history, culture and nationalism.

Important timing points:

00:00	AIATSIS slate information.
00:18	Start of Part C. Gary Foley explains the history of the Aboriginal flag. The Aboriginal flag was designed in 1971 by Harold Thomas, an Aboriginal artist from Central Australia.
02:30	Unidentified man talks about the need for government to grant or allow self-determination for Indigenous people.

03:38	Gary Foley explains that in 1988 there was a great impetus for consultations about a treaty.
05:25	At Radio Redfern, Marie Bennett plays the song 'I am an Aboriginal'.
08:58	Bob Hawke's Australia Day 1988 speech: "In Australia there is no hierarchy of descent. There must be no privilege of origin."
09:10	Vox pops of the crowd at Sydney Harbour gathered for the re-enactment.
10:45	Shot of people marching in protest; the Prince of Wales delivers a speech talking about the need for a bi-centennial celebration.
11:42	An unidentified woman challenges the idea of celebration and declares that the last two hundred years have been characterised by genocide.
11:54	The crowd sings 'Waltzing Matilda'.
12:45	An unidentified speaker asserts that Australia is founded on racism and lies, and that Indigenous people are not really recognised by this version of the re-enactment.
14:14	Margaret Whitlam watches the helicopters fly past.
16:26	The Prince of Wales: one of the only ties with the old country, Britain, is the rule of law as reflected in Australia's constitution.
17:00	Footage of people marching in protest, and an unidentified speaker condemns the hypocrisy and lies of the re-enactment and labels it a farce.
20:31	Around two million people attended the re-enactment of the voyage. The First Fleet hovered in Farm Cove, not actually performing the final act of landing, leaving the crowd to ponder the lessons of history.
21:15	Yothu Yindi perform; shots of a crowd of protesters at the Bicentennial 1988 event.
22:59	Discussion of the pressing need for Indigenous people to have a voice in the media in order to communicate effectively regarding issues such as land rights.
27:00	Alf Bamblett makes a plea at a May Day rally for everyone to support Indigenous people on issues such as human rights and land rights.
27:40	Credits.
29:34	End of Part C.