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ANT 102

April 4, 2021

For your creative assignment this week, select any medium you choose to explore the theme of culture and identity in Oceania.

I chose the poetry of Oceania. As I researched the poetry of Oceania I learned about its history. It was just in the 1960's -1970's that inhabitants of Oceania begin to study, write, and publish poetry and stories in broadsides, chapbooks, zines, anthologies, and full-length collections. Soon after, writing poetry, stories and more would emerge across the Pacific. Pacific poetry is as diverse as the cultures of Oceania. Contemporary Pacific Islander poetry most commonly includes oral and written poetry composed by authors who are genealogically linked to the people of the areas of the Pacific known as Polynesia, Melanesia, and Micronesia.

As I read some of the materials of the poets from Oceania I stumbled upon Douglas Alexander Stewart. Stewart was born in Eltham, New Zealand in 1913 and later moved to Australia. Stewart was a poet, playwright, and critic. I found his poetry surprisingly interesting to read and enjoyed some of his works. While some of Stewarts materials were not directly pertaining to the Pacific coast or his culture you could sense his love and admiration for nature in his writings such as in "The Rivers". Other works such as "Firewheel Tree" were thought provoking and a few other poems were drawn from inspiration such as in the case of "Professor Piccard".