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Other Identities: portrayals from the past and what remains in the present

An extended essay presented in partial fulfilment of the
requirements for the post-graduate degree of

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Sarah Peti Sian Hudson

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Abstract

How can the reintroduction of colonial depictions of Maori women in early twentieth century postcards engage a modern audience in a dialogue concerning the aestheticisation of Maori women, both past and present?

Drawing on questions incited by the visual representation of my own family, the constructs of photographic depictions of Maori women in early 1900's postcards will be examined. The correlation between the past and present will be the focus of this essay as the research considers whether the romantic, ancient ideals imposed onto Maori women by male colonialist photographers are still apparent in the present.

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