



Bain Attwood in conversation with Arnold Zable

Monday 22 June 2009 at 6:30pm

Readings Carlton: 309 Lygon St, Carlton, Victoria

Possession: Batman's Treaties and the Matter of History tells the fascinating story of the only treaties ever made between settlers and Aboriginal people in Australia. It contemplates why whites forged these agreements, how the Aboriginal people understood their terms, why the government repudiated them, and how whites claimed to be the rightful owners of the land. It considers the ways settler society has endeavoured to make good its possession by repeatedly creating histories that have recalled or repressed the memory of Batman, the treaties, and the Aborigines' destruction and dispossession. And it charts how Aboriginal people have unsettled this history through their remembering.

Bain Attwood is a leading scholar in the field of cross-cultural history. He is professor in the School of Historical Studies, Monash University, and adjunct professor in the Centre for Cross-Cultural Research, The Australian National University. He is the author of *The Making of the Aborigines*, *Rights for Aborigines* and *Telling the Truth about Aboriginal History*.

Admission is free and all are welcome to attend, but please book on 9347 6633 or contact Readings via [email](#).

This book is published by Miegunyah Press, an imprint of Melbourne University Publishing, and is now available at all good bookstores or online at [MUP](#).