

## Our Country's Good: USC School of Theatre Performance

A research guide designed to accompany the USC School of Theatre performance of Timberlake Wertenbaker's *Our Country's Good*

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### Events

#### *Our Country's Good* performances

Thurs. and Fri., Nov. 6 and 7  
7:00 p.m.

Sat., Nov. 8  
2:30 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Sun., Nov. 9  
2:30 p.m.

[Comments \(0\)](#)

### Introduction

The USC School of Theatre's fall production is Timberlake Wertenbaker's *Our Country's Good*. Based on Thomas Keneally's novel *The Playmaker*, the play is a fact-based drama. It recounts the story of how prisoners of the first British penal colony were—in the face of great hardship—organized into a theater company during the 1780s.

In cooperation with the USC School of Theatre, Anthony Anderson of the USC Libraries has selected resources to help you learn more about Australian history and the development of theatre in the former British penal colony.

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### Australian History

#### *Bound for Botany Bay: British Convict Voyages to Australia*

By Alan Brooke  
National Archives (Great Britain), 2005  
Doheny Library HV8950.A8B76 2005

#### *A History of Australia*

By C.M.H. Clarke  
Melbourne University Press, 1999  
Doheny Library DU110.C48 1999

#### *The Fatal Shore*

By Robert Hughes  
Knopf, 1987  
Doheny Library DU115.H78, 1987

#### *A Commonwealth of Thieves: The Improbable Birth of Australia*

By Thomas Keneally  
Nan A. Talese/Doubleday, 2006  
Leavey Library DU99.K46 2006

#### *The Irish in Australia: Rogues and Reformers, First Fleet to Federation*

By Jarlath Ronayne  
Viking, 2003  
Doheny Library DU122.17R66 2003

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### Australian Theatre History

#### *O Brave New World: Two Centuries of Shakespeare on the Australian Stage*

By John Golder  
Currency Press, 2001  
Doheny Library PR3109.A9013 2001

#### *The Australian Theatre: An Abstract and Brief Chronicle in Twelve Parts*

By Paul McGuire  
Oxford University Press, 1948  
Grand Library PN3011.M35

#### *Companion to Theatre in Australia*

By Phillip Parsons  
Currency Press, 1995  
Doheny Library PN3011.C66 1995

#### *Playing Australia: Australian Theatre and the International Stage*

By Elizabeth Shafer  
Rodopi, 2003  
Doheny Library PN3011.P56 2003

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