

CULTURE CLUB

A taste of this country

FOR half a century, an epic portrait of Australia taken by one of the most celebrated photographers of all time, E O Hoppe, lay hidden away in a dusty archive as forgotten treasure.

Recently discovered and already critically-acclaimed, this intriguing portrait of our nation's early character will arrive in Sydney today for its first ever Australian exhibition at Customs House.

One of Britain's most prolific portraitists of the early 20th century, Emil Otto Hoppé was London's leading celebrity photographer, capturing all the prominent figures including Thomas Hardy, TS Elliot, Albert Einstein, King George and Queen Mary.

Hoppé arrived in Australia in 1930 to commence a year-long documentation of our

then young and developing nation.

He criss-crossed the Australian continent tirelessly capturing images, photographing the landscape and inhabitants with unique insight.

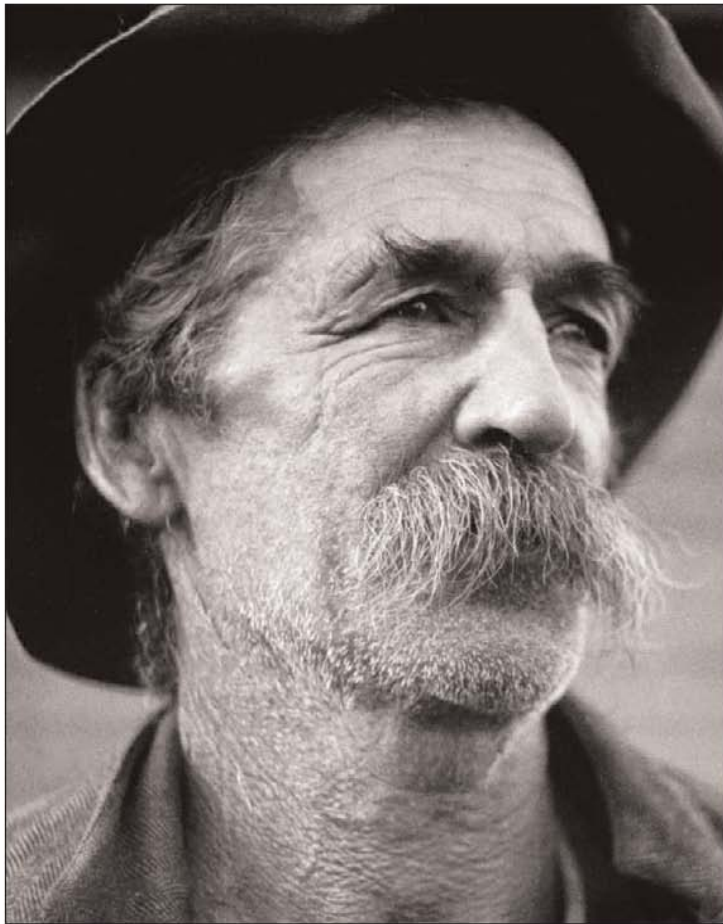
The result is a powerful picture of the spirit and pride of a young Australia undergoing profound transformation in the process of becoming a nation.

Hoppé's exhibition, which opens today, will be on display for one month only at Custom's House, Circular Quay in Sydney.

What: A photographic exhibition by Emil Otto Hoppé

When: Opens today, on display for one month only

Where: Custom's House, Circular Quay, Sydney



The work of Emil Otto Hoppé, one of the most celebrated photographers of all time, is now on display at Custom's House in Sydney.

World-class piper in our midst

A CHARLES Sturt University student is bringing the sound of the Scottish highlands to inland Australia.

Studying at the CSU Wagga campus, James Martel is an international-level bagpipe player who has led the Sydney Anzac Day March on several occasions and was a finalist at the NSW solos competition.

In 2003, James was appointed the Piping Cadet Under-Officer of Scot's College band and performed solo at the State Theatre in Sydney for the Rugby World Cup Festival.

In 2005 he was appointed as a bagpiping tutor at the Queen Victoria School in Dunblane, Scotland and piped at all Scottish rugby internationals.

The highlight was his performance for Queen Elizabeth II during the official opening of the Royal Bank of Scotland headquarters in Edinburgh.

James hopes to graduate with a CSU degree in medical imaging.