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978-0-521-88194-4 - Empire, Barbarism, and Civilisation: James Cook, William Hodges, and the Return to the Pacific

Harriet Guest

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## Empire, Barbarism, and Civilisation

The artist William Hodges accompanied Captain Cook on his second voyage to the South Pacific in 1772–5. His extraordinarily vivid images, read against the fascinating journals of Cook and his companions, reveal as much about European cultures and historiography as about the peoples they visited. In this lively and original book, Harriet Guest discusses Hodges's dramatic landscapes and portraits alongside written accounts of the voyages and in the context of the theories of civilisation which shaped European perceptions – theories drawn from the works of philosophers of the Scottish enlightenment such as Adam Smith and John Millar. She argues that the voyagers resorted to diverse or incompatible models of progress in successive encounters with different groups of islanders, and shows how these models also structured metropolitan views of the voyagers and of Hodges's work. This fully illustrated study offers a fresh perspective on eighteenth-century representations of gender, colonialism, and exploration.

HARRIET GUEST is Professor of English in the Centre for Eighteenth Century Studies at the University of York.

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*For John Barrell*

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