

Poster abstract

Kay Söderlund

A Match Made in Heaven – Collaborative Conservation of a 1799 Celestial Globe

In 2013, a badly damaged celestial globe was brought into the Preservation Australia studio. The globe and its wooden stand had been knocked over, badly fracturing the globe and damaging the stand.

The mixed materials of the globe and the stand – the sprung paste board and plaster sphere, covered with paper gores varnished with shellac, along with the mahogany wooden stand – indicated a collaborative project. Paper conservators from Preservation Australia worked with furniture conservator Jeremy Granville Smith, of Granville Smith Restorations, and objects conservator Anne Cummins, of Sydney Artefacts Conservation, to fully conserve the globe.

The poster will show the various stages of the conservation project – pulling the sphere back into shape, infilling the fractures, cleaning the surface of the globe, applying toned Japanese paper to areas of plaster infill, and re-varnishing the globe.

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