The Languages Discipline together with the EU Centre at RMIT University and Des Cowley of the State Library of Victoria, invite you to a talk by Michael Shirrefs on his surprising discovery of a large gift of books from France to the State Library of Victoria, with a rare opportunity to view these books not usually on display to the public.

**Tuesday 12 October, 5-6pm or 6.15-7.15pm**

McArthur Gallery (Maps, Rare Books & Children's Literature area)  
Level 2a - off Redmond Barry Reading Room  
State Library of Victoria  
Enter 1, 328 Swanston Street, Melbourne

**Event is free but numbers are strictly limited to 10 per group.**

RSVP by Friday 8th October  
03 9925 2264 or kerry.mullan@rmit.edu.au

The European Union Centre at RMIT University is funded through a grant from the European Union and RMIT University

---

**Paris to Melbourne with an atlas**

**Michael Shirrefs** is something of a multi-media hybrid. As well as being a senior program-maker with ABC Radio National, where he’s worked for about 26 years, Michael has trained as a print-maker and worked as both a composer and musician.

During his time as one of the most recent State Library of Victoria Creative Fellows, Michael has had the rare opportunity of making some genuinely significant discoveries.

A journey that started with one 19th-century atlas of Paris became an exploration of more than 150 books in the same series, all presenting an extraordinarily detailed portrait of this city. Subsequent research in numerous Parisian archives has resulted in Michael uncovering a substantial number of records about Melbourne in the 1880s that have been missing from our local records.

Far from being completed, this project has only just begun. After curating an exhibition for Alliance Française de Melbourne’s 120th anniversary this coming October, Michael plans to write a book about one of the significant French figures that has emerged in the course of this research.