

the Wool Museum

at the entrance we watch the screens . . .
white men from the past with guns . . . surrounding aborigines . . .
it's a photograph blown up a hundred times . . . static but moving . . .
we read the words . . . learn how the indiginous people were shot . . .
like kangaroos . . . how this is our inheritance . . .
our root in this new land . . . right from the start . . .
how we got it wrong then . . . must get it right now . . .
and it hurts to watch it . . . even as an outsider . . .
because it was outsiders . . . our ancestors . . .
who committed these crimes . . .

what wrong had these people done . . .
they lived in harmony with the land . . .
never took more than the land could give . . .
kept moving from place to place . . .
knew where to find food . . . find water . . .
had been there for thousands of years . . .

why were they shot . . . like kangaroos . . . they had no defence . . .
there is a lot to answer for . . .
if an Aborigine should chance to read this . . .
I beg your forgiveness . . . I beg your forgiveness . . . I beg your forgiveness