The daughter of an Aboriginal man and a ten pound pom, Alison talks about her own identity and family, which is not defined by black, white, brown, or any colour. She talks about pride where there once wasn’t any. Passionate about the living definition of culture, Alison unpacks the values at the heart of Aboriginal culture and the many languages that are used through storytelling to express them. Connecting this with the broader process of reconciliation, she argues why we need to embrace Aboriginal culture and its values as central to our national identity.

Alison Page is an award-winning Aboriginal designer, cultural planner and Manager of the Saltwater Freshwater Arts Alliance on the NSW mid-north coast. For eight years Alison was a regular panellist of the ABC program The New Inventors and in 2011 was appointed a member of the Expert Panel on Constitutional Recognition of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Peoples which handed its report to the Federal Government in January 2012.

The views expressed in this lecture are those of the presenter and do not necessarily represent the views of The Australian National University.