



B

# BRISBANE WRITERS FESTIVAL

MAY / JUNE  
2024

Have we got a story for you





**First Nations people are  
Australia's first storytellers.**

Brisbane Writers Festival is held on the lands of the Yuggera and Turrbul people, on the banks of the Maiwar river.

We recognise the important and ongoing contributions of Indigenous Australians to art and literature and pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.



[bwf.org.au](http://bwf.org.au)



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Join the conversation



@briswritersfest



#BWF24



#HaveWeGotAStoryForYou



The **Brisbane Writers Festival** is proud to acknowledge **Her Excellency the Honourable Dr Jeannette Young AC PSM, Governor of Queensland**, and her husband, **Professor Graeme Nimmo RFD**, as **Joint Patrons**.



**Message from the Joint Patrons**

As Joint Patrons of the Brisbane Writers Festival, we are proud to endorse this year's excellent program of keynote addresses, conversations with seasoned and emerging authors, panel discussions, special events, family-friendly storytelling and free

programming around the city.

The Brisbane Writers Festival is a highlight on the social and cultural calendars of many Queenslanders. It has for many years been a drawcard for local, national and international writers of immense diversity and talent.

While some names on this year's roster will be well known, owing to the popular appeal of their writing or collaborations with film and television, others will no doubt make their mark in years to come.

Their collective contributions to literature will have an impact on all our lives, adding to the richness of our language and culture whether we know it or not. Those fortunate enough to attend this year's festival will no doubt experience many entertaining, illuminating and memorable moments.

We are pleased to note the inclusion of First Nations Cultural Curators, whose input will ensure that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stories and storytelling form an integral part of the program.

On behalf of Queenslanders, we thank festival organisers and participants for sharing their energy, passion and expertise, and wish you great success now and into the future.

**Her Excellency the Honourable Dr Jeannette Young AC PSM**  
Governor of Queensland

**Professor Graeme Nimmo RFD**



**Message from the Arts Minister**

The 2024 Brisbane Writers Festival celebrates extraordinary stories and talented storytellers from Queensland and around the world. Now in its 63rd year, Brisbane Writers Festival has a strong tradition of connecting writers and readers and creating narratives and

ideas that delight, inspire, challenge and entertain.

The line-up includes homegrown favourites such as Trent Dalton and Badu and Moa islander Samantha Faulkner alongside international luminaries such as Bonnie Garmus and Rebecca Yarros.

First Nations stories and experiences are at the heart of this year's program, which features conversations with Miles Franklin Award winner Melissa Lucashenko and Bundjalung woman Shauna Bostock plus informative forums exploring cultural storytelling.

The Miles Government is a key supporter of the Brisbane Writers Festival, investing more than \$1.2 million over four years through the Organisations Fund 2022–2025.

Events such as Brisbane Writers Festival help to profile Queensland's unique arts, cultures and stories in the lead-up to the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games, when our artists, companies and communities will be showcased on a global stage.

As it has done for more than six decades, the four-day Brisbane Writers Festival will spark rich conversation and enthral local and visiting literary fans.

The Brisbane Writers Festival is a world-class Queensland event not to be missed.

**The Honourable Leeanne Enoch MP**

Minister for Treaty, Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Minister for Communities and Minister for the Arts





### Chair's Statement

Nine years ago, Ali Smith admired someone who 'completely understood that that moment where opposites meet is the most fertile of points for the mind, for the soul and for the arts'. This year's festival is full of such oases, traced and navigated by the fertile mind of Artistic Director Jackie Ryan.

In the same interview, Ali Smith explained: 'When we meet a work of art, there's something about that encounter that isn't fixed in time, but rather, it unfixes time: the shaft opens. The past and present exist in the same moment and we know, as beings, that we are connected.'

Expect shafts to open over the four days of BWF 2024 – between Melissa Lucashenko's opening address and late Sunday sessions about Ed Le Brocq's music, Douglas Watkins' documentaries and Shontell Ketchell's TV comedies. Connect with fellow readers and writers across this clever program.

Share the stories of love and joy curated by Melanie Saward, and the rich range of human experiences across media curated by Lenora Thaker.

Show your support. Join us Friday night in the Water Mall for the glamorous Marion Taylor Gala, featuring novelist and screenwriter Louise Doughty, to celebrate how writing can take hold of contemporary culture. Become a festival benefactor.

Help create exceptional experiences that connect diverse communities through the power of words and writing.

Remember this city's love of writing. Many BWF events sell out. Mark your favourites. Book your sessions or buy a Festival Pass.

**The Honourable Justice Thomas Bradley**  
Chair of Board, Brisbane Writers Festival



### Artistic Director's Statement

Same old story: a diverse array of extraordinary artists, sizzling panel combinations, sumptuous program design, seamless production, record-setting ticket sales, rapturous responses, beatific levels of support, high-fives to the point of blisters.

But that was last year.

Now for the difficult second album. Can this incarnation of BWF also make friends and influence people? As Shakespeare once said, 'yes'.

As with last year, we're keen to put the 'festive' in festival. That means different things to different people. You want to hear about dragons? We've got your dragons. Mysteries? Check. Culture, sex, soccer, diplomacy, democracy, disability, translation, diversity, poetry, religion, art, comedy, crime, science, sickness, environment, advice, music, media, history, biography, anthology, children's fiction and 'a succulent Chinese meal'? Over the course of 150 events, we've served up something for everyone.

My thanks to the BWF Board, team, crew and volunteers; to our 2024 First Nations Cultural Curators; and to our program and cover image designers. This festival literarily would not exist without you. Thank you, also, to our funders and sponsors. In this tough financial environment, it'd be easy for you to reduce your support. We're grateful you haven't, because this festival couldn't happen without you, either. Or the artists, or the publishers, or the other festivals and organisations we work with, or the audiences. So come and enjoy what you all helped create and let's make BWF 2024 another feelgood story.

**Dr Jackie Ryan**  
Artistic Director, Brisbane Writers Festival

# First Nations Cultural Curators

In 2024 BWF has had the great fortune to work with First Nations Cultural Curators Melanie Saward and Lenora Thaker, who've put together a series of sessions that complement and enhance the program. You'll find a curator credit next to each of the sessions they've created; we hope you enjoy the breadth and depth these panels bring to the festival. BWF would like to extend a huge thank you to Melanie and Lenora for their illuminating and exciting contributions.



## Melanie Saward – Aboriginal First Nations Curator

In curating these sessions for Brisbane Writers Festival, I kept my mind firmly on Blak love and joy. All our storytelling is important, valid and worthy of discussion, but often Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander creatives are asked to perform our trauma for non-Indigenous audiences, and so I wanted to focus on all the things that make us deadly. I've been fantasising about what the ideal festival would look like for a long time, and in my six sessions you'll see writers discuss their own festival fantasies, share love poems and talk about Aboriginal romance novels. You'll hear about the healing properties of the arts, our hopes for our kids and from artists working to adapt their work across mediums. I hope you'll come along to witness and celebrate our joy.



## Lenora Thaker – Torres Strait Islander First Nations Curator

I have been honoured to curate this year's Torres Strait Islander program of artists for the Brisbane Writers Festival. The lineup includes authors, playwrights, screenwriters, filmmakers and performers, to name a few. The common thread that weaves through the sessions is that our stories are unique, resonate with the spirit of ancestors, transform and come to life to teach, reflect, entertain and add to the richness of our shared human experience. Please join us and be inspired and enthralled by how we – people of *Zenadth Kes* – create and tell our stories.

# We talk about your business



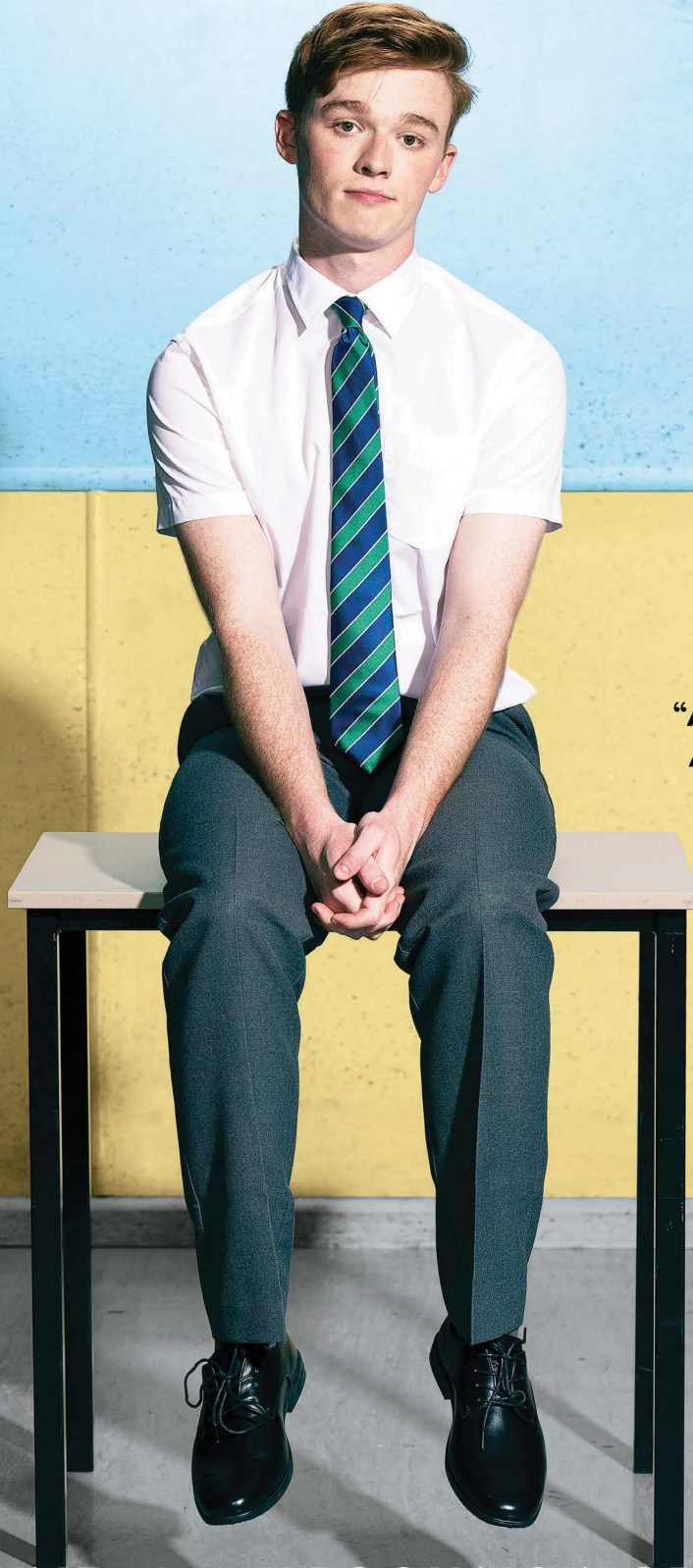


SHAKE & STIR THEATRE CO AND QPAC PRESENT

# FOURTEEN

BY SHANNON MOLLOY

ADAPTED BY SHAKE & STIR WITH SHANNON MOLLOY



BROADWAY WORLD

**“A STUNNING MEMOIR  
ABOUT HEARTBREAK  
& ACCEPTANCE”**

FRANCES WHITING - THE COURIER-MAIL

**“FUNNY, SAD  
AND TRUE,  
THIS PLAY WILL  
SAVE LIVES.”**

THE AUSTRALIAN

**FROM 12 JUNE 2024 // BOOK NOW [QPAC.COM.AU](http://QPAC.COM.AU)**

SHAKE  
& STIR  
THEATRE CO

Qpac  
QUEENSLAND  
PERFORMING  
ARTS CENTRE



# Tickets

## Be our friend!

Become a Festival Friend and receive a 15% discount on festival tickets and passes, plus out-of-season events, throughout the year. Membership is just \$75.

Join a community of readers and support the festival you love. Sign up today at [bwf.org.au/friends](http://bwf.org.au/friends) before purchasing your tickets.

## FREE EVENTS

Bookings essential.  
Please see [bwf.org.au](http://bwf.org.au)  
for more details.

### Regular Festival

#### Individual Session

**\$20** Festival Friend

**\$25** full

**\$22.50** concession

#### Five-Event Pass

**\$75** Festival Friend

**\$100** full

**\$85** concession

#### Festival Pass

**\$255** Festival Friend

**\$320** full

**\$285** concession

### First Word

Free, bookings essential

### Marion Taylor Gala

**\$200** Festival Friend

**\$250** full

### Word Play

#### Student tickets

**\$15** per person

#### Adult tickets

**\$25** per person

School groups receive one complimentary adult ticket for a teacher or supervisor for every 15 student tickets. For large bookings and to claim complimentary tickets, call 07 3216 0694.

### Love YA

Free, bookings essential

### Families

#### Children under 12

**\$5** per person

#### Adult tickets

**\$10** per person

### Special Events

**\$40** Festival Friend

**\$49** full

**\$45** concession

Not included with Festival Passes

For more information, visit [bwf.org.au](http://bwf.org.au)



# Information

## How to book

We strongly advise booking ahead of time via our website or by phone.

**Online:** [bwf.org.au](http://bwf.org.au)

**Phone:** 07 3216 0694, 10am–4pm  
Monday to Friday.

**In person:** The BWF Box Office opens one hour before the first event each day. The Box Office is located in the Knowledge Walk on level one at the State Library of Queensland.

**Please note the Box Office is cashless – purchases through EFTPOS only.**

## Passes

Please note that you must still book a ticket for events by redeeming an event credit from your Five-Event or Festival Pass – passes cannot be used for direct entry at the door.

For information on how to redeem passes for tickets, visit [bwf.org.au/usingpasses](http://bwf.org.au/usingpasses)

## Getting to the festival

Most BWF events take place at the State Library of Queensland, located on Stanley Place, South Brisbane.

## Public transport

### Bus

The Cultural Centre busway station is a five-minute walk away from the State

Library of Queensland. There is also a bus stop located on Stanley Place at the Queensland Gallery of Modern Art.

### Train

South Brisbane train station is located on the corner of Melbourne and Grey Street, a five-minute walk away.

### City Cat

The nearest City Cat terminal is South Bank 1, a ten-minute walk from the State Library of Queensland.

Visit [translink.com.au](http://translink.com.au) or call 13 12 30 for more information.

## Parking

Paid parking is available throughout the Cultural Centre precinct.

## Walking

The Cultural Precinct is a short walk from Brisbane's CBD via Victoria Bridge, Kurilpa Bridge or the William Jolly Bridge.

For up-to-date venue information, please see [bwf.org.au/planyourvisit](http://bwf.org.au/planyourvisit)

## Accessibility

The BWF festival precinct and all Council libraries are wheelchair accessible. Volunteer wayfinding assistance is available.

For patrons who require special seating, wheelchair access or assistance, or an AUSLAN interpreter, please contact

BWF in advance on 07 3216 0694 or [info@bwf.org.au](mailto:info@bwf.org.au)

**Companion Card** holders qualify for a complimentary ticket for their companion. Please contact BWF directly on 07 3216 0694 for assistance with your booking.

## Donate

If you are as passionate about celebrating books, writing and ideas as we are, we'd love you to consider making a donation.

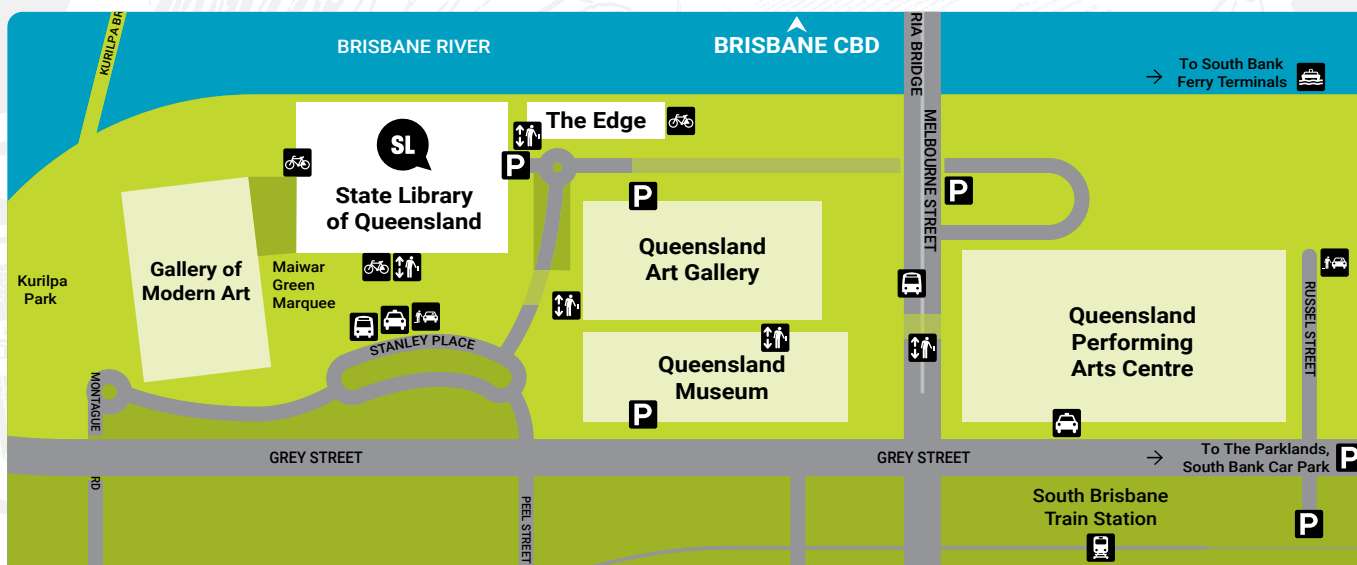
This could help a child access our Word Play program or give an emerging Brisbane author the chance to present at the festival.

Any donation to BWF over \$2 is tax deductible. Visit [bwf.org.au/donate](http://bwf.org.au/donate)

## Terms & Conditions

Program details are correct at the time of printing. BWF reserves the right to alter the program and artists and to cancel sessions where necessary. No refunds or exchanges are possible once bookings are complete and payment received unless the festival has cancelled the session. Proof of concession may be required when booking your event and on entry to sessions. Special events are excluded from Multi-Event Passes.

Full Terms & Conditions are available at [bwf.org.au](http://bwf.org.au)



**kuril dhagun**, level 1, State Library of Queensland  
**Talking Circle**, level 1, State Library of Queensland  
**The Edge Auditorium**, level 1, State Library of Queensland  
**The Parlour**, level 1, State Library of Queensland  
**The Studio**, level 1, State Library of Queensland

**Queensland Terrace**, level 2, State Library of Queensland  
**slq Auditorium 1**, level 2, State Library of Queensland  
**slq Auditorium 2**, level 2, State Library of Queensland  
**Heritage Collections Learning Room**, level 4, State Library of Queensland



"Worth its weight in gold"  
— THE NEW YORK TIMES

15 JUN — 13 JUL



# COST OF LIVING

BY MARTYNA MAJOK  
DIRECTED BY PRISCILLA JACKMAN  
AND DAN DAW

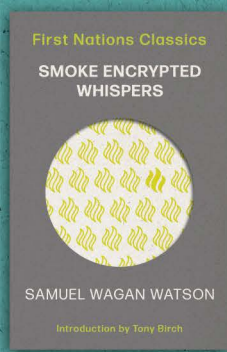
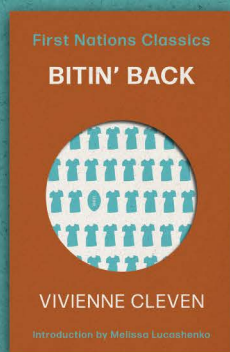
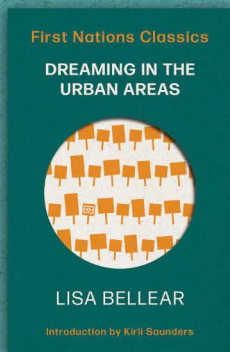
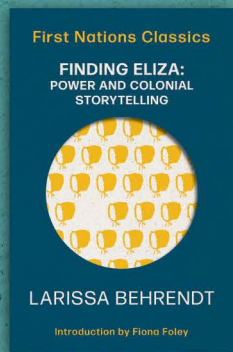
DOES LOVE HAVE A BOTTOM LINE?

## QUEENSLAND THEATRE

Co-producer  
SYDNEY  
THEATRE  
CO



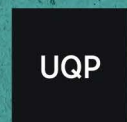
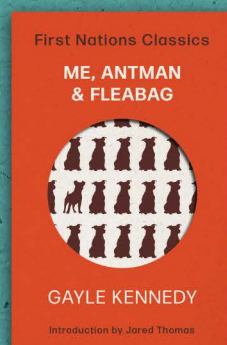
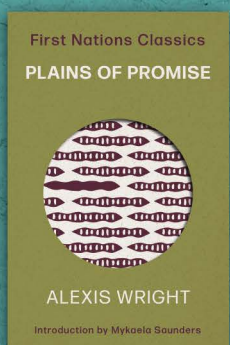
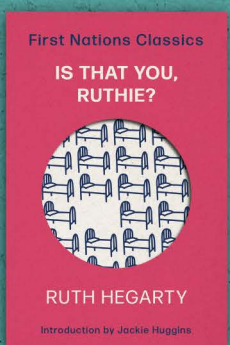
BOOK  
NOW



OUT  
JUNE  
2024

Eight must-read books, now part  
of the bestselling First Nations Classics

# Collect them all



[www.uqp.com.au](http://www.uqp.com.au)



# CLAIRE KEEGAN

28  
APR

The much-acclaimed Irish author of *Small Things Like These* in conversation with ABC's Sarah Kanowski.



*"She can say so much,  
and be so loud, with very little."*

Douglas Stuart

WINNER OF THE BOOKER PRIZE 2020



**BRISBANE  
POWERHOUSE**



# Keynote Addresses



**Free Event**

## First Word Opening Address

**Keynote by  
Melissa Lucashenko**

**4–5pm, Thursday 30 May,  
Queensland Terrace (slq)**

First Word formally opens the Brisbane Writers Festival each year. To celebrate the vibrant tradition of Australia's first storytellers, the session showcases a keynote speech by an eminent First Nations writer. In 2024, that writer is Miles Franklin award winner Melissa Lucashenko, whose extraordinary body of work includes *Edenglassie*, *Mullumbimby* and *Too Much Lip*. Please join us for the official opening of the 2024 Brisbane Writers Festival.

**Supported by The University  
of Queensland**

## Marion Taylor Gala

**Keynote by Louise Doughty**

**7–10pm, Friday 31 May,  
QAGOMA Water Mall**

A very special event in the stunning QAGOMA Water Mall, the Marion Taylor Gala is an evening of fine dining, sparkling atmosphere and thought-provoking speech. This year, the wonderful Louise Doughty talks about books and television dramas and how storytelling at its best not only grips us, but unites us all in solidarity and compassion.

**This event is made possible through the support of the Taylor family**

We're delighted to announce that Louise is appearing exclusively at BWF in 2024 – you won't catch her at any other Australian festival. Check the program index for her full schedule of BWF appearances and don't miss your chance to see this international literary sensation!



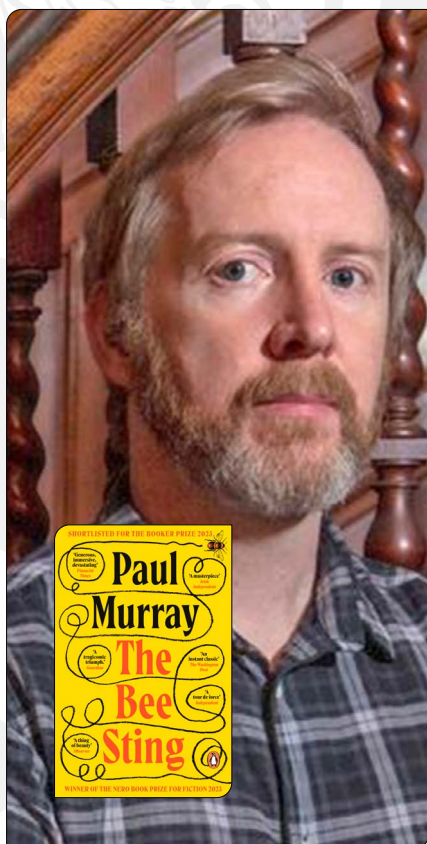
**Festival Exclusive Artist**

LOUISE  
DOUGHTY  
A  
BIRD  
IN  
WINTER  
Story by Denise Younger author of *Apple Tree Yard*



# Special Events

Can't wait for the festival to start? Don't want it to end? We've got you covered before, during and after.



## Paul Murray: *The Bee Sting*

In Conversation with  
Carody Culver

6–6:30pm, Tuesday 7 May,  
slq Auditorium 1

Paul Murray's blend of the comic and the cosmic is unmatched; his laugh-out-loud epics of modern life are as stylish as they are humane. In the Booker-shortlisted *The Bee Sting*, he regales us with the extraordinary story of a family and society on the brink of crisis. Don't miss this exceptional author as he discusses the eternal themes and modern preoccupations of his work with *Griffith Review* editor and *Skippy Dies* obsessive Carody Culver.



## Samantha Shannon: *The Bone Season*

In Conversation with  
Kim Wilkins

2:30–3:30pm, Wednesday 22 May,  
Concert Hall, The Old Museum

In 2013, Samantha Shannon's debut novel, *The Bone Season*, became an instant sensation. The first in a trailblazing seven-book series, it's an exhilarating blend of dystopian sci-fi and high fantasy that's rich with indelible world-building and unforgettable characters. Join Shannon as she celebrates the tenth-anniversary edition of this remarkable novel and reflects on its enduring success.

## Samantha Shannon: *The Priory of the Orange Tree*

In Conversation with  
Kim Wilkins

6:30–7:30pm, Wednesday 22 May,  
Concert Hall, The Old Museum

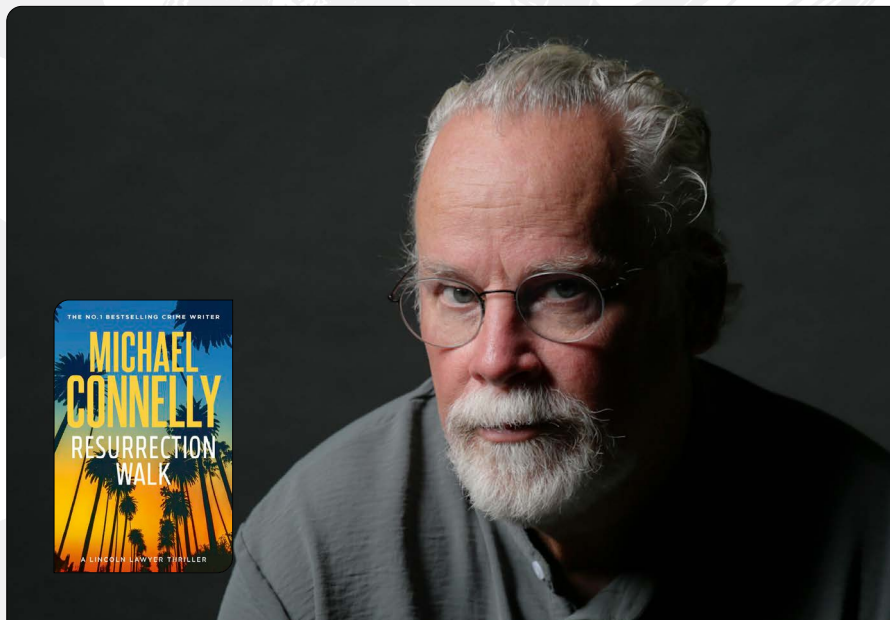
Few authors can claim to have drawn readers into two lushly rendered fantasy worlds in the span of a decade. With *The Priory of the Orange Tree*, Samantha Shannon unveiled the next frontier of her febrile imagination; here, she discusses her masterful epic and what the future may hold for *The Roots of Chaos* series.



**Bonnie Garmus:**  
***Lessons in Chemistry***  
**In Conversation**  
**with Frances Whiting**

**6:30–7:30pm, Thursday 23 May,  
& 11am –12pm, Friday 24 May,  
Concert Hall, The Old Museum**

A crackling cocktail of mordant wit and potent social commentary, Bonnie Garmus' *Lessons in Chemistry* is a literary sensation – its drily comic glimpse into the lives of overlooked women has captivated readers worldwide. Following a chemist turned celebrity chef who hijacks her primetime television spot to deliver acerbic feminist subversion, *Lessons* is biting and imaginative, a novel as thought-provoking as it is delightful.



**Michael Connelly:**  
***Resurrection Walk***

**In Conversation**  
**with Chris Hammer**

**11:30am–12:30pm, Friday 31 May,  
Concert Hall, The Old Museum**

Superstar Michael Connelly discusses the latest exploits of his two most enduring characters, Harry Bosch and Mickey Haller, in the latest installment of *The Lincoln Lawyer* series. An ingeniously gritty blend of police procedural and courtroom drama, *Resurrection Walk* is another indelible mystery from the genre's modern master.

**Rebecca Yarros:**  
***Fourth Wing & Iron Flame***

**In Conversation**  
**with Lynette Noni**

**6:30–7:30pm, Thursday 27 June,  
Brisbane City Hall**

Join number-one bestselling author and global phenomenon Rebecca Yarros on her first visit to Australia for what promises to be a fiery evening of riders, romance and revelations. Don't miss this incredible opportunity to delve deeper into the world of *Fourth Wing* and *Iron Flame* with Rebecca, who'll be joined in conversation with bestselling author Lynette Noni.



Image: Katie Marie Seniors



**Naomi Novik:  
The Scholomance Series**

**In Conversation  
with Amie Kaufman**

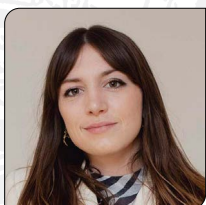
**5:30–6:30pm, Thursday 30 May,  
The Edge Auditorium (slq)**

From the fabulous alternate history of *Temeraire* to her dazzling reworkings of folklore in *Uprooted* and *Spinning Silver*, Naomi Novik has astonished readers with her brilliant imagination and vivid characters. In conversation with Amie Kaufman, Novik discusses her latest work, the *Scholomance* trilogy: a magical school story resplendent with monsters and myth.

This is Naomi's first Australian appearance in over a decade, and it gives us immense pleasure to brag that you can only see her at BWF. When this session sells out (and it will sell out), make sure you strafe the program index for BWF panel sessions where you can see Naomi talk about *Uprooted*, *Spinning Silver* and *Temeraire*. Collect them all!



Lexi Freiman



Katy Hessel



Ma Thida



Dann McDorman



Jennifer Croft



Jake Adelstein

**More Incredible International Artists**

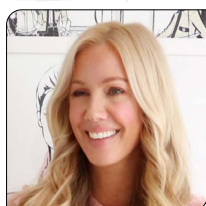
Roll up, roll up! As if our aforementioned slate of special events and artists isn't enough, we've got even more exceptional literary talent joining us from overseas this year. These guests include podcast and art history sensation Katy Hessel, *Tokyo Vice* crime writer Jake Adelstein, New Zealand literati Catherine Chidgey and Emily Perkins, Man Booker International Prize for translation winner Jennifer Croft, Burmese human rights activist and former prisoner of conscience Ma Thida, current Women's Prize longlistee Sarah Ogilvie plus two BWF exclusives: brilliantly contrarian novelist and screenwriter Lexi Freiman and Emmy-nominated TV news producer and meta mystery author Dann McDorman. Treat yourself!



Raimond Gaita



Samuel Watson



Megan Hess



Bryan Brown



Kate Ceberano



Nam Le

**Australian Icons**

Don't get us started on the Australian artists in the program this year. Okay, do. In addition to the legendary Melissa Lucashenko, we've got Julia Baird, Bryan Brown, Daniel Browning, Kate Ceberano, Matthew Condon, Trent Dalton, Raimond Gaita, Richard Glover, Jane Harrison, Anita Heiss, Megan Hess, Nam Le, William McInnes, Suzie Miller, Shelley Parker-Chan, Tracey Spicer, Hedley Thomas, Samuel Watson, Charlotte Wood... the list really does go on. At the risk of stating the obvious, let the program be your guide.



Focus on

# Sing Lit Station



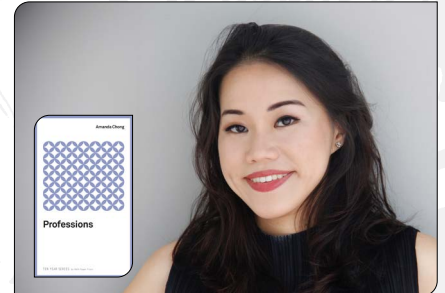
NATIONAL ARTS COUNCIL  
SINGAPORE

## Singapore

We're thrilled to be joined at BWF this year by the authors of Sing Lit Station, bringing us the most dynamic voices in contemporary Singaporean letters. Working across forms and genres, these writers represent the dazzling possibilities of modern writing. In their novels, plays, experimental work and spoken word poetry, Balli Kaur Jaswal, Amanda Chong, Daryl Qilin Yam, Joshua Ip and Shivram Gopinath are breaking new ground; we couldn't be more delighted to have them with us. We suggest you ravage the program index in search of all their sessions. They're not to be missed.

### Amanda Chong

Amanda Chong is a lawyer, poet and playwright who explores themes of gender and power in her work. Her poetry collection, *Professions*, was shortlisted for the Singapore Literature Prize in 2018, and her poetry is studied as part of the Cambridge International GCSE Syllabus. Her plays include the one-woman show *Psychobitch*, which played to sold-out audiences in an extended run (*Wild Rice*, 2023), the musical *The Feelings Farm* (Esplanade Theatres, 2021) and the award-winning *#WomenSupportingWomen* (T:>Works, 2022), which was also staged in Cambridge, UK. Amanda also co-founded a literacy charity, serves as an adviser to the Youth Court and received the Commonwealth Points of Light Award in 2022 from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.



Amanda Chong

### Balli Kaur Jaswal

Balli Kaur Jaswal is the author of five novels, including the internationally bestselling *Erotic Stories for Punjabi Widows*. She was named a Best Young Australian Novelist by *The Sydney Morning Herald* and shortlisted for the Singapore Literature Prize. Her short stories and essays have appeared in the *UK Sunday Express*, *Cosmopolitan Magazine*, *The New York Times*, *Harper's Bazaar* and *Best Australian Short Stories*. Her latest novel, *Now You See Us*, was released in 2023.



Balli Kaur Jaswal

### Daryl Qilin Yam

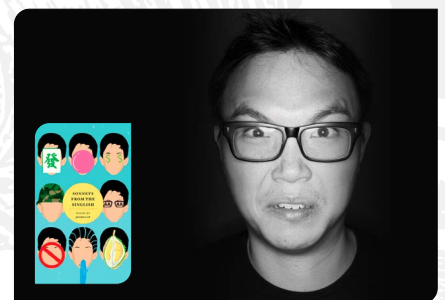
Daryl Qilin Yam (b. 1991) is a writer, editor and arts organiser from Singapore. He is the author of the novella *Shantih Shantih Shantih* (2021), shortlisted for the 2022 Singapore Literature Prize, and the novel *Lovelier, Lonelier* (2021), the Singapore nominee for the 2023 International Dublin Literary Award. He co-founded the literary charity Sing Lit Station. His writing has appeared in periodicals and publications such as the *Berlin Quarterly*, *Mekong Review*, *The Sewanee Review*, *The Straits Times* and *The Epigram Books Collection of Best New Singapore Short Stories* anthology series. His fourth title, *Be Your Own Bae*, is a short story collection forthcoming from Epigram Books in late 2024.



Daryl Qilin Yam

### Joshua Ip

Joshua Ip is a Singaporean poet, editor and literary organiser. He has published six-ish poetry collections, won the Singapore Literature Prize for his debut, *sonnets from the singlish* (Math Paper Press, 2012), and placed in three different categories of the Golden Point Award. His latest collection of anachronistic translations of Tang poetry, *translations to the tanglish*, was published in August 2021. He has edited eleven literary anthologies, including the A Luxury and SingPoWriMo series. He directs Sing Lit Station, an overactive literary charity that runs initiatives including SingPoWriMo, SEAPoWriMo and poetry.sg. He received Singapore's Young Artist Award (2017). [www.joshuaip.com](http://www.joshuaip.com)



Joshua Ip

### Shivram Gopinath

Born in Chennai, India, Shivram Gopinath is a poet who has called Singapore home for more than two decades. He arrived for a business management degree and stayed for the char kway teow. His work has been heard at Singapore Writers Festival, Borobudur Writers and Cultural Festival, Jaipur Literature Festival and more. He teaches workshops structured around poetic identity and is a twice-winning Singapore National Poetry Slam champion. His upcoming book is *Dey* (Ethos, 2024).



Shivram Gopinath

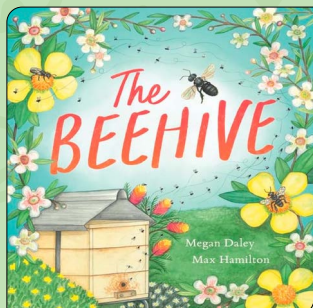
**Sing Lit Station is a registered charity and Institution of Public Character (IPC). Our vision is to be a platform where readers and writers can meet.**

**This program is supported by the National Arts Council Singapore.**



# Families

Sunday morning events for families  
with children aged 5–12



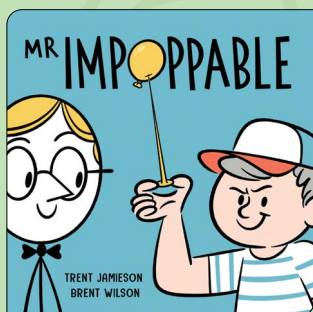
**Megan Daley**

## What's the Buzz About Bees?

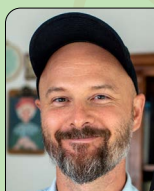
**Megan Daley** (*The Beehive*)

10–11am, Sunday 2 June, slq The Corner

Join author, educator and beekeeper Megan Daley for a nature-based storytime with a focus on those most fabulous of pollinators: bees! We'll learn what the buzz is about bees and why we need to create bee-friendly habitats for Australia's favourite pollinators. Megan will share some information and images about Australian native bees before reading her picture book *The Beehive*, illustrated by Max Hamilton. Then we're going to bee crafty and create a variety of bee-ish artworks. This session is best suited to young people aged 5–12 years and their bee-loving adults.



**Trent Jamieson**



**Brent Wilson**

## Pop Story

**Trent Jamieson & Brent Wilson** (*Mr Impoppable*)

11:30am–12:30pm, Sunday 2 June, slq The Corner

Where do books come from? Creative team Brent Wilson and Trent Jamieson discuss *Mr Impoppable*. They'll talk about transforming a silly story into a work of pop art, what it takes to make a book, what they're working on next, and what to do if you want to write and/or illustrate your own adventure. Bring your story brains and your art fingers and get ready for some fun!

2 minutes from SLQ

12 Restaurants, 10 Bars  
5 Dessert Spots, 4 Cafés

FISH  
LANE

ARTS  
PRECINCT

# Word Play

30-31 May, 10am–2pm,  
State Library of Queensland

Proudly supported by **The University of Queensland**.

**Word Play** is BWF's schools program, celebrating reading, writing and storytelling for students in Prep – Year 12.

Word Play tickets are available for purchase online at [bwf.org.au](http://bwf.org.au) or over the phone on **07 3216 0694**. Tickets sell quickly, so book early to secure a place for your students. See page 18 for pricing and page 38 for the **Word Play** timetable.



## Remy Lai

**Surviving the Wild**  
| Early Grades

10–11am,  
Thursday 30 May,  
slq Auditorium 1

### Remy Lai

Join Remy Lai as she shows you how to

draw animals from her *Surviving the Wild* graphic novel series and shares with you some amazing animal facts!

**Ghost Book | Middle Grades**

1pm–2pm, Thursday 30 May, slq Auditorium 2

Join Remy Lai as she introduces you to her graphic novel *Ghost Book* and shows you how to draw emotions in comics.

## Zanni Louise

**Home Is Where the Heart Is** | Middle Grades

10–11am, Thursday 30 May,  
slq Auditorium 2

In 2020, Zanni Louise's family had to leave their rental, stay with friends and move seven times over a summer. The seed was planted for Zanni's first novel, *Queenie in Seven Moves*. Her latest novel, *Cora Seen and Heard*, is set in a decrepit rural theatre – Cora's dad's Grand Designs dream project. Meanwhile, she undergoes her own renovation project: becoming Cora 2.0. Zanni takes readers on a journey through making a book and learning to write from the heart while exploring themes such as coping with change and resilience. Kids will also learn how to write their own song, inspired by the characters in Zanni's novels.

**Learning to Fly | Early Grades**

1pm–2pm, Thursday 30 May,  
slq Auditorium 1

Have you ever wanted to fly? In this presentation, Zanni takes kids through the magic of storytelling and shows that with persistence, courage and imagination, we can learn to fly like Pegasus, cartwheel down hills, play for the Matildas and maybe even write our own book...

## Mike Barry

**Make Your First Graphic Novel** | Middle Grades

10–11am, Thursday 30 May,  
Queensland Terrace (slq)

Ever wanted to make your own comic book or graphic novel? Join Mike Barry, author and illustrator of the critically acclaimed *Action Tank* graphic novel series, as he shares the amazing story of how he got started, how he keeps going and what he's learnt along the way.

**Supported by Dan Seed**

## Amie Kaufman

**Everyday Magic | Older Grades**

10–11am, Thursday 30 May,  
The Edge Auditorium (slq)  
10–11am, Friday 31 May,  
slq Auditorium 1

Journey inside a writer's mind with bestselling author Amie Kaufman. Drawing on her experience writing more than twenty science fiction and fantasy novels, Amie will share how she finds the magic in life's everyday details and teach students to transform the way they see the world around them. They'll leave ready to turn their experiences into storytelling magic.



Charlotte Barkla

## Charlotte Barkla

**Stepping Through Time** | Early Grades

11:30am–12:30pm,  
Thursday 30 May,  
slq Auditorium 1

1–2pm, Friday 31 May,  
slq Auditorium 2

Journey back in time to the turn of the twentieth century. Explore Australia in 1900, from the different foods, schools and transport to the changes happening in wider society, such as the suffragist movement. Learn how authors use real stories from history to inspire their words and delicately balance fact and fiction. Charlotte will leave students with plenty of techniques for writing their own stories as well as

inspiring them to use their voices to mould the future.

## Peter Carnavas

**Space, Soccer and Alien Friends** | Middle Grades

11:30am–12:30pm, Thursday 30 May,  
slq Auditorium 2

Get ready to explore *Leo and Ralph*, a story about a curious boy, a spaceship in the shape of a soccer ball and the best friend you could ever imagine.

## Sarah Armstrong

**Writing Magic | Middle Grades**

11:30am–12:30pm, Thursday 30 May,  
Queensland Terrace (slq)

Using her magical middle-grade duology of *Big Magic* and *Magic Awry*, Sarah shares her inspiration for these books. She takes students behind the scenes of building the magical world of the series, creating magical characters and the research involved. Along the way, she shares the writer's life and some super practical writing tips. She describes her journey from ABC journalist to novelist for adults before she found her home writing for kids. And, because *Big Magic* and *Magic Awry* are set in the circus, there will be a little bit of circus fun!

## Tristan Bancks

**Vision Boarding (Or Writing as a Contact Sport)** | Older Grades

11:30am–12:30pm, Thursday 30 May,  
The Edge Auditorium (slq)

11:30am–12:30pm, Friday 31 May,  
slq Auditorium 1

From soundtracks to storyboarding, movie trailers to animation, writing a book can be a totally 3D experience. See author Tristan Bancks' Vision Board, which helped him create his crime–mystery novels *Two Wolves*, *The Fall*, *Detention*, *Cop & Robber* and *Scar Town*. Learn how you can fuse TV, the web, video, music, maps, apps and old-fashioned books to write your own extraordinary stories. Tristan's background is in acting and filmmaking



and this talk brings his stories to life in exciting ways, taking you on a transmedia tour behind the scenes of the writing process for his award-winning books. Full of laughs and inspiration to read and create.

## Jordan Gould & Richard Pritchard

**Creativity and Culture | Middle Grades**

**1–2pm, Thursday 30 May, Queensland Terrace (slq)**

**10–11am, Friday 31 May, The Edge Auditorium (slq)**

Discover *Wylah the Koorie Warrior* with creators Jordan Gould and Richard Pritchard as they share their journey, merging autism and culture into a bestselling book series. Richard will also present a live interactive drawing session to design a Megabeast for the next book and 'Wylah Megabeast Trading Card Game!'

## Nova Weetman

**From Memoir to Historical Fiction: How real people can prompt stories | Older Grades**

**1–2pm, Thursday 30 May, The Edge Auditorium (slq)**

In this session, Nova Weetman will share how she has used real people and events when writing books for young adults and middle-grade readers. Focusing on her YA book *Everything Is Changed*, which is based on a real event, and two historical middle-grade novels, *Outlaw Girls* and *Elsewhere Girls*, Nova will talk about the research involved in using real figures from history and how important it is to get it right. Nova will also touch on the ethics involved in writing about your own life in memoir. Aimed at students in lower–middle secondary.



## Katrina Nannestad

**Having Fun with Stories | Early Grades**

**10–11am, Friday 31 May, slq Auditorium 2**

**Katrina Nannestad**

A fun, interactive session during which Katrina will share her passion for writing and some easy-to-use techniques that will help students when writing their own stories. There will be dress-ups, readings and giggles involved!

## Bringing History Alive | Middle Grades

**1–2pm, Friday 31 May, The Edge Auditorium (slq)**

During this interactive session, Katrina will talk about the true stories that have inspired her historical novels and the exciting but sometimes tricky process of researching and writing. Students will participate in activities designed to bring aspects of each novel alive.

## Trevor Fourmile

**Cultural Storytelling | Early Grades**

**11:30am–12:30pm, Friday 31 May, slq Auditorium 2**

Cultural storytelling is a powerful means of preserving heritage, sharing experiences and fostering understanding.

This workshop aims to explore the art of cultural storytelling, providing participants with the tools and techniques to tell compelling stories that celebrate and honour different First Nations cultures. Through a series of interactive exercises, discussions and storytelling sessions, participants will learn how to craft narratives that resonate with audiences while also gaining a deeper appreciation for the richness and diversity of First Nations peoples.



**Morris Gleitzman**

## Morris Gleitzman

**Tweet | Middle Grades**

**11:30am–12:30pm, Friday 31 May, The Edge Auditorium (slq)**

A boy and his beloved budgie are thrust into an epic adventure that could change everything. Absolutely everything.

Join Morris Gleitzman as he talks about his new book *Tweet*, including behind-the-scenes moments never before revealed. Morris will also show how some of the creative strategies he used in the book can help you fly high with your own story writing.

## Carl Merrison & Hakea Hustler

**Writing Suspense | Older Grades**

**1–2pm, Friday 31 May, slq Auditorium 1**

In this workshop, authors Carl Merrison and Hakea Hustler guide participants in the process of writing suspense. Participants will learn about descriptive

language, hooks, cliffhangers, sentence types, onomatopoeia, perspective and dialogue to create suspenseful writing pieces of their own.

### While you're here

Explore the State Library while you're visiting for Word Play. Check out the State Library 'School visits' page for more information on self-guided tours, treasure hunts or booking a class study space for use between sessions.

[slq.qld.gov.au/get-involved/learning/school-visits](http://slq.qld.gov.au/get-involved/learning/school-visits)

## Microfiction Competition

Presented in partnership with **The University of Queensland**

Calling all young writers! BWF and UQ present the annual schools' microfiction competition, open to Queensland-based students. The 2024 prompt is...

### Transformation

You are invited to respond to the prompt in no more than 120 words, using any written format (verse/prose). Shortlisted entrants will be invited to present a reading of their microfiction at the awards ceremony during the festival. The winner will receive a book pack for their school and a cash prize: \$1,000 for the senior category and \$500 for the junior category.

To enter, visit [bwf.org.au/microfiction](http://bwf.org.au/microfiction)

## Microfiction Readings & Awards Ceremony

**2:30–3:30pm, Thursday 30 May, slq Auditorium 2**

All are welcome for the awards ceremony, which features readings of shortlisted and winning entries and is presented by guest judge and middle-grade author Sarah Armstrong.

# Love YA

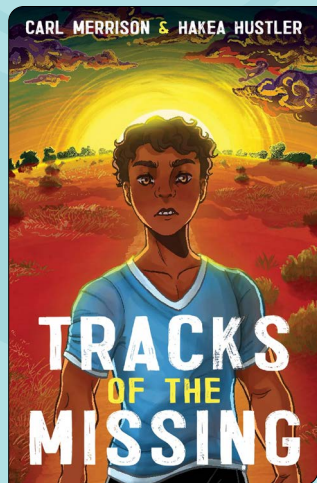
Saturday 1 June,  
Brisbane Square Library

Free Events

A full day of free programming especially for fans of young adult fiction.

Presented in partnership with **Brisbane City Council Libraries** and **Griffith University**.

Hosted by the **2024 Youth Ambassadors**: Jodey, Celine, Josephine and Alex.



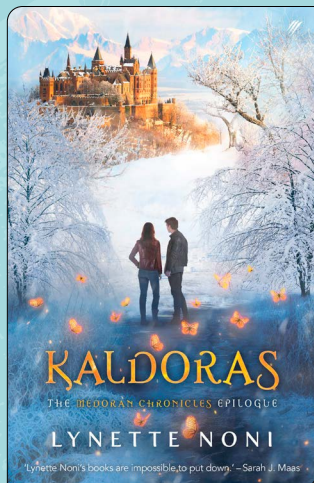
## Masters of Suspense

Amy Doak (*Eleanor Jones Is Not a Murderer*), Tristan Banks (*Scar Town*), Carl Merrison & Hakea Hustler (*Tracks of the Missing*).

Chair: Genevieve Kruyssen

10am–11am

From Nancy Drew to *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time*, the young adult mystery is a genre staple. These fabulous authors discuss the art of suspense, how they keep readers on the edge of their seats and what it takes to create an iconic bad guy.



## Return to Medora

Lynette Noni in conversation with Jeann Campillo

11:30am–12:30pm

With 2015's *Arkarnae*, Lynette Noni introduced countless readers to the magical world of Medora, with its colourful characters and enchanting Arkarnae Academy.

In *Kaldoras*, Alexandra Jennings returns for the series' stunning epilogue – a spellbinding finish to a much-loved fantasy epic. Join Noni in conversation with Jeann Campillo as she discusses the bittersweetness of returning to Medora and leaving this amazing world behind.



## It's Completely Normal to Never Speak of This Again (and Other Lies)

Megan Williams (*Let's Never Speak of This Again*), Biffy James (*Completely Normal (and Other Lies)*)

Chair: Jane Sullivan

1–2pm

Growing up is hard, but reading these sensitive, melancholy books is like talking to a friend who's seen it all. Megan Williams and Biffy James discuss writing the delicate balance of loss and hopefulness, how we're shaped by our troubles and the importance of coming to terms with grief.



## Digging into the Lore

Amie Kaufman (*The Isles of the Gods*), Sydney Khoo (*The Spider and Her Demons*), CS Pacat (*Dark Heir*).

Chair: Rhianna Patrick

2:30pm–3:30pm

These writers may make fantasy look effortless, but building a whole new world is anything but easy. Bringing their very different perspectives to research and worldbuilding, these authors talk about their mythic inspirations, and the invisible work that goes into writing that leaps off the page.

Books will be available for sale and each panel will be followed by book signings.

To register for these free events, visit [bwf.org.au/loveya](http://bwf.org.au/loveya)



**POWERHOUSE  
TALKS  
AUTUMN**



**23 APR**

**ROSIE BATTY**  
HOPE



**11 APR**

**BRI LEE**  
THE WORK



**14 APR**

**JIM MOGINIE**  
IN CONVERSATION  
AND SONG



**28 APR**

**CLAIRE KEEGAN**  
SMALL THINGS  
LIKE THESE

Brisbane Powerhouse is the home of stories this Autumn.  
Dive into our lineup of storytellers and prize winning authors.

**BRISBANE  
POWERHOUSE**



# Thursday 30 May

## First Word Opening Address

FREE  
EVENT

Keynote by **Melissa Lucashenko**  
4–5pm, Thursday 30 May,  
Queensland Terrace (slq)

Join Miles Franklin award winner Melissa Lucashenko, author of *Edenglassie*, *Mullumbimby* and *Too Much Lip*, for the official opening and keynote address of the 2024 Brisbane Writers Festival.

Supported by **The University of Queensland**

## Kate Ceberano: *Unsung*

In Conversation with **Frances Whiting**  
5:30–6:30pm, Thursday 30 May,  
slq Auditorium 1

Aussie music icon Kate Ceberano celebrates creativity in this reflective and romantic memoir, replete with her paintings, lyrics and embroidery. Embracing the silence of the pandemic to consider how we make art and connect through music, Ceberano gives new expression to her extraordinary voice.

## 'A Succulent Chinese Meal': *Carnage* by Mark Dapin

In Conversation with **Phil Brown**  
5:30–6:30pm, Thursday 30 May,  
slq Auditorium 2

The man, the meme, the legend: what inspired the infamous quotes 'This is democracy manifest!' and 'What is the charge?' Mark Dapin delves into the mystery of Australia's most infamous viral video of a man arrested in Fortitude Valley while trying to enjoy a succulent Chinese meal; what he discovered will shock you.

## Naomi Novik: *The Scholomance Series*

SPECIAL  
EVENT

In Conversation with **Amie Kaufman**  
5:30–6:30pm, Thursday 30 May,  
The Edge Auditorium (slq)

From the fabulous alternate history of *Temeraire* to her dazzling reworkings of folklore in *Uprooted* and *Spinning Silver*, Naomi Novik has astonished readers with her brilliant imagination and vivid characters. In conversation with Amie

Kaufman, Novik discusses her latest work, the *Scholomance* trilogy: a magical school story resplendent with monsters and myth.

## Shauna Bostock: *Reaching Through Time*

FREE  
EVENT



Shauna Bostock

### Solo Presentation

5:30–6:30pm,  
Thursday 30 May,  
kuril dhagun (slq)

Both a meticulous history and an intensely personal reflection on complex origins, *Reaching Through*

*Time* chronicles Bundjalung woman Shauna Bostock's efforts to assemble a complete picture of a story long kept in the shadows.

## Fiona Crawford: *The Matilda Effect*

In Conversation with **Maureen Engel**  
7–8pm, Thursday 30 May,  
slq Auditorium 1

With their extraordinary tilt at the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup, the Matildas demolished every preconception about women's sports, breaking viewership records and winning the hearts of Aussies. Fiona Crawford examines *The Matilda Effect* – the long, often infuriating journey of women's football from the margins to the mainstream, and how Sam Kerr and the girls have changed the game.

## Body and Mind

Matt Levy, OAM (*Going the Distance*),  
Carly-Jay Metcalfe (*Breath*), Anna  
Jacobson (*How to Knit a Human*).

Chair: Sarah Klenbort  
7–8pm, Thursday 30 May,  
slq Auditorium 2



Matt Levy, OAM

These extraordinary writers document the relationship between mind and body: what it means to be beholden to our flesh and how we can navigate the demands of physicality and consciousness.

## International Crime

Michael Connelly (*Resurrection Walk*), Louise Doughty (*A Bird in Winter*), Dann McDorman (*West Heart Kill*). Chair: Mirandi Riwoe

7–8pm, Thursday 30 May,  
The Edge Auditorium (slq)

Join us for the ultimate game of [redacted]: three international authors, in the library, with one of Australia's finest. Whether you're an aficionado of hardboiled crime, espionage or metafictional mystery, you'll kill for a seat at this criminally intriguing session.

## Sarah Ogilvie: *The Dictionary People*

In Conversation with **Sarah Kanowski**  
7–8pm, Thursday 30 May,  
Queensland Terrace (slq)

Who knew the dictionary could make for such gripping reading? Oxford academic Sarah Ogilvie breathes vivid life into the tale of how the Oxford English Dictionary was created. Join Ogilvie and leading broadcaster Sarah Kanowski in exploring the strange tales of contributors, the unexpected origins of words and the fascinating cultural milieu from which the dictionary emerged.

## Lubly Stories

Anita Heiss, Melanie Saward.  
Chair: Cheryl Leavy

7–8pm, Thursday 30 May,  
kuril dhagun (slq)

FREE  
EVENT



Anita Heiss



Cheryl Leavy

Blak love is deadly, so why aren't there more Blak romance novels? Join Anita Heiss and Melanie Saward as they discuss Blak love and the romance genre.

Curated by **Melanie Saward**



# Friday 31 May

## Pitch Perfect

Panelists: Kate Ceberano (*Unsung*), Stuart Coupe (*Shake Some Action*), GS Dickson (*A Minor Fifth*).

Chair: Noel Mengel

10–11 am, Friday 31 May, Queensland Terrace (slq)

Tune in to this melodious conversation on the ineffable magic of music – playing it, living it and writing about it. From the memoir of a living legend to a wild rock'n'roll ride to a gripping industry satire, these books hit all the right notes.

Supported by Copyright Agency

## Jayne Persian: *Fascists in Exile: Post-War Displaced Persons in Australia*

In Conversation with Anthony Cooper

10–11 am, Friday 31 May, The Studio (slq)

The unbelievable forgotten history of exiled fascists resettled in Australia after World War II, Jayne Persian's fascinating book explores the impact of these characters on the trajectory of postwar politics – a phenomenon well documented in other parts of the world but with which Australia has barely begun to reckon.

## Historical Fiction

Heather Morris (*Sisters Under the Rising Sun*), Mirandi Riwoe (*Sunbirds*), Melissa Ashley (*The Naturalist of Amsterdam*), Christine Wells (*The Royal Windsor Secret*). Chair: Melanie Myers

11:30am–12:30pm, Friday 31 May, Queensland Terrace (slq)



Mirandi Riwoe

Expertly drawing us into the past, these novels recreate bygone eras with cutting-edge precision. Whether it's the glamorous ballrooms of English society or the complex milieu of a colonial tea plantation, these books shed brilliant light on the shadowy corners of history.

## Young and Deadly

Graham Akhurst (*Borderland*), Melanie Saward (*Burn*). Chair: Raelee Lancaster

11:30am–12:30pm, Friday 31 May, kuril dhagun (slq)



Graham Akhurst

Our teenage years are rich territory that writers often draw upon for their work. Join Graham Akhurst and Melanie Saward as they discuss the parts of their childhoods they've mined for stories and how they hope their work will reach our deadly young ones.

Curated by Melanie Saward

## Translation

Nam Le (*36 Ways of Writing a Vietnamese Poem*), Jennifer Croft (*The Extinction of Irena Rey*), Joshua Ip (*translations to the tanglish*). Chair: Pascale Burton

11:30am–12:30pm, Friday 31 May, The Studio (slq)

Exploring the ways meaning is transformed at the borders of language and culture, these authors consider what is revealed by the art of translation.

Supported by Copyright Agency

## Michael Connelly: *Resurrection Walk*

In Conversation with Chris Hammer

11:30am–12:30pm, Friday 31 May, Concert Hall, The Old Museum

Superstar Michael Connelly discusses the latest exploits of his two most enduring characters, Harry Bosch and Mickey Haller, in the latest installment of *The Lincoln Lawyer* series. An ingeniously gritty blend of police procedural and courtroom drama, *Resurrection Walk* is another indelible mystery from the genre's modern master.

FREE  
EVENT

## Quentin Beresford: *Rogue Corporations*



Quentin Beresford

In Conversation with Jen Bowden

1–2pm, Friday 31 May, slq Auditorium 1

Quentin Beresford has built a career on hard-hitting writing on controversial contemporary issues informed by his deep knowledge of politics. His latest book, *Rogue Corporations*, is a damning examination of corporate culture run amok, examining the countless business scandals of recent years and the forces that enable and empower bad actors.

## Anthologising and Editing

Megan Daley (*Teacher, Teacher*), Samantha Faulkner (*Growing Up Torres Strait Islander in Australia*), Scott Stephens (*ABC Religion & Ethics online*), Matthew Wengert (*Brisbane Bookshops*). Chair: Edwina Shaw

1–2pm, Friday 31 May, The Studio (slq)



Scott Stephens

Weaving together intimate personal accounts, oral histories and moral philosophy, these editors discuss the subtle art of anthologising – how, through multiple voices and perspectives, we can arrive at a fuller picture of the whole.

## Jake Adelstein: *Tokyo Vice*

In Conversation with Matthew Condon

2:30–3:30pm, Friday 31 May, slq Auditorium 1

Since his early days as an intrepid reporter, Jake Adelstein has been crafting a career as the Virgil of Tokyo's criminal underworld. Here, Adelstein discusses the incredible events behind *Tokyo Vice*, his memoir turned silver screen hit, in conversation with a man who knows a thing or two about organised crime: Brisbane's own Matthew Condon.

### Nam Le: *36 Ways of Writing a Vietnamese Poem*



Nam Le

In Conversation with Janaka Malwatta  
2:30–3:30pm, Friday 31 May, slq Auditorium 2

From the celebrated author of *The Boat* comes this exquisite collection of poetry, wherein Nam Le reflects on his experience of diaspora. Considering life between cultures, this lushly lyrical work is an extraordinary reckoning with identity and language.

### Gothic Tales

Naomi Novik (*Uprooted*), AG Slatter (*The Briar Book of the Dead*), Kathleen Jennings (*Kindling: Stories*). Chair: Shelley Parker-Chan

2:30–3:30pm, Friday 31 May, The Edge Auditorium (slq)

Delectable darkness is great fantasy's secret ingredient. These authors examine the allure of the gothic, how its motifs give shape to our most unsettling impulses, and the friction between escapism and a good scare.

### Keri Kitay: *The Long Goodbye: Lessons on Humanity from the Grips of Alzheimer's*



Keri Kitay

In Conversation with Dr Fiona Robertson  
2:30–3:30pm, Friday 31 May, Queensland Terrace (slq)

This heartrending memoir tells a story familiar to the 1.6 million Australians caring for someone with dementia. With compassion and grace, Keri Kitay recounts the experience of losing her mother twice – first to the diagnosis of early onset Alzheimer's disease, and again with her passing in 2019.

### A Life in Music: *Shake Some Action* by Stuart Coupe

In Conversation with Andrew Stafford  
2:30–3:30pm, Friday 31 May, The Studio (slq)

A music memoir of epic proportions, *Shake Some Action* chronicles Stuart Coupe's career across every facet of the music industry: as a reviewer, record label founder and manager for luminaries such as Paul Kelly. Above all, it's a love letter to a lifelong obsession, an ode to a mad passion turned brilliant career.

### Chris Hammer: *The Seven*



Chris Hammer

In Conversation with Sally Piper  
4–5pm, Friday 31 May, slq Auditorium 1

*Scrublands* proclaimed Chris Hammer the new master of rural noir. His latest novel, *The Seven*, is a propulsive thriller set among the hermetic elite of Yuwonderie, whose founding families conceal a century of secrets. Brilliantly plotted and vividly characterised, *The Seven* is a dark treat for crime aficionados.

Supported by QBD Books

### Hillsong Scandal: *Mine Is the Kingdom* by David Hardaker

In Conversation with Martine Kropkowski  
4–5pm, Friday 31 May, slq Auditorium 2

From Pentecostal congregation to hipster megachurch, the story of Hillsong and its erstwhile leader, Brian Houston, is something of a parable itself. Years of investigation by David Hardaker have unearthed the corruption and hypocrisy undergirding the feel-good religion, documented here in this searing exposé.

### Katy Hessel: *The Story of Art Without Men*

In Conversation with Alison Kubler



Katy Hessel



Alison Kubler

4–5pm, Friday 31 May, The Edge Auditorium (slq)

Katy Hessel's podcast *The Great Women Artists* has catalogued centuries of extraordinary and often overlooked talent, and *The Story of Art Without Men*

is an invaluable extension of that project: an immaculately detailed study replete with high-quality reproductions. Join Katy and VAULT Editor Alison Kubler as they consider the women that art history forgot, ignored or erased.

### Faber Literary Salon

4–5pm, Friday 31 May, Queensland Terrace (slq)

FREE EVENT

Join the Faber Writing Academy for the launch of the 2023 Faber Writing Anthology, hosted by Sam Twyford-Moore and featuring readings by students from Brisbane. The Faber Writing Academy offers an annual program of exciting writing courses presented by Allen & Unwin and the prestigious publisher Faber & Faber.

Supported by Faber Writing Academy

### The Art of the Short Story

John Morrissey (*Firelight*), Simon Groth (*Ephemeral City*), John Richards (*The Gorgon Flower*). Chair: Laura Elvery

4–5pm, Friday 31 May, The Studio (slq)

The delicate balance between a vivid image and what remains hidden is the tension that animates short stories. These writers discuss the complexities of crafting narratives in miniature and the art of satisfying readers while simultaneously leaving them longing for more.

### Megan Hess: *Grace Kelly: The Illustrated World of a Fashion Icon*

In Conversation with Rachel Burke



Megan Hess



Rachel Burke

5:30–6:30pm, Friday 31 May, slq Auditorium 1

Iconic in the literal sense, the glittering images of Megan Hess are synonymous with fashion. Playful, elegant and rendered with her signature Montblanc pen, Megan's new book is a dazzling recreation of the timeless style of Grace Kelly. She's in conversation with multidisciplinary artist, designer and author, Rachel Burke.



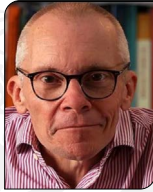
## Political Prisoners

Ma Thida (*Prisoner of Conscience, A-Maze*), Sean Turnell (*An Unlikely Prisoner*)

Chair: Ian Kemish



Ma Thida



Sean Turnell

5:30–6:30pm, Friday 31 May, slq Auditorium 2

These two extraordinary memoirs explore the realities of political dissidence and the sacrifices we make in the pursuit of freedom. Imprisoned for six years by the Burmese military, Ma Thida's extraordinary account of her life as an activist in a totalitarian regime is a call to courage; Sean Turnell's story of surviving 650 days in Myanmar's notorious Insein Prison on trumped-up charges of being a spy is a testament to the indomitable nature of the human spirit.

Supported by PEN Sydney

## Hard Boiled

Michael Connelly (*Resurrection Walk*), Bryan Brown (*The Drowning*), Dinuka McKenzie (*Tipping Point*). Chair: Ron Serdiuk

5:30–6:30pm, Friday 31 May, The Edge Auditorium (slq)

The gritty allure of classic crime is nowhere more evident than in the hands of these phenomenal writers. Responding to and reinventing archetypes, these authors draw us into the dark underbellies of the everyday.

## Poetry Salon:

### All I Have Is a Voice



Kent MacCarter

Jarad Bruinstroop, Anna Jacobson, Kent MacCarter, Svetlana Sterlin, Joshua Ip, Shivram Gopinath, Amanda Chong. Emcee: Mindy Gill

5:30–6:30pm, Friday 31 May, Queensland Terrace (slq)

This show-stopping literary salon features poetry readings and performances from an incredible line-up of dynamic local, national and international voices. Enjoy pure poetry in motion in the fine company of these award-winning wordsmiths.

## Prof. Andrew Gunstone: Reflections on the Voice: During and After the Campaign

In Conversation with Dr Jackie Huggins AM FAHA



Prof. Andrew Gunstone



Dr Jackie Huggins AM FAHA

5:30–6:30pm, Friday 31 May, kuril dhagun (slq)

Professor Andrew Gunstone reflects on Australia's 2023 Voice referendum and the way forward for reconciliation. This important conversation with esteemed First Nations leader Dr Jackie Huggins AM FAHA will explore the politics of the campaign, the nature of public discourse and the implications for Treaty and Truth-Telling.

## What Publishers Want

Anita Heiss (*Publisher at Large, Simon & Schuster*), Samuel Bernard (*Literary Agent, Zeitgeist Agency*), Terri-ann White (*Publisher, Upswell Publishing*), Ben Aitchison (*Proprietor, Paradigm*). Contributing Chair: Alexandra Payne (*Publisher, Murdoch Books*)

5:30–6:30pm, Friday 31 May, The Studio (slq)

Disruptors and veterans of the publishing industry consider the constantly changing landscape of literature, how recent years have created space for new voices and perspectives, and the art of anticipating readers' tastes.

## Bit of Advice

Dr Gina Cleo (*The Habit Revolution*), Dr Rebecca Ray (*Difficult People*), David Gillespie (*Toxic at Work*), Nova Gibson (*Fake Love*). Chair: Warren Ward

7–8pm, Friday 31 May, slq Auditorium 1



Dr Gina Cleo

We all know difficult people – and sometimes, those difficult people are the ones we see in the mirror. But there are times when we need help to identify and manage narcissistic abusers, interfering relatives and psychopathic workmates. These authors discuss how we can modify our mindset, adapt communication styles and take practical steps towards improving our quality of life.

## Rachelle Unreich: A Brilliant Life: My Mother's Inspiring Story of Surviving the Holocaust

In Conversation with Scott Stephens  
7–8pm, Friday 31 May, slq Auditorium 2

Bringing to bear journalistic experience and a daughter's love, Rachelle Unreich tells the story of her mother, Mira – a Holocaust survivor who, throughout her extraordinary life, insisted on the fundamental goodness of human beings. Blending family and global history, this is a moving account of love and resilience.

## Hedley Thomas:

### The Teacher's Pet

In Conversation with Matthew Condon  
7–8pm, Friday 31 May, The Edge Auditorium (slq)

Adapted from the award-winning podcast that reignited police efforts into a long-abandoned cold case, *The Teacher's Pet* is a searing investigation of a terrible crime and the cultural attitudes that enabled its perpetrator.

## Australian Cinema: Cast Mates by Sam Twyford-Moore



Sam Twyford-Moore

In Conversation with Anthony Mullins  
7–8pm, Friday 31 May, Queensland Terrace (slq)

The stars are out in Sam Twyford-Moore's wryly romantic history of Australian cinema.

From the very first feature film, 1906's *The Story of the Kelly Gang*, to that hot guy who went to Nudgee, Twyford-Moore's map to the stars is a delectable slice of social history.

## Woven

Samuel Watson, Sigbjørn Skåden, Anne-Marie Te Whiu (ed.)

7–8pm, Friday 31 May, kuril dhagun (slq)



Anne-Marie Te Whiu

Anne-Marie Te Whiu speaks with poetic collaborators Samuel Watson and Sigbjørn Skåden whose poem features in *Woven*, an anthology featuring co-created works by First Nations writers from Australia and around the world.

FREE  
EVENT



## Family Ties

Nova Weetman (*Love, Death & Other Scenes*), Lamisse Hamouda with Hazem Hamouda (*The Shape of Dust*), Kerstin Pilz (*Loving My Lying, Dying, Cheating Husband*). Chair: Edwina Shaw



Hazem and Lamisse Hamouda

Kerstin Pilz

7–8pm, Friday 31 May, The Studio (slq)

The complexities of family life, within and without, are the subject of these extraordinary books. Writing with grace, love and honesty, these authors contemplate how tragedy brings families together, even when life pulls them apart.

## Marion Taylor Gala

Keynote by Louise Doughty

7–10pm, Friday 31 May, QAGOMA Water Mall

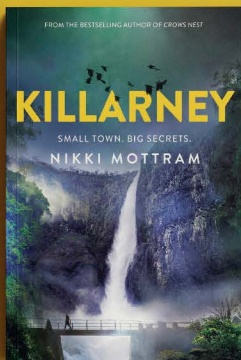
A very special event in the stunning QAGOMA Water Mall, the Marion Taylor Gala is an evening of fine dining, sparkling atmosphere and thought-provoking speech. This year, the wonderful Louise Doughty talks about books and television dramas and how storytelling at its best not only grips us, but unites us all in solidarity and compassion.

Supported by the Taylor family

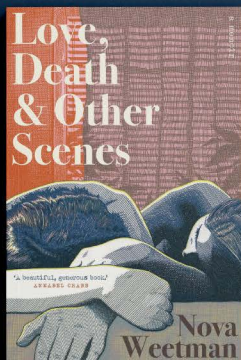
SPECIAL EVENT



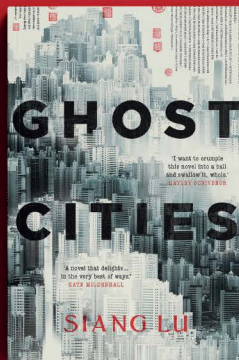
Man-Booker Prize Winner Shehan Karunatilaka delivers the Marion Taylor Gala keynote speech, 2023.



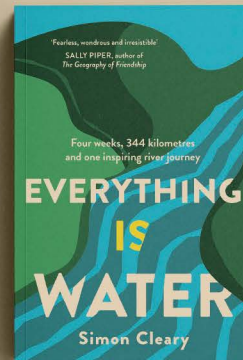
Queensland crime fiction



Moving reflections on love and loss

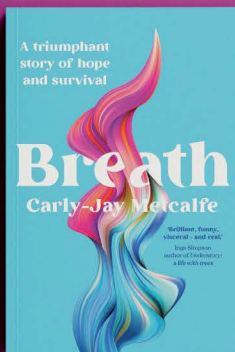


Satirical fiction

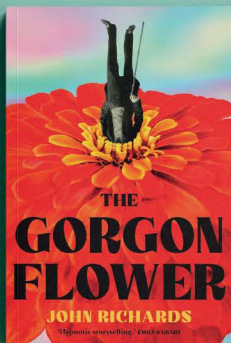


A journey along the Brisbane River

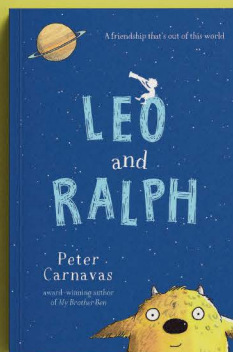
Inspiring memoir



Gothic short stories



Feel good middle-grade novel



Discover your next favourite read from the 2023 Small Publisher of the Year



# Saturday 1 June

## On the Basis of Sex

Suzie Miller (*RBG: Of Many, One*), Katy Hessel (*The Story of Art Without Men*), Amy Remeikis (*On Reckoning*), Balli Kaur Jaswal (*Erotic Stories for Punjabi Widows*). Chair: Christine Jackman

10–11am, Saturday 1 June,  
slq Auditorium 1



Amy Remeikis

Overlooked, overworked and over it...these writers consider the expectations forced upon women, how far the feminist movement has come and how much further there is still to go. In law, art, family and politics, these books make the case for how women can assert their strength.

## John Blaxland and Clare Birgin: *Revealing Secrets*

Chair: Anthony Cooper

10–11am, Saturday 1 June,  
slq Auditorium 2

Drawing from immense historical resources, Blaxland and Birgin take us inside the secretive walls of Australia's signals intelligence services. Chronicling the history of the service and the unique challenges facing the intelligence community in the digital age, this is a fascinating account of the realities of espionage.

Note: John Blaxland is appearing via Zoom

## Julia Baird:

### *Bright Shining: How Grace Changes Everything*



Julia Baird

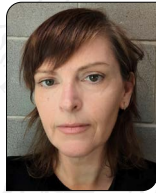
In Conversation with Ashley Hay  
10–11am,  
Saturday 1 June,  
The Edge Auditorium (slq)

A stirring meditation on the nature of spirit in a secular world, *Bright Shining* elegantly makes the case for grace. Drawing on reportage and personal philosophy, Julia Baird examines the scarcity and significance of this ephemeral virtue.

Image: Alex Vaughan

## Patricia Callan:

### *The New Modernist House*



Patricia Callan

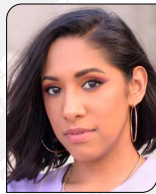
In Conversation with David Ellison  
10–11am,  
Saturday 1 June,  
Queensland Terrace (slq)

If you, like the BWF team, are a compulsive collector of mid-century furniture, don't miss this session with Patricia Callan, who literally wrote the book on modernist houses. Considering how these iconic homes might be restored and renovated while preserving their original character, *The New Modernist House* features stunning designs by premier architects, updated with a twenty-first-century gloss.

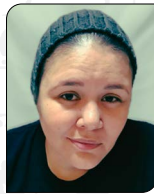
## From Pipe Dreams to Big Screens

FREE  
EVENT

Douglas Watkin, Shontell Ketchell, Danielle Ah Boo. Chair: Laila Thaker



Laila Thaker



Shontell Ketchell

10–11am, Saturday 1 June,  
kuril dhagun (slq)

Award-winning Torres Strait Islander screenwriters, directors and filmmakers let us in on the challenges and triumphs of bringing our stories to the small and big screens.

Curated by Lenora Thaker

## Supernatural Thrills



John Morrissey

Chris Womersley (*Ordinary Gods and Monsters*), John Morrissey (*Firelight*), SE Tolsen (*Bunny*), Troy Henderson (*Head Grenade*). Chair: Helen Marshall

10–11am, Saturday 1 June,  
The Studio (slq)

Malevolent spirits and inexplicable coincidences haunt these twisty psychological thrillers, with their unsettling suggestions that reality is not always what it seems.

## Melissa Lucashenko:

### *Edenglassie*

In Conversation with Kristina Olsson  
11:30am–12:30pm, Saturday 1 June,  
slq Auditorium 1

Miles Franklin winner Melissa Lucashenko returns with a magisterial epic that moves between nineteenth- and twenty-first-century Meanjin. Winding and unravelling time, Lucashenko brings her signature tragicomic perspective to a tale full of tenderness and brutality, its dual narratives bound into a single, luminous story.

## Raimond Gaita:

### *Justice and Hope*

In Conversation with Richard King

11:30am–12:30pm, Saturday 1 June,  
slq Auditorium 2

From his work as a moral philosopher to his exquisite memoir *Romulus, My Father*, Raimond Gaita has chronicled the human condition with rare grace and erudition. *Justice and Hope*, edited by Scott Stephens, is the definitive volume of Gaita's writing, an elegant paean to the art of conversation and how, through dialogue with each other, we might find the truth of who we are.

## Gabbie Stroud:

### *The Things That Matter Most*



Gabbie Stroud

In Conversation with Rebecca Sparrow and Jane Sullivan

11:30am–12:30pm,  
Saturday 1 June,  
The Edge Auditorium (slq)

Elaborating on the themes of her superb memoir *Teacher*, Gabbie Stroud's debut novel is the wise and heartfelt story of St Margaret's College: a school community in crisis and the staff and students swept along by the current. Written with deft understanding of the challenges facing modern educators, *The Things That Matter Most* brings profound authenticity to page-turning fiction.

**Dann McDorman:  
West Heart Kill**

In Conversation with Frances Whiting



Dann McDorman Frances Whiting

11:30–12:30pm, Saturday 1 June,  
Queensland Terrace (slq)

Join us for a dark and stormy cocktail of murder, mystery and metafiction in Dann McDorman's riotously unpredictable *West Heart Kill*. A detective story running the gamut of styles and genres, this is a treasure for lovers of crime and a challenge to readers who think there's no mystery they can't solve.

**Alternative Routes**



Sharlene Allsopp

**Kent MacCarter**  
(*Fat Chance: Journalism Poems*),  
**Andrew Sneddon**  
(*Prehistoric Joy*), **Kirsty Iltner**  
(*Depth of Field*),  
**Sharlene Allsopp**  
(*The Great Undoing*).  
Chair: Pascale Burton

11:30–12:30pm, Saturday 1 June,  
The Studio (slq)

Experimental writing recreates the slipperiness and unreliability of memory in these startling and thought-provoking works. Examining public and personal histories, these writers unpack how we piece together the past.

**David McAllister:  
Ballet Confidential**



David McAllister

In Conversation with  
**Leanne Benjamin**  
1–2pm, Saturday 1  
June, slq Auditorium 1

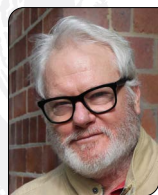
In his dazzling career as a principal with the Australian Ballet and then as its artistic director, David McAllister has transported audiences into the ethereal world of classical dance. With *Ballet Confidential* he invites us backstage, breaking down ballet's artistry and athleticism, furnishing gloriously gossipy anecdotes, and answering your burning questions about pointe shoes and jockstraps.

**Brett Mason:  
Saving Lieutenant Kennedy**

In Conversation with Phil Brown  
1–2pm, Saturday 1 June,  
slq Auditorium 2

The jaw-dropping story of how an Australian lieutenant and two Solomon Islander scouts rescued a future president at sea is brought to cinematic life in this exceptional work of history. Mason considers the stranger-than-fiction event and its effect on the Kennedy myth as well as on US–Australian relations.

**William McInnes: Yeah, Nah!**



William McInnes

In Conversation with  
**Christine Jackman**  
1–2pm, Saturday  
1 June, The Edge  
Auditorium (slq)

Beloved personality William McInnes has penned a nostalgic ode to the peculiar beauty of Australian language, revisiting scenes from his childhood from the vantage of a turbulent present. Roaringly funny and tinted with sadness, this collection will have you thinking about what you say – and what you're really saying.

**Awful People**

**David Cohen**  
(*The Terrible Event*), **Lexi Freiman**  
(*The Book of Ayn*), **Daryl Qilin Yam**  
(*Shantih Shantih*), **Jennifer Croft**  
(*The Extinction of Irena Rey*).  
Chair: Carody Culver

1–2pm, Saturday 1 June, Queensland  
Terrace (slq)

The absurdities and indignities of modern life are rendered in lapidary detail in these funny, humane and strangely uplifting stories. Imbuing the everyday with a sense of the Kafkaesque or responding to the observably surreal, these writers give us pause to consider the world as we know it.

**Legends of  
the Playhouse**

**Maryanne Sam,**  
**Jimi Bani, John Harvey.**  
Chair: Laila Thaker

1–2pm, Saturday 1 June,  
kuril dhagun (slq)

A stunning lineup of Torres Strait Islander playwrights, directors and performers share their brilliance about bringing First Nations stories to the stage.

Curated by Lenora Thaker

FREE  
EVENT

**Environmental Insights**

**Simon Cleary** (*Everything is Water*), **Ian Lowe** (*Australia on the Brink: Avoiding Environmental Ruin*), **Satyajit Das** (*Wild Quests*). Chair: Amanda Niehaus



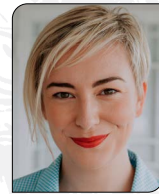
Simon Cleary Ian Lowe

1–2pm, Saturday 1 June,  
The Studio (slq)

The wonders of the natural world and our responsibility for its preservation animate these eclectic and thoughtful books, with their meditations on rivers, eco-tourism and the biosphere.

**Suzie Miller: Prima Facie**

In Conversation with Jessica Rudd



**Suzie Miller** **Jessica Rudd**  
2:30–3:30pm, Saturday 1 June,  
slq Auditorium 1

One of the most talked about plays of recent years, Suzie Miller's *Prima Facie* is a blistering examination of power, consent and the law. Deftly transposing the dynamism of theatre to the page, Miller's first novel is an extraordinary reworking of the play, delving deeper into protagonist Tessa's psyche and the complexities and outrages of the justice system. Join Suzie and multi-hyphenate Jessica Rudd as they discuss this resonant story and its global success.

Supported by The Monthly

**Peter Dowding: Secret  
Agent, Unsung Hero**



Peter Dowding

In Conversation with  
**Clare Birgin**  
2:30–3:30pm,  
Saturday 1 June,  
slq Auditorium 2

Former West Australian Premier Peter Dowding investigates his uncle Bruce's service in World War II. Drawing on extensive firsthand sources, Dowding recounts the intrepid Aussie's exfiltration of soldiers in Nazi-occupied France, his heroic feats and his tragic ending.



**Bryan Brown: *The Drowning***

In Conversation with Frances Whiting  
2:30–3:30pm, Saturday 1 June,  
The Edge Auditorium (slq)

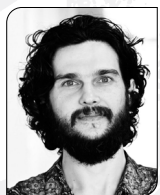
Fresh off a lauded turn in *Boy Swallows Universe*, screen legend Bryan Brown follows up his visceral book *Sweet Jimmy* with another triumphant work of Australian crime writing. Funny, gritty and laconic, *The Drowning* is an unpredictable mystery rich in suspense and unforgettable characters.

Supported by QBD Books

**Anne Buist & Graeme Simsion: *The Glass House***

In Conversation with Rebecca Sparrow  
2:30–3:30pm, Saturday 1 June,  
Queensland Terrace (slq)

Eminent psychiatrist Anne Buist and bestselling novelist Graeme Simsion discuss their latest collaborative novel, a compassionate and sometimes humorous story about a strained mental health system and its effects on patients, clinicians and family members. Sage and sensitive, *The Glass House* is another brilliant meditation on life and love from a beloved literary double act.

**Lubly Poems**

Luke Patterson

Bebe Oliver, Melanie Mununggurr, Raelee Lancaster, Luke Patterson. Chair: Melanie Saward  
2:30–3:30pm,  
Saturday 1 June,  
kuril dhagun (slq)

FREE  
EVENT

Four deadly Blak poets share poems that celebrate Blak love and joy.

Curated by Melanie Saward

**Pardon My Speech**

Amy Remeikis (*The Politics of Civility*), Lucinda Holdforth (*21st-Century Virtues: How They Are Failing Our Democracy*), Graeme Turner (*The Shrinking Nation*), Dr Ahona Guha ('*To Speak or Not to Speak*'). Chair: Amber Gwynne  
2:30–3:30pm, Saturday 1 June,  
The Studio (slq)

Much ink has been spilled over the phenomenon of partisan politics. These authors discuss, and debate, the hyper-factional nature of modern political discourse and propose some different ways of being.

Presented by The University of Queensland

**Jake Adelstein: *The Last Yakuza***

In Conversation with Steve Austin  
4–5pm, Saturday 1 June,  
slq Auditorium 1

Acclaimed investigative journalist Jake Adelstein tells the stranger-than-fiction tale of *The Last Yakuza*, a ripping yarn about the former mob boss he hired to be his bodyguard. Mapping the shifting currents of modern Japan and the lethal glamour of its criminal underbelly, *The Last Yakuza* is an unputdownable history of a man's life outside the law.

**Emily Perkins: *Lioness***

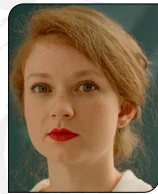
Emily Perkins

In Conversation with Ella Jeffery  
4–5pm, Saturday 1 June,  
slq Auditorium 2

The itching intimacy of *Lioness* draws us into the inner worlds of two remarkably different women, making for a satire of wealth and privilege at once sweeping and microscopic. With dry humour and casual grace, Emily Perkins weaves a story of liberation, corruption, and the friction between personal freedom and the ubiquitous structures of the modern world.

**Writing About Art**

Katy Hessel (*The Story of Art Without Men*), Bri Lee (*The Work*), Daniel Browning (*Close to the Subject*), Anna Kate Blair (*The Modern*). Chair: Amy Carkeek



Bri Lee



Daniel Browning

4–5pm, Saturday 1 June,  
The Edge Auditorium (slq)

They say a picture is worth a thousand words, so why is it that writing about art – its history, possible meanings and effect on the viewer – exerts such powerful fascination? Through introspective fiction, criticism and sweeping surveys, these writers consider the many stories of art and how what's not shown can be just as telling as what is.

Supported by Copyright Agency

**Murder Mystery**

Sarah Smith

Jennifer Croft (*The Extinction of Irena Rey*), Dann McDorman (*West Heart Kill*), Sarah Smith (*Twelve Steps to a Long and Fulfilling Death*), Balli Kaur Jaswal (*Now You See Us*). Chair: Adrian Todd Zuniga

4–5pm, Saturday 1 June,  
Queensland Terrace (slq)

Expect the unexpected in these innovative treatments of the classic murder mystery. Equal parts gripping yarns and elegant intellectual puzzles, these books are love letters to a classic genre.

**Pushing Boundaries**

Shontell Ketchell, Mayella Dewis. Chair: Laila Thaker

4–5pm, Saturday 1 June,  
kuril dhagun (slq)

Meet the Torres Strait Islander creatives who are pushing boundaries and creating innovative opportunities for themselves here and internationally.

Curated by Lenora Thaker

FREE  
EVENT

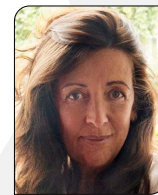
**Dave Witty:*****What the Trees See***

In Conversation with Amanda Niehaus  
4–5pm, Saturday 1 June,  
The Studio (slq)

You'd be barking not to tree-t yourself to the exquisite nature writing of David Witty, who imbues this study of Australian flora with Proustian reverie. Bringing bygone forests to vivid life, Witty explores the history of Australian trees, uprooting our perception of the relationship between human beings and our environment.

**Louise Doughty:*****A Bird in Winter***

In Conversation with Sarah Kanowski



Louise Doughty



Sarah Kanowski

5:30–6:30pm, Saturday 1 June,  
slq Auditorium 1

With her unnerving psychological portraits and genre-bending approach to the thriller, Louise Doughty has earned a reputation as one of the most original

voices in suspense writing. *A Bird in Winter* is Doughty in top form – a lushly textured, grippingly paranoid story of a woman on the run and her secrets.

Supported by the Taylor family

### Democratic Fragility

Michael Ondaatje ('From Anchor to Weapon: The Politics of Nostalgia'), Sally Young (*Media Monsters*), Lucinda Holdforth (*21st-Century Virtues: How They Are Failing Our Democracy*). Chair: Sean Jacobs

5:30–6:30pm, Saturday 1 June, slq Auditorium 2

Should we panic yet? The past decade in global politics has seen a perceptible slide towards totalitarianism, with pundits across the political spectrum sounding alarm bells. As mounting political tensions thrust us into a multi-polar world, these writers consider the integrity, and fragility, of the social contract and discuss what democracies must do to see their legitimacy renewed.

Supported by Griffith University

### Gods, Magic and Monsters



Naomi Novik (*Spinning Silver*), Amie Kaufman (*The Isles of the Gods*), Sydney Khoo (*The Spider and Her Demons*). Chair: Ron Serdiuk

Naomi Novik 5:30–6:30pm, Saturday 1 June,

The Edge Auditorium (slq)

Supernatural forces and the call to adventure take colourful new forms in these spectacular fantasies. From high seas and magical kingdoms to not-quite-recognisable suburbs of Sydney, these spellbinding stories open doors to other worlds.

### Holly Ringland:

#### *The House That Joy Built*



In Conversation with Bec Mac 5:30–6:30pm, Saturday 1 June, Queensland Terrace (slq)

The generosity of Holly Ringland's writing is well known to fans of her novels. In her non-fiction book *The House That Joy Built*, she gifts the hard-won wisdom of an artistic life to the reader, providing a guide through fear and doubt to creative expression.

### The Deep Well of Torres Strait Islander Myths and Legends

FREE EVENT



Jillian Bowie

Jillian Bowie in Conversation with Lenora Thaker 2:30–3:30pm, Friday 31 May, kuril dhagun (slq)

Join Lenora Thaker in a yarn up with renowned author Jillian Bowie on how we can draw inspiration from ancient myths and legends to create new original stories for the modern era.

Curated by Lenora Thaker

### Suspicious Circumstances



Dennis Altman

Dennis Altman (*Death in the Sauna*), Nikki Mottram (*Killarney*), Michelle Prak (*The Rush*), Dinuka McKenzie (*Tipping Point*). Chair: Megan McGrath

5:30–6:30pm, Saturday 1 June, The Studio (slq)

The crime is page-turning fiction, and on this panel, everyone's a suspect! From rural noir to the political machinations of an AIDS conference, these books are irrefutable evidence that mystery writing is in its finest form.

### Eat the Rich



Emily O'Grady

Panelists: Emily Perkins (*Lioness*), Lexi Freiman (*The Book of Ayn*), Balli Kaur Jaswal (*Now You See Us*), Emily O'Grady (*Feast*). Chair: Alexandra Philp

7–8pm, Saturday 1 June, slq Auditorium 1

Charmed lives begin to seem more like a curse in these brilliant novels of class and privilege. From Singapore's expat community to the Greek island of Lesbos, these books are a world tour into private lives, rich in irony, insight and observations of human nature.

### Griffith Review 84: Attachment Styles

FREE EVENT



Anna McGahan

Ceridwen Dovey, Dr Ahona Guha, Anna McGahan. Chair: Natasha Mitchell

7–8pm, Saturday 1 June, slq Auditorium 2

Join three brilliant authors as they unpick the threads of our complex emotional bonds. From therapy speak and method acting to the mysteries that live within our bodies, these writers' spellbinding contributions to the latest edition of *Griffith Review* reveal the pleasures, pitfalls and peculiarities of our messy human relations.

### Matthew Condon:

#### *Three Crooked Kings* (Anniversary Reissue)

Solo Presentation

7–8pm, Saturday 1 June, The Edge Auditorium (slq)

A decade on from the release of his incendiary *Three Crooked Kings*, Matthew Condon revisits the scandal of the Fitzgerald Inquiry and the new revelations that have followed in the wake of his epic series.

### Speed Reads Salon



Bebe Oliver



Yen-Rong Wong

7–8pm, Saturday 1 June, Queensland Terrace (slq)

Join us for a rapid-fire extravaganza, where a sensational selection of authors will read from their work in less than an hour. Will we beat the clock? Hopefully. Will it be wildly entertaining either way? Absolutely. Come along for more yarns than you could poke a forked stick at and discover your new favourite writer in the process! Featuring Graham Akhurst (*Borderland*), Sharlene Allsopp (*The Great Undoing*), Bebe Oliver (*More Than These Bones*), Anna Kate Blair (*The Modern*), Jarad Bruinstroop (*Reliefs*), Winnie Dunn (*Dirt Poor Islanders*), Sam Elkin (*Detachable Penis*), David Goodwin (*Servo*), Dominic Gordon (*Essays on*



*Risk*), Tracy Hall (*The Last Victim*), Georgia Harper (*What I Would Do to You*), Troy Henderson (*Head Grenade*), Kirsty Iltner (*Depth of Field*), Esmé Louise James (*Kinky History*), Brydie Lee-Kennedy (*Go Lightly*), Walter Marsh (*Young Rupert*), John Morrissey (*Firelight*), Michelle Prak (*The Rush*), John Richards (*The Gorgon Flower*), Sarah Smith (*Twelve Steps to a Long and Fulfilling Death*), SE Tolsen (*Bunny*), Bianca Valentino (*Conversations with Punx*), Dave Witty (*What the Trees See*), Yen-Rong Wong (*Me, Her, Us*).

Supported by Creative Australia

## Dreaming Inside

FREE  
EVENT



**Aunty Barbara Nicholson, Luke Patterson.** Chair: Rhianna Patrick

7–8pm,  
Saturday 1 June,  
kuril dhagun (slq)

**Aunty Barbara Nicholson**

Wadi Wadi Elder

Aunty Barbara Nicholson and Gamilaroi poet and musician Luke Patterson talk about the healing properties of the arts and telling one's own story in the *Dreaming Inside* anthologies that share the voices of incarcerated Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Curated by Melanie Saward

## Page Turner



Louise Milligan

Sulari Gentill

**Naima Brown (*The Shot*), Louise Milligan (*Pheasants Nest*), Tim Ayliffe (*Killer Traitor Spy*), Sulari Gentill (*After She Wrote Him*).** Chair: Joanne Anderton

7–8pm, Saturday 1 June,  
The Studio (slq)

You'll be on the edge of your seat just hearing these writers talk about their books, to say nothing of the thrill of reading them. Secrets, spies and the reality television competition from hell all come under the microscope as these authors discuss what makes a novel unputdownable.

# Sunday 2 June

## After

**Louise Doughty (*Apple Tree Yard*), Suzie Miller (*Prima Facie*), Amanda Chong (*Psychobitch*), Louise Milligan (*Pheasants Nest*).** Chair: Carody Culver  
10–11am, Sunday 2 June,  
slq Auditorium 1

Attacking tired gender stereotypes, these extraordinary writers consider the ways in which women are personally and professionally stigmatised – and what shape the costs and consequences might take. Rich with nuanced characters and moral complexity, these four propulsive stories flip the script on victimhood.

## Machines Will Do the Work



**Richard King (*Here Be Monsters*), Tracey Spicer (*Man-Made*), Marek Kowalkiewicz (*The Economy of Algorithms*).** Chair: Leah Henrickson

**Richard King**

10–11am, Sunday 2  
June, slq Auditorium 2

All anyone is talking about in 2024 is AI – what is it, what is it capable of, and should we be afraid or excited? These authors bring fascinating perspectives to what's being touted by some as the greatest technological shift since the Industrial Revolution – and one denounced by its own creators as a potentially existential threat.

Presented by The University  
of Queensland

## Trent Dalton: *Lola in the Mirror*



**Trent Dalton**

**In Conversation with Frances Whiting**  
10–11am, Sunday  
2 June, The Edge  
Auditorium (slq)

Brisbane's favourite son returns with a stirring tale of poverty and resilience. As with *Boy Swallows Universe*, *Lola in the Mirror* reveals the darkest moments of human struggle while never failing to inspire readers with the tender optimism of Dalton's vision.

Supported by Fish Lane Arts Precinct

## Millennial Malaise



**Naima Brown**

**Madeleine Gray (*Green Dot*), Naima Brown (*The Shot*), Yen-Rong Wong (*Me, Her, Us*), David Goodwin (*Servo*).** Chair: Lauren Sherritt

10–11am, Sunday  
2 June, Queensland  
Terrace (slq)

The growing pains of a generation are vividly examined in these four very different books. Acerbic autofiction, penetrating memoir, anecdotal comedy and the wild world of reality television come together for a session that, to paraphrase Lena Dunham, asks – what if I were a voice, of a generation?

## Daniel Browning: *Close to the Subject*

FREE  
EVENT

Chair: Rhianna Patrick

10–11am, Sunday 2 June,  
kuril dhagun (slq)

One-man institution Daniel Browning discusses his collective writings, which include critical essays, fascinating conversations, and previously unpublished works of poetry and memoir. *Close to the Subject* is a treasure trove, glittering with the insights of one of our sharpest minds.

## The Search for Self



**Sam Elkin**

**Dominic Gordon (*Excitable Boy: Essays on Risk*), Bebe Oliver (*More Than These Bones*), Sam Elkin (*Detachable Penis: A Queer Legal Saga*).** Chair: Winnie Dunn

10–11am, Sunday 2 June,  
The Studio (slq)

Blending memoir and trenchant social observation, these writers consider the tension between society and the self – how we might be liberated from rather than defined by the expectations of others, and how we serve other people best by truly knowing ourselves.

## Yesterday's News

Sally Young (*Media Monsters*),  
Walter Marsh (*Young Rupert*).  
Chair: Michael Ondaatje

11:30am–12:30pm, Sunday 2 June,  
slq Auditorium 1

Stop press! These gripping investigations into the golden era of print news, and the controversial figures who dominated the headlines, are as informative as they are compelling.

Supported by The Saturday Paper

## Temptations



Catherine Chidgey

Charlotte Wood (*Stone Yard Devotional*),  
Catherine Chidgey (*Pet*), Anna McGahan (*Immaculate*), Joel Deane (*Judas Boys*).  
Chair: Sita Walker

11:30am–12:30pm,  
Sunday 2 June,  
slq Auditorium 2

Prayers and epiphanies are woven through these novels, wherein the miraculous brushes against the mundane. As characters reckon with ancestral spirits, immaculate conceptions and the possibility of redemption, these stories invite us to consider our own humanity – and however we may define our soul.

## Bri Lee: *The Work*

In Conversation with Amy Lovat

11:30am–12:30pm, Sunday 2 June,  
The Edge Auditorium (slq)

In her first work of fiction, the formidable Bri Lee takes on art, romance and much more besides. Exploring the alienation of modernity, the frustrations of intimacy, and the friction between art and commerce, *The Work* is a no holds barred epic from one of our brightest talents.

## It's Complicated



Brydie Lee-Kennedy

Anita Heiss (*Tiddas*),  
Michelle Upton (*Emergency Exit Only*),  
Brydie Lee-Kennedy (*Go Lightly*), Claire Christian (*West Side Honey*). Chair:  
Kimberley Allsopp

11:30am–12:30pm,  
Sunday 2 June,  
Queensland Terrace (slq)

Queensland Terrace (slq)

The pleasures and pitfalls of love in all its forms are rendered in vivid detail by these marvellous writers. From the pangs of desire to the comfort of

friendship, these authors have their fingers on the pulse in matters of the heart.

## Growing Up Torres Strait Islander In Australia

FREE  
EVENT



Samantha Faulkner

Samantha Faulkner,  
Jillian Bowie, Jimi Bani. Chair:  
Lenora Thaker

Special introduction  
by Dr Jackie Huggins AM FAHA

11:30am–12:30pm,  
Sunday 2 June,

kuril dhagun (slq)

Meet the visionary editor Samantha Faulkner and a group of writers and contributors to this latest publication in the incredible *Growing Up* series. Hear what it means to be a Torres Strait Islander in Australia's past, present and future at this very special launch event introduced by esteemed First Nations leader Dr Jackie Huggins.

Curated by Lenora Thaker

## Who the Hell is Hamish? *The Last Victim* by Tracy Hall



Tracy Hall

In Conversation with  
Martine Kropkowski  
11:30am–12:30pm,  
Sunday 2 June,  
The Studio (slq)

The story behind the hit true crime podcast *Who the Hell is Hamish?* is a gripping, distressing account of one woman's exploitation by a conman. Reflecting on her romance with Max Tavita, Tracy Hall recounts her deception by a serial fraudster in a shocking and frank memoir of resilience amid betrayal.

## Darryl Jones: *Getting to Know the Birds in Your Neighbourhood*



Darryl Jones

In Conversation with  
Ashley Hay  
1–2pm, Sunday 2 June,  
slq Auditorium 1

Not many people can be described as an ornithological superstar, but if anyone can be, it's Darryl Jones. In his latest book, the twitcher extraordinaire introduces readers to the avian life populating suburban areas, offering tips for

identifying and living in harmony with our feathered friends.

## Jennifer Croft: *The Extinction of Irena Rey* In Conversation with Heather Zwicker 1–2pm, Sunday 2 June, slq Auditorium 2

Having made her name as a peerless translator of works including Olga Tokarczuk's Man Booker International winner *Flights*, Jennifer Croft has turned her talented hand to writing fiction. Her debut novel is a paranoid, hallucinatory tale about the deceptive qualities of language. Replete with an ancient forest, a global ensemble of characters and a disappearing author, *The Extinction of Irena Rey* is an ethereal mystery not to be missed.

## Clementine Ford: *I Don't: The Case Against Marriage*



Clementine Ford

In Conversation with  
Patience Hodgson  
1–2pm, Sunday  
2 June, The Edge  
Auditorium (slq)

Feminist firebrand Clementine Ford leaves matrimony at the altar in this brutal manifesto, examining how women are exploited by wifedom. Pithy and provocative, *I Don't* is a modern-day apple of discord gleefully lobbed at the marriage industrial complex.

## Richard Glover: *Best Wishes* Solo Presentation

1–2pm, Sunday 2 June,  
Queensland Terrace (slq)

With his trademark good humour, beloved broadcaster Richard Glover pens a wish list for society, reminding us of the virtues of taking ourselves less seriously. It's a solo presentation – because who could hold a candle to this man?



## Between Cultures

Melanie Saward (*Burn*), Sara M Saleh (*Songs for the Dead and the Living*), Winnie Dunn (*Dirt Poor Islanders*), Jade Kake (*Checkerboard Hill*). Chair: Yen-Rong Wong

FREE  
EVENT



Sara M Saleh



Winnie Dunn

1–2pm, Sunday 2 June,  
kuril dhagun (slq)

The friction of place and identity animates these daring debuts, with their uncompromising visions and full-throated expressions of rage.

## Queer As

Sam Elkin (*Detachable Penis: A Queer Legal Saga*), Jarad Bruinstroop (*Reliefs*), Shelley Parker-Chan (*Radiant Emperor Duology*), Dennis Altman (*Death in the Sauna*). Chair: Kris Kneen

1–2pm, Sunday 2 June, The Studio (slq)

Erudite essays, lyrical poetry, a queer reimagining of history and a unique take on the murder mystery provide very different contexts for these authors' explorations of queerness.

## Nature as Timekeeper

Fiona McMillan-Webster (*The Age of Seeds*), Dave Witty (*What the Trees See*), Satyajit Das (*Wild Quests*). Chair: Natasha Mitchell



Fiona  
McMillan-  
Webster



Satyajit Das

2:30–3:30pm, Sunday 2 June,  
slq Auditorium 1

These fascinating books are an invitation to rethink how we perceive history, situating the brevity of a human lifetime within the vast cycles of nature. Humbled by the resilience and unpredictable might of natural forces, these authors consider what we might learn from the past and how this might shape the future.

## Griffith Review 83: Past Perfect

Sharlene Allsopp, Richard King, Michael Ondaatje. Chair: Carody Culver  
2:30–3:30pm, Sunday 2 June,  
slq Auditorium 2

FREE  
EVENT

It's hardly a new observation to say that everything old is new again. But what does our obsession with nostalgia say about our relationship with the past, our understanding of the present and our prospects for the future? These three extraordinary writers discuss their contributions to a nostalgia-themed edition of *Griffith Review* with the journal's editor, Carody Culver.

## Modern Life



Madeleine Gray

Modern Life: Bri Lee (*The Work*), Madeleine Gray (*Green Dot*), Amy Lovat (*Mistakes and Other Lovers*), Siang Lu (*Ghost Cities*). Chair: Adrian Todd Zuniga

2:30–3:30pm,  
Sunday 2 June,

The Edge Auditorium (slq)

Neoliberal hellscape, long-distance relationships and the absolute state of things are all on the agenda in this scintillating chat. If you've ever lied about being bilingual to get a job, had a desultory affair with a married man or engaged in terrific and/or questionable sex, then this panel is not to be missed.

## Inverted Perspectives



Ceridwen Dovey

Ceridwen Dovey (*Only the Astronauts*), Daryl Qilin Yam (*Lovelier, Lonelier*), Catherine Chidgey (*The Axeman's Carnival*), Laura Jean McKay (*Gunflower*). Chair: Ella Jeffery

2:30–3:30pm, Sunday  
2 June, Queensland Terrace (slq)

The glee of experimentation is gloriously showcased in these books, whose writers consider the meaning of life by de-centering the human perspective. Whether floating in space or flowing with the cycles of nature, these works invite us to consider our place in the cosmos.

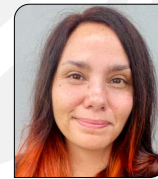
## Bianca Valentino: Conversations with Punx

In Conversation with Pascale Burton  
2:30–3:30pm, Sunday 2  
June, kuril dhagun (slq)

FREE  
EVENT

This astonishing collection features Gimme Zine creator Bianca Valentino's

wide-ranging interviews with punk and hardcore musicians from across the globe.



Bianca Valentino

Featuring an incredible line-up of music legends – including The Stooges, DEVO, Radio Birdman and Bikini Kill (*to name just a few!*) – this book explores the transformative possibilities and enduring spirit of punk rock.

## Crime Time



Tim Ayliffe

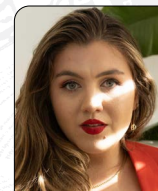
Chris Womersley (*Ordinary Gods and Monsters*), Sulari Gentill (*The Mystery Writer*), Tim Ayliffe (*Killer Traitor Spy*), Sarah Smith (*Twelve Steps to a Long and Fulfilling Death*).

Chair: Megan McGrath

2:30–3:30pm, Sunday 2 June,  
The Studio (slq)

These authors take compellingly different approaches to telling classic crime and suspense. Featuring spies, psychics, conspiracy theories and imagination come to life.

## Esmé Louise James: Kinky History



Esmé Louise  
James

In Conversation with  
Kris Kneen

4–5pm, Sunday 2 June,  
slq Auditorium 1

Not since Rihanna released 'S&M' have whips and chains been so exciting. Author and sexpert Esmé Louise James brings historical knowledge and a sense of play to taboo subjects; we hope you can fit it in (*to your schedule*).

## Charlotte Wood: Stone Yard Devotional



Charlotte Wood

In Conversation with  
Kristina Olsson

4–5pm, Sunday 2  
June, slq Auditorium 2

One of Australia's most celebrated writers returns with a profound meditation on grief, faith and goodness.

*Stone Yard Devotional* is an exceptional novel, melding the cosmic resonance of myth with intimate realism – a tour de force by one of our greatest talents.



## Mystical and Mythical Resets



**Naomi Novik** (*Temeraire*), **CS Pacat** (*Dark Rise*), **Shelley Parker-Chan** (*He Who Drowned the World*).  
Chair: Kathleen Jennings

**Shelley Parker-Chan**

4–5pm, Sunday  
2 June, The Edge  
Auditorium (slq)

Ancient tales are given modern twists in the hands of these enchanting authors, who draw upon mythic pasts to break new ground in genre writing. Imagining the what-ifs of history, these books place us in conversation with the past.

## Tracey Spicer: Man-Made

In Conversation  
with **Bec Mac**

4–5pm, Sunday 2 June,  
Queensland Terrace (slq)

2023 was unquestionably the year of AI, with Chat GPT exploding on the scene before any of the ethical questions surrounding its existence were answered. Looking to an alarming future and the atavistic prejudices of the past, Tracey Spicer confronts this brave new world – and asks us to consider, very seriously, what the hell we think we’re doing.

## From Page to Stage to Screen to Opera

FREE  
EVENT

**Jane Harrison** in Conversation  
with **Alethea Beetson**



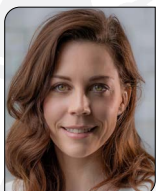
**Jane Harrison**    **Alethea Beetson**

4–5pm, Sunday 2 June,  
kuril dhagun (slq)

Join the multi-hyphenate Jane Harrison as she and Alethea Beetson discuss adapting work across different mediums and discuss what comes first: page, stage, screen...or opera?

Curated by **Melanie Saward**

## Choices



**Katherine Allum**

**Georgia Harper** (*What I Would Do to You*), **Katherine Allum** (*The Skeleton House*), **Jade Kake** (*Checkerboard Hill*), **Donna M Cameron** (*The Rewilding*).  
Chair: **Jen Bowden**

4–5pm, Sunday 2 June, The Studio (slq)

Contested social obligations are unpicked in startling and original ways in these gripping novels. From an environmental chase thriller to a dystopian near future and a disintegrating marriage, these stories remind us that you can’t choose your family – but you can pick your battles.

## Feeling Good



**Richard Glover**

**Julia Baird** (*Bright Shining*), **Richard Glover** (*Best Wishes*), **Dr Ahona Guha** (*Life Skills for a Broken World*).

Chair: **Amber Gwynne**  
5:30–6:30pm, Sunday

2 June, slq Auditorium 1

Optimism can be a tall order in a world that often seems to verge on chaos. With humour, wisdom and grace, these writers map a path through a tumultuous era, considering how we might build a kinder and less annoying society.

Supported by **QBD Books**

## Ed Le Brocq: Sound Bites



**Ed Le Brocq**

In Conversation with  
**Scott Harrison**  
5:30–6:30pm,  
Sunday 2 June,  
slq Auditorium 2

Join beloved  
broadcaster **Ed Le Brocq** for a sonic

odyssey, beginning with the lyres of ancient Greece and winding through to the present day. Rich in arcane trivia and technical knowledge, this is a grand tour of music history sure to delight connoisseurs and neophytes alike.

Supported by **Griffith University**

## Girls to the Front



**Simone Amelia Jordan**

**Clementine Ford** (*I Don't*), **Simone Amelia Jordan** (*Tell Her She's Dreamin'*), **Sara M Saleh** (*The Flirtation of Girls*).  
Chair: **Claire Christian**

5:30–6:30pm,  
Sunday 2 June,

The Edge Auditorium (slq)

With unapologetic force and candour, these writers discuss the multifaceted experiences of modern women. In poetry, memoir and polemic, they raise their voices in a rousing call for justice.

## Lexi Freiman: The Book of Ayn

In Conversation with **Carody Culver**



**Lexi Freiman**



**Carody Culver**

5:30–6:30pm, Sunday 2 June,  
Queensland Terrace (slq)

With 2018's *Inappropriation*, Lexi Freiman pressed all the right buttons, honing in on the peculiar relationship of privilege to politics. In *The Book of Ayn*, she brings a madcap energy to one cancelled woman's obsession with *that* Ayn – the author, iconic amphetamine user and bête noire of the socialist left.

## Fantasy Festival

FREE  
EVENT

**Sharlene Allsopp**,  
**Cheryl Leavy**, **Daniel Browning**. Chair: **Rhianna Patrick**

5:30–6:30pm, Sunday 2 June,  
kuril dhagun (slq)

Writers' festivals, panel discussions and book launches are important cultural experiences in Australia – but while Creative Australia's 2022 National Arts Participation Survey showed that First Nations peoples are highly engaged in the arts, many of them believe that 'cultural and creative experiences are not for me'. Join these writers as they imagine what the ideal, inclusive and joyful literary event might look like for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander writers.

Curated by **Melanie Saward**

## Machismo



**Shivram Gopinath**

**Joel Deane** (*Judas Boys*), **Shivram Gopinath** (*Dey*), **Dominic Gordon** (*Excitable Boy: Essays on Risk*), **David Goodwin** (*Servo*).  
Chair: **Simon Cleary**

5:30–6:30pm, Sunday  
2 June, slq The Studio

These brilliant authors discuss what it means to be a man, the ways in which gender roles are culturally enforced and how we can bring nuance to discussions of masculinity.



STATE LIBRARY OF QUEENSLAND

# Drop into a free exhibition during Brisbane Writers Festival

- Level 1 | Deaf in dance: Feeling the beat, open 25 May
- Level 2 | National Photographic Portrait Prize, open 11 May
- Level 4 | Extraordinary stories, open daily  
Australian Library of Art, open daily  
Talbot Family Treasures Wall, open daily



Learn  
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# Workshops



## Mark Dapin

**How to Write True Crime**

**10am–1pm, Friday 31 May,  
Heritage Collections Room (slq)**

Mark will address the practical questions faced by first-time true-crime writers: How do I find inquest reports? How do I find court transcripts? How do I approach lawyers? How do I visit prisons? How do I interview criminals? How do I interview detectives? How do I figure out who is telling the truth? And, perhaps most importantly, how much danger am I letting myself in for?



## Mike Barry

**Make Your First Graphic Novel**

**2:30–3:30pm, Friday 31 May,  
Heritage Collections Room (slq)**

Ever wanted to make your own comic book or graphic novel? Spend an hour with Mike Barry – Comic Arts Award of Australia–winning creator of the *Action Tank* graphic novel series – and discover the power of panels, the drama of design and the wonder of word balloons, all while creating your very own mini comic book!



## CS Pacat

**Fantasy Tips and Tricks**

**10am–1pm, Saturday 1 June,  
Heritage Collections Room (slq)**

Full of magical worlds, magical systems, magical characters and high-octane events – fantasy can be one of the most challenging genres to navigate when building your story. This workshop will take you through writing and story-building techniques, all aimed to better prepare you to handle some of the unique demands of the genre.



## Nova Weetman

**Memoir**

**2:30–4:30pm, Saturday 1 June,  
Heritage Collections Room (slq)**

Writing about your life can feel both awkward and empowering. But we all have stories to tell. In a two-hour workshop, author Nova Weetman will teach you how to look at yourself as a character, how to flesh out moments in your life and how to craft them into short-form personal narratives. Perfect for writers at all stages.



## Amie Kaufman

**Get Your Story Started**

**10am–12pm, Sunday 2 June,  
Heritage Collections Room (slq)**

Getting started can be the hardest part of writing. This fast and fun workshop with *New York Times* and international bestseller Amie Kaufman will show you how to bring your ideas to life. Amie will guide you through a process designed to generate a new story idea and then identify your protagonist, setting, inciting incident, antagonist and supporting characters, bringing depth to each of these elements to create a layered and compelling story. You'll leave this session with the bones of your next story down on the page and an approach you can use time and again in the future.



## Dr Ahona Guha

**Tread with Care: Trauma-Informed  
Interviewing for Writers**

**1–3pm, Sunday 2 June,  
Heritage Collections Room (slq)**

An experiential workshop led by Dr Ahona Guha, a clinical and forensic psychologist, trauma expert and author. Tailored for writers, journalists and interviewers, this workshop empowers participants by providing a nuanced understanding of trauma and the trauma-informed care principles required to conduct interviews sensitively.



# Beyond Brisbane

With the support of Moreton Bay Regional Council, BWF is thrilled to help facilitate some magnificent author talks beyond Brisbane. There will be signings after each of the below sessions. Bookings are free and are managed through the host libraries. Please see session details for the relevant booking link.

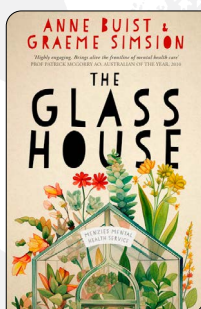


## Tracey Spicer: *Man-Made*

5:30–6:30pm, Saturday 1 June, North Lakes Library, Level 1/10 The Corso, North Lakes

Tickets: [NorthLakes.Library@moretonbay.qld.gov.au](mailto:NorthLakes.Library@moretonbay.qld.gov.au), (07) 3480 9900

2023 was unquestionably the year of AI, with Chat GPT exploding on the scene before any of the ethical questions surrounding its existence were answered. Looking to an alarming future and the atavistic prejudices of the past, Tracey Spicer confronts this brave new world – and asks us to consider, very seriously, what the hell we think we're doing.

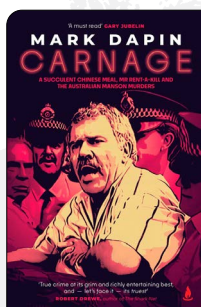


## Anne Buist & Graeme Simson: *The Glass House*

10:30–11:30am, Sunday 2 June, Redcliffe Library, 476 Oxley Ave, Redcliffe

Tickets: [Redcliffe.Library@moretonbay.qld.gov.au](mailto:Redcliffe.Library@moretonbay.qld.gov.au), (07) 3883 5745

Eminent psychiatrist Anne Buist and bestselling novelist Graeme Simson discuss their latest collaborative novel, a compassionate and sometimes humorous story about a strained mental health system and its effects on patients, clinicians and family members. Sage and sensitive, *The Glass House* is another brilliant meditation on life and love from a beloved literary double act.



## Mark Dapin: *Carnage*

1–2pm, Sunday 2 June, Redcliffe Library, 476 Oxley Ave, Redcliffe

Tickets: [Redcliffe.Library@moretonbay.qld.gov.au](mailto:Redcliffe.Library@moretonbay.qld.gov.au), (07) 3883 5745

The man, the meme, the legend: what inspired the infamous quotes 'This is democracy manifest!' and 'What is the charge?' Mark Dapin delves into the mystery of Australia's most infamous viral video of a man arrested in Fortitude Valley while trying to enjoy a succulent Chinese meal; what he discovered will shock you.





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# Timetable

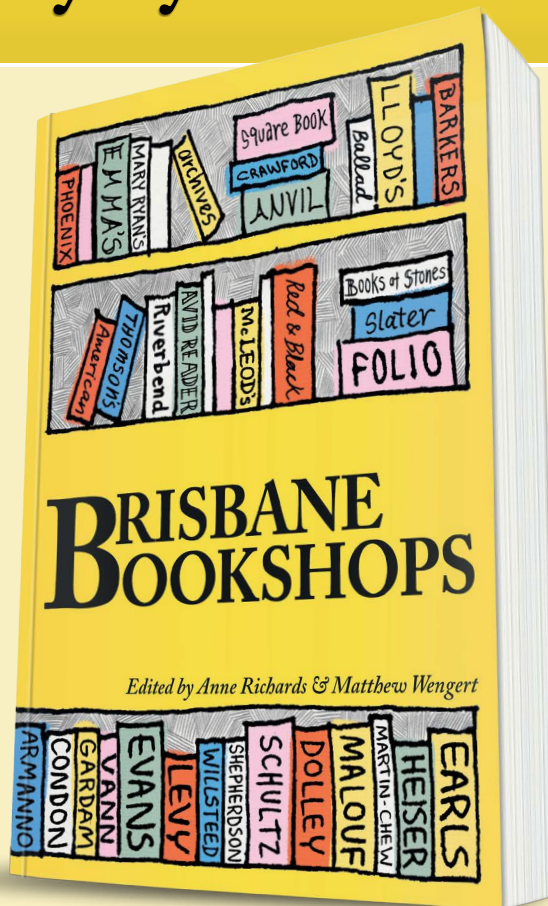
THURSDAY 30 May	Auditorium 1	Auditorium 2	The Edge Auditorium	Queensland Terrace	kuril dhagun
10:00am–11:00am	<b>Remy Lai:</b> <i>Surviving the Wild</i>	<b>Zanni Louise:</b> <i>Home is Where the Heart Is</i>	<b>Amie Kaufman:</b> <i>Everyday Magic</i>	<b>Mike Barry:</b> <i>Make Your First Graphic Novel</i>	
11:30am–12:30pm	<b>Charlotte Barkla:</b> <i>Stepping Through Time</i>	<b>Peter Carnavas:</b> <i>Space, Soccer and Alien Friends</i>	<b>Tristan Bancks:</b> <i>Vision Boarding (Or Writing as a Contact Sport)</i>	<b>Sarah Armstrong:</b> <i>Writing Magic</i>	
1:00pm–2:00pm	<b>Zanni Louise:</b> <i>Learning to Fly</i>	<b>Remy Lai:</b> <i>Ghost Book</i>	<b>Nova Weetman:</b> <i>From Memoir to Historical Fiction</i>	<b>Jordan Gould &amp; Richard Pritchard:</b> <i>Creativity and Culture</i>	
2:30pm–3:30pm		<b>Microfiction Readings &amp; Awards Ceremony</b>			
4:00pm–5:00pm				<b>First Word Opening Speech:</b> Melissa Lucashenko	
5:30pm–6:30pm	<b>Kate Ceberano:</b> <i>Unsung.</i> (c) Frances Whiting	<b>A Succulent Chinese Meal:</b> <i>Carnage</i> by Mark Dapin. (c) Phil Brown	<b>Naomi Novik:</b> <i>Scholomance.</i> (c) Amie Kaufman		<b>Shauna Bostock:</b> <i>Reaching Through Time.</i> (Solo Presentation)
7:00pm–8:00pm	<b>Fiona Crawford:</b> <i>The Matilda Effect.</i> (c) Maureen Engel	<b>Body and Mind:</b> Matt Levy OAM, Carly-Jay Metcalfe, Anna Jacobson. (c) Sarah Klenbort	<b>International Crime.</b> Michael Connelly, Louise Doughty, Dann McDorman. (c) Mirandi Riwoe	<b>Sarah Ogilvie:</b> <i>The Dictionary People.</i> (c) Sarah Kanowski	<b>Lubly Stories:</b> Anita Heiss, Melanie Saward. (c) Cheryl Leavy

## A creative history by Brisbane writers.

“*A book about people as much as bookshops.*”

- PHIL BROWN *InReview*

This anthology includes original writing about Brisbane bookshops from the 1840s to 2020s by authors, artists, booksellers, and historians. Featuring imagery from yesteryear and profiles of the current generation of independent bookshops.



### WHILE STOCKS LAST!

- Festival Bookshop SLQ
- Avid Reader (West End)
- Books at Stones (Stones Corner)
- Bright & Early Books (Ascot)
- Dymocks Indooroopilly
- Mary Ryans New Farm
- Museum of Brisbane Shop
- Pulp Fiction (CBD)
- QAGOMA Store
- Riverbend Books (Bulimba)
- Scrumptious Reads (Red Hill)
- Shelf Lovers (Woolloowin)
- State Library Shop
- Online: [andalsobooks.com](http://andalsobooks.com)





FRIDAY 31 May	Auditorium 1	Auditorium 2	The Edge Auditorium	Queensland Terrace	kuril dhagun	The Studio	Other
10:00am–11:00am	<b>Amie Kaufman:</b> Everyday Magic	<b>Katrina Nannestad:</b> Having Fun With Stories	<b>Jordan Gould &amp; Richard Pritchard:</b> Creativity and Culture	<b>Pitch Perfect:</b> Kate Ceberano, Stuart Coupe, GS Dickson. (c) Noel Mengel		<b>Jayne Persian:</b> <i>Fascists in Exile: Post-War Displaced Persons in Australia.</i> (c) Anthony Cooper	<b>HCLR</b> <b>Mark Dapin Workshop:</b> How to Write True Crime (10am–1pm)
11:30am–12:30pm	<b>Tristan Bancks:</b> Vision Boarding (Or Writing as a Contact Sport)	<b>Trevor Fourmille:</b> Cultural Storytelling	<b>Morris Gleitzman:</b> Tweet	<b>Historical Fiction:</b> Heather Morris, Mirandi Riwoe, Melissa Ashley, Christine Wells. (c) Melanie Myers	<b>Young and Deadly:</b> Graham Akhurst, Melanie Seward. (c) Raelee Lancaster	<b>Translation:</b> Nam Le, Jennifer Croft, Joshua Ip. (c) Pascale Burton	<b>The Old Museum</b> <b>Michael Connelly:</b> <i>Resurrection Walk</i> (c) Chris Hammer
1:00pm–2:00pm	<b>Carl Merrison &amp; Hakea Hustler:</b> Writing Suspense	<b>Charlotte Barkla:</b> Stepping Through Time	<b>Katrina Nannestad:</b> Bringing History Alive	<b>Quentin Beresford:</b> <i>Rogue Corporations.</i> (c) Jen Bowden		<b>Anthologising and Editing:</b> Megan Daley, Samantha Faulkner, Scott Stephens, Matthew Wengert. (c) Edwina Shaw	
2:30pm–3:30pm	<b>Jake Adelstein:</b> Tokyo Vice. (c) Matthew Condon	<b>Nam Le:</b> <i>36 Ways of Writing a Vietnamese Poem.</i> (c) Janaka Malwatta	<b>Gothic Tales:</b> Naomi Nowik, AG Slatter, Kathleen Jennings. (c) Shelley Parker-Chan	<b>Keri Kitay:</b> <i>The Long Goodbye: Lessons on Humanity from the Grips of Alzheimers.</i> (c) Dr Fiona Robertson		<b>A Life in Music:</b> <i>Shake Some Action</i> by Stuart Coupe. (c) Andrew Stafford	<b>HCLR</b> <b>Mike Barry Workshop:</b> Make Your First Graphic Novel (2:30–3:30pm)
4:00pm–5:00pm	<b>Chris Hammer:</b> <i>The Seven.</i> (c) Sally Piper	<b>Hillsong Scandal:</b> <i>Mine is the Kingdom</i> by David Hardaker. (c) Martine Kropkowski	<b>Katy Hessel:</b> <i>The Story of Art Without Men.</i> (c) Alison Kubler	<b>Faber Literary Salon</b>		<b>The Art of the Short Story:</b> Simon Groth, John Morrissey, John Richards. (c) Laura Elvery	
5:30pm–6:30pm	<b>Megan Hess:</b> <i>Grace Kelly: The Illustrated World of a Fashion Icon.</i> (c) Rachel Burke	<b>Political Prisoners:</b> Ma Thida, A-Maze), Sean Turmell. (c) Ian Kemish	<b>Hard Boiled:</b> Michael Connelly, Bryan Brown, Dinuka McKenzie. (c) Ron Serdiuk	<b>Poetry Salon:</b> All I Have is a Voice. Jared Bruinstroop, Anna Jacobson, Kent MacCarter, Joshua Ip, Shivram Gopinath, Amanda Chong. Emcee: Mindy Gill	<b>Andrew Gunstone:</b> <i>Reflections on the Voice: Daring and After the Campaign.</i> (c) Dr Jackie Huggins FM FAHA	<b>What Publishers Want:</b> Anita Heiss (Publisher at Large, Simon & Schuster), Samuel Bernard (Literary Agent, Zeitgeist Agency), Terrin White (Publisher, Upswell Publishing), Ben Aitchison (Proprietor, Paradigm), Contributing Chair: Alexandra Payne (Murdoch Books).	
7pm–8pm	<b>Bit of Advice:</b> Dr Gina Cleo, Dr Rebecca Ray, David Gillespie, Nova Gibson. (c) Warren Ward	<b>Rachelle Unreich:</b> <i>A Brilliant Life.</i> (c) Scott Stephens	<b>Hedley Thomas:</b> <i>Teacher's Pet</i> (c) Matthew Condon	<b>Australian Cinema:</b> <i>Cast Mates</i> by Sam Twyford-Moore. (c) Anthony Mullins	<b>Woven:</b> Samuel Watson, Sigbjørn Skåden, Anne-Marie Te-Whiu	<b>Family Ties:</b> Nova Weetman, Larnisse Hamouda with Hazem Hamouda, Kerstin Pilz. (c) Edwina Shaw	
7pm–10:00pm							<b>QAGOMA Water Mall</b> <b>Marion Taylor Gala:</b> With Louise Doughty

SATURDAY 1 June	Auditorium 1	Auditorium 2	The Edge Auditorium	Queensland Terrace	kuril dhagun	The Studio	Brisbane Square Library	Other
10:00am–11:00am	<b>On the Basis of Sex:</b> Suzie Miller, Katy Hessel, Amy Remelkis), Balli Kaur Jaswal. (c) Christine Jackman	<b>John Blaxland and Clare Birgin:</b> <i>Revealing Secrets.</i> (c) Anthony Cooper	<b>Julia Baird:</b> <i>Bright Shining: How Grace Changes Everything.</i> (c) Ashley Hay	<b>Patricia Callan:</b> <i>The New Modernist House.</i> (c) David Ellison	<b>From Pipe Dreams to Big Screens:</b> Douglas Watkin, Shontell Ketchell, Danielle Ah Boo. (c) Laila Thaker	<b>Supernatural Thrills:</b> Chris Womersley, John Morrissey, S.E. Tolsen, Troy Henderson. (c) Helen Marshall	<b>Masters of Suspense:</b> Amy Doak, Tristan Bancks, Carl Merrison & Hakea Hustler, (c)	<b>HCLR CS Pacat Workshop:</b> Fantasy Tips and Tricks (10am – 1pm)
11:30am–12:30pm	<b>Melissa Lucashenko:</b> <i>Edenglassie.</i> (c) Kristina Olsson	<b>Raimond Gaita:</b> <i>Justice and Hope: Essays, Lectures and Other Writings.</i> (c) Richard King	<b>Gabbie Stroud:</b> <i>The Things That Matter Most.</i> (c) Rebecca Sparrow and Jane Sullivan	<b>Dann McDormin:</b> <i>West Heart Kill.</i> (c) Frances Whiting		<b>Alternative Routes:</b> Kent MacCarter, Andrew Sneddon, Kirsty Iltners, Sharlene Allsopp. (c) Pascalle Burton	<b>Return to Medora:</b> Lynette Nomi in-cony w Jeann Wong	
1:00pm–2:00pm	<b>David McAllister:</b> <i>Ballet Confidential.</i> (c) Leanne Benjamin	<b>Brett Mason:</b> <i>Saving Lieutenant Kennedy.</i> (c) Phil Brown	<b>William McInnes:</b> <i>Yeah, Nah!</i> (c) Christine Jackman	<b>Awful People:</b> David Cohen, Lexi Freiman, Daryl Qilin Yam, Jennifer Croft. (c) Carody Oliver	<b>Legends of the Playhouse:</b> John Harvey, Maryanne Sam, Jirmi Bani. (c) Laila Thaker	<b>Environmental Insights:</b> Simon Cleary, Ian Lowe, Satyajit Das. (c) Amanda Niehaus	<b>It's Completely Normal to Never Speak of This Again (and Other Lies):</b> Megan Williams, Biffy James, (c) Jane Sullivan	
2:30pm–3:30pm	<b>Suzie Miller:</b> <i>Prima Facie</i> (c) Jessica Rudd	<b>Peter Dowding:</b> <i>Secret Agent, Unsung Hero.</i> (c) Clare Birgin	<b>Bryan Brown:</b> <i>The Drowning.</i> (c) Frances Whiting	<b>Graeme Simson &amp; Anne Buist:</b> <i>The Glass House.</i> (c) Rebecca Sparrow	<b>Lubly Poems:</b> Bebe Oliver, Melanie Mununggurr, Raelee Lancaster, Luke Patterson. (c) Melanie Saward	<b>Pardon My Speech:</b> Amy Remelkis, Lucinda Holdforth, Graeme Turner, Dr Ahona Guha. (c) Amber Gwynne	<b>Digging into the Lore:</b> Pacat, Sydney Khoo, Rhianna Patrick (c)	<b>HCLR Nova Weetman workshop:</b> Memoir Writing (2:30pm–4:30pm)
4:00pm–5:00pm	<b>Jake Adelstein:</b> <i>The Last Yakuza.</i> (c) Steve Austin	<b>Emily Perkins:</b> <i>Lioness.</i> (c) Ella Jeffery	<b>Writing About Art:</b> Bri Lee, Daniel Browning, Katy Hessel, Anna Kate Blair. (c) Amy Carkeek	<b>Murder Mystery:</b> Jennifer Croft, Dann McDormin, Sarah Smith, Balli Kaur Jaswal. (c) Adrian Todd Zuniga	<b>Pushing Boundaries:</b> Mayella Dewis, Shontelle Ketchell. (c) Laila Thaker	<b>Dave Witty:</b> <i>What the Trees See.</i> (c) Amanda Niehaus		
5:30pm–6:30pm	<b>Louise Doughty:</b> <i>A Bird in Winter.</i> (c) Sarah Kanowski	<b>Democratic Fragility:</b> Michael Ondaatje, Sally Young, Lucinda Holdforth. (c) Sean Jacobs	<b>Gods, Magic and Monsters:</b> Amie Kaufman, Naomi Novik, Sydney Khoo. (c) Ron Serdiuk	<b>Holly Ringland:</b> <i>The House that Joy Built.</i> (c) Bec Mac	<b>The Deep Well of Torres Strait Islander Myths and Legends:</b> Jillian Bowie. (c) Lenora Thaker	<b>Suspicious Circumstances:</b> Dennis Altman, Nikki Mottram, Michelle Prak, Dinuka McKenzie. (c) Megan McGrath		<b>Tracey Spicer:</b> <i>Man-Made.</i> North Lakes Library.
7:00pm–8:00pm	<b>Eat the Rich:</b> Emily Perkins, Lexi Freiman, Balli Kaur Jaswal, Emily O'Grady. (c) Alexandra Philip	<b>Griffith Review 84: Attachment Styles:</b> Ceridwen Dovey, Ahona Guha, Anna McGahan. (c) Natasha Mitchell	<b>Matthew Condon:</b> <i>Three Crooked Kings</i> (Solo Presentation)	<b>Speed Reads Salon:</b> 25 Authors in 60 minutes. (See session blurb on page 30 for artist details).	<b>Dreaming Inside:</b> Aunty Barbara Nicholson, Luke Patterson. (c) Rhianna Patrick	<b>Page Turner:</b> Naima Brown, Louise Milligan, Tim Ayliffe, Sulari Gentili. (c) Joanne Anderton		



SUNDAY 2 June	Auditorium 1	Auditorium 2	The Edge Auditorium	Queensland Terrace	kuril dhagun	The Studio	Other
10:00am–11:00am	<b>After:</b> Louise Doughty, Suzie Miller, Amanda Chong, Louise Milligan. (c) Carody Culver	<b>Machines Will Do the Work:</b> Richard King, Tracey Spicer, Marek Kowalkiewicz. (c) Leah Henrickson	<b>Trent Dalton:</b> <i>Lola in the Mirror.</i> (c) Frances Whiting	<b>Millennial Malaise:</b> Madeleine Gray, Naima Brown, Yen-Rong Wong David Goodwin. (c) Lauren Sherritt	<b>Daniel Browning:</b> <i>Close to the Subject.</i> (c) Rhianna Patrick	<b>The Search for Self:</b> Dominic Gordon, Sam Elki, Bebe Oliver. (c) Winnie Dunn	<b>HCLR</b> <b>Amie Kaufman Workshop</b> (10am–12pm)  <b>The Corner</b> <b>Megan Daley:</b> What's the Buzz About Bees?
11:30am–12:30pm	<b>Yesterday's News:</b> Sally Young, Walter Marsh. (c) Michael Ondaatje	<b>Temptations:</b> Charlotte Wood, Catherine Chidgey, Anna McGahan, Joel Deane. (c) Sita Walker	<b>Bri Lee:</b> <i>The Work.</i> (c) Amy Lovat	<b>It's Complicated:</b> Anita Heiss, Michelle Upton, Brydie Lee-Kennedy, Claire Christian. (c) Kimberly Allsopp	<b>Growing Up Torres Strait Islander in Australia:</b> Samantha Faulkner, Jillian Bowie, Jimi Bani, Dr Jackie Huggins AM FAHA. (c) Lenora Thaker	<b>Who the Hell is Hamish?</b> <i>The Last Victim</i> by Tracy Hall. (c) Martine Kropkowski	<b>The Corner</b> <b>Trent Jamieson &amp; Brent Wilson:</b> Pop Story
1:00pm–2:00pm	<b>Darryl Jones:</b> <i>Getting to Know the Birds in Your Neighbourhood.</i> (c) Ashley Hay	<b>Jennifer Croft:</b> <i>The Extinction of Irena Rey.</i> (c) Heather Zwicker	<b>Clementine Ford:</b> <i>I Don't: The Case Against Marriage.</i> (c) Patience Hodgson	<b>Richard Glover:</b> <i>Best Wishes</i> (Solo Presentation)	<b>Between Cultures:</b> Melanie Seward, Winnie Dunn, Sara M Saleh, Jade Kake. (c) Yen-Rong Wong	<b>Queer As:</b> Sam Elkin, Jarad Bruinroop, Shelley Parker-Chan, Dennis Altman. (c) Kris Kneen	<b>HCLR</b> <b>Dr Ahona Guha Workshop:</b> Tread with Care (1pm–3pm)
2:30pm–3:30pm	<b>Nature as Time Keeper:</b> Fiona McMillan-Webster, Dave Witty, Satvajit Das. Natasha Mitchell	<b>Griffith Review 83: Past Perfect:</b> Sharlene Allsopp, Richard King, Michael Ondaatje. (c) Carody Culver	<b>Modern Life:</b> Bri Lee, Madeleine Gray, Amy Lovat, Siang Lu. (c) Adrian Todd Zuniga	<b>Inverted Perspectives:</b> Ceridwen Dovey, Daryl Qilin Yam, Catherine Chidgey, Laura Jean McKay. (c) Ella Jeffery	<b>Bianca Valentino: Conversations with Punx:</b> (c) Pascalle Burton	<b>Crime Time:</b> Chris Womersley, Sulari Gentill, Tim Ayliffe, Sarah Smith. (c) Megan McGrath	
4:00pm–5:00pm	<b>Esmé Louise James:</b> <i>Kinky History.</i> (c) Kris Kneen	<b>Charlotte Wood:</b> <i>Stone Yard Devotional.</i> (c) Kristina Olsson	<b>Mythical and Mystical Resets:</b> Naomi Novik, CS Pacat, Shelley Parker-Chan. (c) Kathleen Jennings	<b>Tracey Spicer:</b> <i>Man-Made.</i> (c) Bec Mac	<b>From Page to Stage to Opera:</b> Jane Harrison. (c) Alethea Beetson	<b>Choices:</b> Georgia Harper, Katherine Allum, Jade Kake, Donna M Cameron. (c) Jen Bowden	
5:30pm–6:30pm	<b>Feeling Good:</b> Julia Baird, Richard Glover, Dr Ahona Guha. (c) Amber Gwynne	<b>Ed le Brocq:</b> <i>Sound Bites.</i> (c) Scott Harrison	<b>Girls to the Front:</b> Clementine Ford, Simone Amelia Jordan, Sara M Saleh. (c) Claire Christian	<b>Lexi Freiman:</b> <i>The Book of Ayn.</i> (c) Carody Culver	<b>Fantasy Festival:</b> Sharlene Allsopp, Cheryl Leavy, Daniel Browning. (c) Rhianna Patrick	<b>Machismo:</b> Joel Deane, Shivram Gopinath, Dominic Gordon, David Goodwin. (c) Simon Cleary	

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# DIDO AND AENEAS

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IN ASSOCIATION WITH CIRCA

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*"The magnificent acrobats of [Circa]...  
give us an exciting and stirring  
intensification of the music and the plot"*  
– Miriam Cosic for Arts Hub





# Out-of-Season Events

A special thank you to everyone who attended our out-of-season events between the 2023 festival and the 2024 Program Launch! For more exciting out-of-season events after the 2024 festival, make sure you're subscribed to our newsletter at [bwf.org.au/subscribe](https://bwf.org.au/subscribe) and that you're following our social media.

**Sally Hepworth: *Darling Girls***  
In Conversation with Frances Whiting  
Thursday 5 October, 2023



**Caroline O'Donoghue: *The Rachel Incident***  
In Conversation with Carody Culver  
Wednesday 11 October, 2023

**Rebecca Makkai: *I Have Some Questions for You***  
In Conversation with Carody Culver  
Monday 16 October, 2023



**Jay Kristoff: *Empire of the Damned***  
In Conversation with Jackie Ryan  
Thursday 22 February, 2024





**Eliza Clark: *Penance***  
In Conversation with Carody Culver  
Monday 26 February, 2024



**Patrick deWitt: *The Librarianist***  
In Conversation with Myles McGuire  
Tuesday 27 February, 2024



**Richard Ford: *Be Mine***  
In Conversation with Venero Armano  
Thursday 29 February 2024



**Anne Enright: *The Wren, The Wren***  
In Conversation with Heather Zwicker  
Friday 1 March 2024



**Rebecca F Kuang: *Yellowface***  
In Conversation with Mirandi Riwoe  
Monday 11 March 2024



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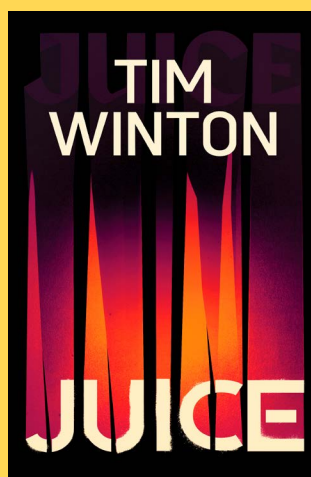


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**BWF all gulp, no pulp**

# Samuel Tupou | cover artist



**Samuel Tupou is a Brisbane-based artist specialising in screen-printing.**

He creates artworks that respond to his Tongan and Polynesian heritage, incorporating patterns derived from and inspired by traditional Pacific Island Tapa cloth design. His recent works draw inspiration from mathematical geometry and 80s video game imagery as well as Pacific Island Tapa cloth design and fine mat weaving. Sam refers to this design style as 'space tropical', which aptly describes BWF.



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# Brisbane Writers Festival Team



BWF thanks its amazing and dedicated volunteers, who make the festival happen each year.

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**Volunteers Manager** Sue-Anne Chapman  
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**Volunteers Coordinator** Hannah Fuller

## Intern

Kieren Scougall

## 2024 Youth Ambassadors

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Alex Dupriez  
Celine Lindeque  
Josephine Renee

**Cover Image** Samuel Tupou  
**Program Design** Evans and Hartshorn



*Birds of a Feather*

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## Acknowledgements

Brisbane Writers Festival acknowledges the generous support of our donors, with special thanks to the Taylor family.

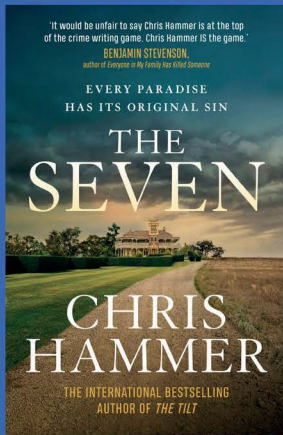
We are a non-for-profit organisation and rely on the generosity of donors and partners to support our aim of bringing stories to life in Queensland communities.

Brisbane Writers Festival is supported by the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland.

Brisbane Writers Festival is assisted by the Australian Government through Creative Australia, its arts funding and advisory body.







**CHRIS HAMMER - THE SEVEN**

In Conversation with Sally Piper



**4-5pm, Friday 31 May**

SLQ, Auditorium 1

Scrublands proclaimed Chris Hammer the new master of rural noir. His latest novel, *The Seven*, is a propulsive thriller set among the hermetic elite of Yuwonderie, whose founding families conceal a century of secrets. Brilliantly plotted and vividly characterised, *The Seven* is a dark treat for crime aficionados.

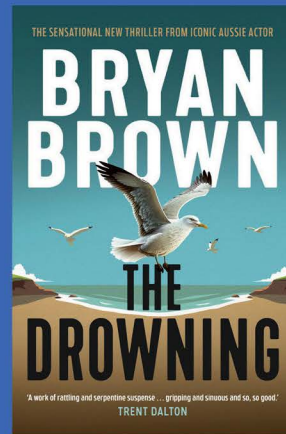
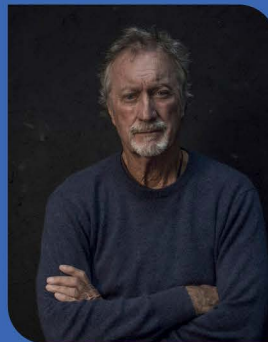
**BRYAN BROWN - THE DROWNING**

In Conversation with Frances Whiting

**2:30-3:30pm, Saturday 1 June**

SLQ, The Edge Auditorium

Fresh off a lauded turn in *Boy Swallows Universe*, screen legend Bryan Brown follows up his visceral book *Sweet Jimmy* with another triumphant work of Australian crime writing. Funny, gritty and laconic, *The Drowning* is an unpredictable mystery rich in suspense and unforgettable characters.



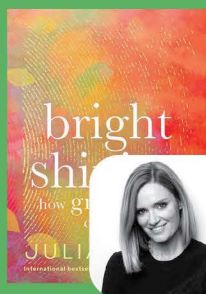
**FEELING GOOD PANEL**

Chair: Amber Gwynne

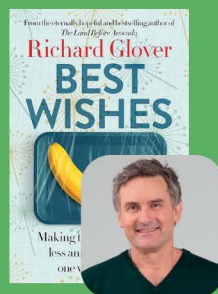
**5:30-6:30pm,  
Sunday 2 June**

SLQ, Auditorium 1

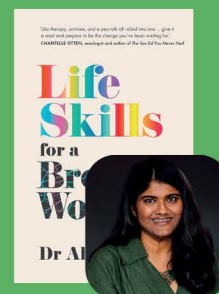
Optimism can be a tall order in a world that often seems to verge on chaos. With humour, wisdom and grace, these writers map a path through a tumultuous era, considering how we might build a kinder and less annoying society.



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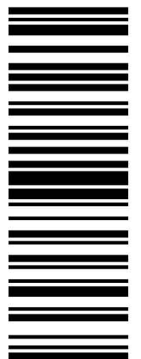


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