



BRISBANE
WRITERS
FESTIVAL

HAVE WE
GOT A
STORY
FOR YOU

10-14 MAY 2023

Brisbane
Writers
Festival



**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.

Contents

6

Our
Specialist
Curators

8

Tickets

9

Information

10

Map

12

Special
Events

14

Featured
Conversations

16

Country
of Focus:
South Korea

17

Families

18

Word Play

21

Word Play
Online

24

Love YA

27

Wednesday
10 May

28

Thursday
11 May

31

Friday
12 May

34

Saturday
13 May

38

Sunday
14 May

42

Beyond
Brisbane

43

Workshops

44

Online
Events

47

Timetable

53

Artist
index

57

Our
Partners

58

Brisbane
Writers
Festival
Team



Join the conversation



@briswritersfest



#BWF23



#HaveWeGotAStoryForYou



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



Lord Mayor's Statement

Brisbane's vibrant literary scene is always expanding with writers and creative thinkers that contribute to the diverse community of

storytelling talent fostered here in the river city.

At the heart of these journeys are our community libraries, which we continue to invest in for Brisbane residents to embrace their love of reading and writing.

Each year, the Brisbane Writers Festival presents fantastic opportunities to listen to and engage with writers and ideas that stimulate creativity, exploration and public discourse.

In addition to showcasing Brisbane-based artists, the festival attracts renowned national and international writers, poets and philosophers for all to enjoy.

I recommend exploring the Brisbane Writers Festival program in advance, so that you can make the most of everything the festival has to offer in May.

Adrian Schrinner
Lord Mayor



Message from the Arts Minister

Welcome to Brisbane Writers Festival 2023, where we celebrate storytelling and

champion the work of writers around the globe.

For six decades, Brisbane Writers Festival has been a source of creative inspiration, introducing audiences to bold ideas, diverse points of view and the everlasting power of words.

This year's festival presents the work of writers from across a range of genres from comedy, crime, history and politics to romance, science and social issues.

Audiences can engage with literary luminaries including First Nations poet and activist Lionel Fogarty, multi-award-winning writer Tim Winton, Booker Prize winner Shehan Karunatilaka, and local favourites Kate Morton and Trent Dalton.

The Queensland Government supports the Brisbane Writers Festival to provide a significant stage to connect audiences, stories and storytellers.

Brisbane Writers Festival delivers on the Queensland Government's *Creative Together, a 10-year Roadmap for Arts, Culture and Creativity* and its priority to share our stories and celebrate our storytellers.

With more than 160 events across five days, Brisbane Writers Festival will become the story of 2023 and the place to be.

The Honourable Leeanne Enoch MP
Minister for Communities and Housing
Minister for Digital Economy and
Minister for the Arts



Chair's Statement

On traditional lands of the Yuggera and Turrbul peoples, filled with culture for tens of thousands of generations, a mere sixty

years ago writers gathered for what has become the Brisbane Writers Festival.

This year, the literary luminaries at the festival include Alexis Wright, Lionel Fogarty and a substantial cohort of First Nations writers. They will be joined by Jenny Odell, Gabrielle Zevin, Irvine Welsh and 2022 Booker Prize winner Shehan Karunatilaka. Other favourites will include Tim Winton, Grace Tame, Waleed Aly, Brooke Blurton, Samuel Johnson, Kate Morton and Trent Dalton.

Country of Focus: South Korea brings Bora Chung, Bae Suah, Sang Young Park, Kim Min Jeong, Krys Lee, Gihun Lee and JiHyeon Lee to the festival.

Artistic Director Jackie Ryan has put the festive into the festival. There is something of interest for everyone.

I thank our Festival Friends and other supporters who allow the Brisbane Writers Festival to pursue our mission to create exceptional experiences that connect diverse communities through the power of words and writing.

I look forward to sharing the festival with readers and writers of crime, history, politics, social issues, poetry, science, romance and more.

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



Artistic Director's Statement

Have I got a story for you! It's got monsters, politics, science, romance, comedy, social issues, environmental concerns, poetry, tragedy, history, conflict, crime and redemption. But enough about my personal life.

All of these subjects – and more – are also explored at BWF in 2023. But it's not just the stories, of course, it's who's telling them. Eminent First Nations writers such as Alexis Wright and Lionel Fogarty. Current Booker Prize winner Shehan Karunatilaka. Australian icons Tim Winton, Grace Tame, Dr Norman Swan, Brooke Blurton, Stan Grant and Bryan Brown. International luminaries Witi Ihimaera, Irvine Welsh, Gabrielle Zevin, Jenny Odell, Bill Hayes, Matt and Sarah Brown, Katherena Vermette, Chloe Gong and our extraordinary guests from this year's Country of Focus, South Korea. Emerging superstars Tracey Lien, Jessica Au and Nat's What I Reckon. Brisbane legends Nick Earls, Samuel Watson, Kate Morton, Trent Dalton, Frances Whiting, Hedley Thomas, Walter Sofronoff and Regurgitator. I could go on ... but that's what this program is for.

In 2023 we're also keen to bring the 'festive' to festival, with poetry and literary salons including 'All I Have Is a Voice', 'Greatest Hits and Other Bits' and 'NSFW'. The speakers we've secured aren't just some of our finest writers, they're some of our greatest raconteurs. Then there is the 'Lovers of Love' session with Trent Dalton and Samuel Johnson. Please: no underwear throwing. And don't forget the wonders of Literary Death Match and its jaw-dropping line-up of writing talent. Hot tip: these events will all sell out.

But wait – that's not all!

We've got more than 160 events for your literary consumption this year, nearly forty of which were devised by our wonderful cultural curators. My thanks to them all. Thank you, also, to the BWF Board, our First Nations Advisory Council and the extraordinarily hard-working BWF team. Special shoutout to the beating heart of this organisation, Melissa Bates. Thanks to our sponsors and our partners. Thanks to the publishers and the writers for trusting us with their time. And thanks to our prospective BWF audience: it's your story now. I invite you to take a good look through the program and choose your own adventure.

Jackie Ryan

Artistic Director, Brisbane Writers Festival



CEO's Statement

Books have always been a big part of my life – I've loved reading them, sharing them and talking about them for as long as I can remember. So I feel incredibly honoured to be a part of Brisbane Writers Festival, an event that's long connected readers and writers through the magic of words and stories.

I'm especially proud to present you with this year's program, which promises a story for every reader (with more than 160 events, we really do have something for everyone). It's a real treat to witness the excitement on people's faces when I share some of the names featured in the 2023 line-up – and those names are just the beginning! We're delighted to be welcoming around 300 writers to Brisbane for four days of fantastic literary events aimed at readers of all ages. It's a privilege to be able to showcase the work of all these talented authors, and I hope they enjoy their time here as much as I know that you'll enjoy hearing them talk about their craft and share their insights and ideas.

Putting together a festival is no small task, but BWF is a small team – and they've gone above and beyond to deliver this year's program. We couldn't do what we do without the dedication and passion of our staff and the commitment and energy of our volunteers. My huge thanks goes to each and every one of them.

I also want to express my sincere gratitude to our Board, our First Nations Advisory Council, and to all the festival's supporters and sponsors – your generosity and engagement makes our work possible. Last but not least, thank you to our Artistic Director Jackie Ryan, whose vision, drive and enthusiasm have made this year's festival such a joy to be part of.

Melissa Bates

CEO, Brisbane Writers Festival

Our Specialist Curators

Each year, Brisbane Writers Festival (BWF) invites specialist curators to put together a series of sessions to complement and enhance our regular festival program. You'll find each curator's credit next to 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 the 2023 curators for their illuminating and exciting contributions.



Daniel Browning
– **Aboriginal First Nations Curator**

In curating these sessions for the Brisbane

Writers Festival, I wanted to focus on the unpublished or soon-to-be-published work of First Nations creatives. I am particularly interested in the ways in which the continent's First Languages (which are in and of themselves largely unpublished oral literatures) are enlivened through spoken word and performance. The literary power of our languages is explored through the translation work of Noongar artists Clint and Kylie Bracknell and Wiradjuri poet and podcaster Lorna Munro. I'm also keen to exceed the limits imposed by a literary festival on the range of topics covered by First Nations creatives – hence the idea of a session where writers talk about history, politics, social issues, media representation and visual art. Djon Mundine's forthcoming collection of published essays will track the history of the greatest non-literary medium we have at our disposal for cross-cultural understanding: visual art. I have sought to extend the range of literary voices to include those working across genres, beyond the form of the book and the printed word.



Samantha Faulkner
– **Torres Strait Islander First Nations Curator**

The Torres Strait

Islander panels showcase the richness, strength and diversity of Torres Strait Islander people and culture, exploring the past (Japan-Australia research project, Elders yarning on growing up), present (women and men) and future (Olympic spirit

and experience). Join these intimate conversations and listen to the narratives on Ailan Kastom and Torres Strait Islander life. I want the audience to be taken on a journey, enjoy the experience, learn something new and be amazed!



Sung-Ae Lee
– **Country of Focus (South Korea) Curator**

It's my great privilege to curate a series of Korean

literature panels for Brisbane Writers Festival. Korea has a vibrant literary tradition, shaped by almost a century of oppression: first Japanese colonisation and then a cycle of military dictatorships. Freedom of expression was non-existent until 1993 – and even then, only limited freedom was granted. Subsequently, the National Security Law has occasionally been activated to impose censorship, and as recently as 2021, a law was introduced to control the narrative of historical topics. Public libraries still censor such vaguely defined subjects as anti-government materials and political discourse.

This climate has far-reaching consequences. It means that modern Korean literature has had to confront dystopian elements in society, and writers have had to show great courage when seeking to write about inequality and injustice, not knowing if their work would reach an audience. But their efforts have proved inspirational – Korean literature embodies resistance and critique, and in the 21st century, many bold and experimental authors have been introduced to the world by skilful translators. Today, Korean writing continues to challenge Confucian patriarchy, gender inequality, vast disparities in wealth and power, and the capacity of money to corrupt political and judicial systems.

I'm looking forward to an exciting representation of Korean fiction writers and poets in Brisbane, and I'm hugely

excited to welcome them to this year's festival.



Megan Daley
– **Word Play & Families Curator**

It was my parents who first took me along to the Brisbane

Writers Festival and I well remember the excitement of meeting a 'for real life' author. Fast forward many years and I now take my own four children to the festival, so it is indeed an honour to be curating the 2023 Word Play program for a festival I have loved since my childhood. In my curation of the program for our youngest festival attendees, I am showcasing some of the most talented, high-octane, passionate creators of stories for children and young adults – the energy of this program will burst from the pages to the festival stages and online. Authors and illustrators are the rocks stars of avid young readers and there is no shortage of sparkle, skill and celebrity status among the line-up of presenters for the 2023 Word Play program. As a passionate educator, I have also carefully considered the needs of primary and secondary schools and this year's program is full of curriculum-aligned workshops and talks. Young people are our future readers, our future festival attendees and, potentially, our future authors and illustrators; the Word Play program is designed to nurture, inspire and build skills in the art of storytelling. Also, it's going to be playful – because we all need some joy, laughter and play in our lives and in our literature.



Karen Lee
– **Love YA Curator**

What an honour to curate the Love YA program this year, featuring some of Australia's most talented authors

and storytellers as well as a sprinkling of international stardust. In recent years young adult literature has showcased greater representation of diversity with POC, disabled and LGBTQ+ in both leading and secondary characters. In saying that, meaningful diversity in books must also extend to systemic change in the industry to make it more accessible for marginalised authors, editors and those working in publishing.

Coming to Brisbane as a teen in the late nineties, I yearned to see myself reflected in Australia's narrative; to know that I wasn't alone. That would be a long time coming. So, when the opportunity to become part of the YA program arrived, I jumped at the chance to take readers on a journey into the spaces we can belong and co-exist.

In curating this line-up, my hope is that the audience will get a glimpse into the world as the authors have experienced it.

From stories about love, family, grief, and living in the shadows of colonisation and marginalisation, these novels provoke, inspire and leave us with moments that continue to echo in our subconscious.



Matthew Condon
– Brisbane as a Storied City Curator

If you're lucky enough to have been born in

Brisbane, it becomes the immovable backdrop to your life, no matter where you live in the world. It calls to you ceaselessly, this place where the past always seems within reach. Its magical light. The drama of its weather. The dichotomy that it is unequivocally a 21st-century multicultural metropolis, yet will

always be as big or small as you want it to be. These sessions are an attempt to illuminate the past, present and future of a city undergoing monumental change – a place that has finally turned its back on its big-sister capital cities in the south and is striding ahead with its own unique identity. Brisbane has always had a wealth of writers attuned to its beauty, eccentricities and, on occasion, its horrors. It is a place where nothing is done by halves, and the writers and journalists showcased here are the embodiment of that spirit. They are the children of Brisbane – loyal, sensitive, just, chronicling life where nostalgia rests in the soil and life can be as brutal as the furnace of its summers. They carry the literary flame of this city. They are an indispensable part of the evolution of Brisbane, and they and those scribes that follow them hold the key to its future.

A Musical Quest

Don Quixote

12 + 13 MAY

R. Strauss *Don Quixote*

Mozart Piano Concerto No.24 in C minor

Conductor Umberto Clerici

Piano Piers Lane Cello Hyung Suk Bae

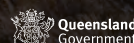
Violin Natsuko Yoshimoto Viola Imants Larsens

Actor Eugene Gilfedder



QUEENSLAND SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA

qso.com.au



Tickets

Be our friend!

Become a Festival Friend and receive all of the benefits, including

- 20% discount on festival tickets and passes
- discounts for our online series and on-site events throughout the year
- invitations to exclusive events, including the launch of our book and our end-of-year celebration.

Membership is just \$75 and is valid until 31 December 2023.

Join a community of readers and support the festival you love.

Sign up today at bwf.org.au/friends before purchasing your tickets.

FREE EVENTS

Bookings
essential.
Please see
bwf.org.au
for more
details.

Regular Festival

In-person events

\$20 Festival Friend

\$25 full

\$22.50 concession

Five Pass

(in-person events)

\$75 Festival Friend

\$100 full

\$85 concession

Festival Pass

(in-person events)

\$255 Festival Friend

\$320 full

\$285 concession

**Festival Passes exclude
Special Events, Featured
Events, Word Play and
Online Events.**

For instructions on how
to redeem your multi-event
pass for event tickets,
please visit

[bwf.org.au/whats-on/
ticket-information/passes](http://bwf.org.au/whats-on/ticket-information/passes)

Special Events

Mother's Day High Tea

\$116 Festival Friend

\$145 full

\$130.50 concession

Literary Death Match

\$30 Festival Friend

\$35 full

\$32.50 concession

Marion Taylor Gala

\$200 Festival Friend

\$250 full

Conversations

First Word – free,
bookings essential

Last Word and Closing

Address – free,
bookings essential

Featured Conversations

Featured Conversations
are marked 'Special Events'
in the program and are
individually priced (see the
Featured Conversations
page for details).

**Special and Featured
events are not included in
the Festival Pass or Five
Pass offers.**

Word Play

Early bird (15–31 March)

\$8 per person

Regular

\$10 per person

School groups receive one
complimentary teacher
ticket per 15 student
tickets. Call 07 3216 0694
for large bookings.

Word Play Online

Family: **\$40** subscription

Schools under 100
students: **\$50**
subscription

Schools 100–500
students: **\$80**
subscription

Schools over 500 students:
\$110 subscription

Individual session
downloads: **\$18** per class
\$10 per family

Subscriptions run from
Term 2 to Term 4, 2023.

Please note: family tickets
cannot be projected or
watched on multiple
devices at once.

Online Events

Single online event

\$8 Festival Friend

\$12 full

\$10 concession

The Second Book single episode

\$10 Festival Friend

\$15 full

The Second Book season pass

\$120

Access to all 10 episodes

For more information,
visit bwf.org.au

Love YA

Free, bookings essential.

Information

Program Updates

Changes to the program in this printed brochure may happen due to external circumstances. Visit bwf.org.au for updates.



How to book

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

Online: bwf.org.au

Phone: 07 3216 0694, 9am–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 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 session or season 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

Book purchases

Books from Brisbane Writers Festival authors can be purchased online and at the festival from our official bookseller, the Library Shop.

Book signing

Book signings will take place at the end of an event. Bring your bookshop purchases along to be signed by authors.

Food and coffee

Food and coffee are available for purchase on site at the festival.

Getting to the festival

Most BWF events take place at 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 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 State Library of Queensland.

Visit translink.com.au or call 13 12 30 for more information.

Parking

Paid parking is available throughout the Cultural Centre precinct.

Walking

The Cultural Centre 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

Watching events online

Our online events can be watched through your BWF account on our website – this is the same account you use to purchase tickets and make donations to us. For more information on how to watch, visit bwf.org.au/digital

Accessibility

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

Companion Card holders qualify for a complimentary ticket for their companion. Please contact the Brisbane Writers Festival 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 Brisbane Writers Festival over \$2 is tax deductible.

Visit bwf.org.au/donate

Terms and Conditions

Program details are correct at the time of printing. Brisbane Writers Festival 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 and Conditions are available at bwf.org.au

Map



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

From the James C. Sourris AM Collection of Artist Interviews

MEET THE ARTISTS

Hear their words, see their work



Official exhibition publication
Purchase in store at Library Shop or online

Curated and written by leading Australasian art authority Julie Ewington, delve into intimate conversations and contemporary artworks from acclaimed Australian artists and artworkers within the James C. Sourris AM Collection of Artist Interviews.



Blockbusters and Beyond

CINEMATIC

26 + 27 MAY

Includes music from

Avatar • Titanic • Star Wars • Up • The Lord of the Rings
The Mandalorian • Howl's Moving Castle • Inception
Beauty and the Beast • Love, Actually and more

Conductor & Host Nicholas Buc
Choir Voices of Birrale



QUEENSLAND SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA

qso.com.au



Special Events

**SPECIAL
EVENTS**

First Word Opening Address

Keynote by Lionel Fogarty

**4–5:30pm, Wednesday 10 May,
slq Queensland Terrace**

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 2023, that writer is leading Indigenous poet and political activist Lionel Fogarty. Born on an Aboriginal reserve on Wakka Wakka land, Fogarty has been at the forefront of the fight for Indigenous rights since he was a teenager. Today, with fourteen published poetry collections and a career of writing and activism spanning more than forty years, Fogarty's revolutionary spirit and rousing words are as strong and salient as ever. In addition to the First Nations keynote and as part of the First Word formalities, the audience will also hear from select festival figures and politicians; from representatives of BWF's 2023 Country of Focus, South Korea; and from author Trent Jamieson, who will give a short reading from his piece in the BWF book *Celebrating 60 Years of the Brisbane Writers Festival*.

Supported by University of Queensland



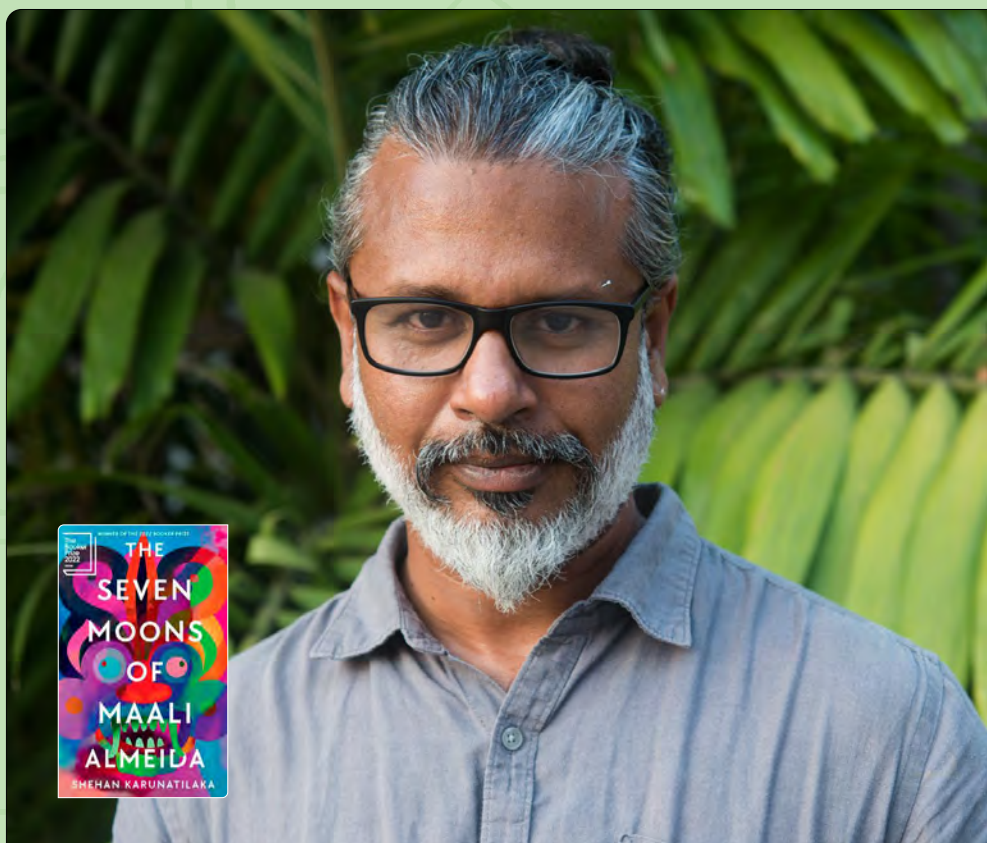
The Marion Taylor Opening Night Gala

Keynote speech by Shehan Karunatilaka

**7–10pm, Wednesday
10 May, QAGOMA Water Mall**

Join us for an elegant affair in the Queensland Art Gallery's exquisite Water Mall, where you will be wined, dined and illumined by our keynote speaker, Booker Prize winner Shehan Karunatilaka. Reflecting on his stratospheric year and the possibilities of literature in a globalised world, Shehan calls on us to celebrate the sublime and the strange – the perfect note on which to begin this year's Brisbane Writers Festival.

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





Mother's Day High Tea

Holly Wainwright in conversation with Frances Whiting

10am–12pm, Sunday 14 May, Customs House

Holly Wainwright's career has been characterised by her wry insights into women's lives, first as a journalist and now as one of Australia's most popular fiction writers. Join us at the fabulously fancy Customs House for a delicious High Tea with the author of *I Give My Marriage a Year* and *The Couple Upstairs* in conversation with the equally charming Frances Whiting. Discussing how they balance journalism, fiction and the extracurricular demands of modern life, these two brilliant ladies are the perfect Mother's Day present.

Supported by Feros Care



Literary Death Match

Judges: Gabrielle Zevin, Deni Todorović, Jess Ho. Competitors: Shirley Le, Myles McGuire,

Siang Lu, Benjamin Stevenson

Host: Adrian Todd Zuniga

8:30–9:30pm, Thursday 11 May, slq Auditorium 1

Four rising writerly stars bring their performance A-game to this magnificent literary showdown. In a thrilling blend of page and stage, Literary Death Match – co-created and hosted by Adrian Todd Zuniga – asks four writers to read their most entertaining work to the crowd. But this is no genteel salon – after each writer performs, they'll be subject to the rapier wit of three all-star judges, and only one contestant will be crowned the Literary Death Match winner. Join this year's plucky writers – Myles McGuire, Siang Lu, Shirley Le and Benjamin Stevenson – alongside judges Gabrielle Zevin, Deni Todorović and Jess Ho for a night of brilliance, barbs and belly laughs.

Closing Address with Alexis Wright

The World Needs Powerful Storytellers – Right Now!

5:30–7pm, Sunday 14 May, slq Queensland Terrace

The peerless Alexis Wright will close the 2023 Brisbane Writers Festival with a powerful exploration of apocalypse and creation. In this stirring speech, Wright probes the possibility for revelation in humanity's existential crisis, the rediscovery of ancient modes of being and perceiving, and the critical role of storytellers in this moment of peril. Join one of Australia's finest literary minds for an address that unifies philosophy and prophecy, bringing this year's festival to a rousing and provocative climax.

Supported by University of Queensland



Featured Conversations

**SPECIAL
EVENTS**

Bora Chung on *Cursed Bunny*

In conversation with Helen Marshall

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

**\$35 full / \$31.50 concession /
\$28 Festival Friend**

Welcome to the sinister world of *Cursed Bunny*. In this chillingly good International Booker–shortlisted collection by South Korean sensation Bora Chung, body horror and hauntings collide with fables and magical realism to reveal the true terrors of our age: capitalism, patriarchy and unchecked power. In conversation with award-winning short fiction writer Helen Marshall, Chung breaks down her genre-defying literary style and scalpel-sharp critique.

Witi Ihimaera on His Life and Work

In conversation with Winnie Dunn

4–5pm, Thursday 11 May,
slq Auditorium 1

**\$25 full / \$22.50 concession /
\$20 Festival Friend**

One of the greats of Māori literature, Witi Ihimaera is a prolific writer of short stories and novels whose sensational story *The Whale Rider* is an antipodean classic. To mark the fiftieth anniversary

of both his short story collection, *Pounamu Pounamu*, and of his first novel, *Tangi*, Ihimaera reflects on a life in writing and the reconciliation of Indigenous perspectives with Western forms of literature.

Shehan Karunatilaka on *The Seven Moons of Maali Almeida*

In conversation with Heather Zwicker

7–8pm, Thursday 11 May,
slq The Edge Auditorium

**\$45 full / \$40.50 concession /
\$36 Festival Friend**

The monastic world of letters meets the pagan energy of rock'n'roll in the most recent Booker Prize–winning novel, *The Seven Moons of Maali Almeida*. This extraordinary book (with its unusual publication history) is a literary parable, a violent fusion of the sacred and profane, and a revolutionary moment for Sri Lankan fiction. Join Shehan Karunatilaka as he discusses his kaleidoscopic novel, both a history lesson and a masterclass in fiction.

Supported by the Taylor family

Lovers of Love

Panellists: Trent Dalton (*Love Stories*),

Samuel Johnson (*Dear Lover*)

Moderator: Christine Jackman

1–2pm, Saturday 13 May,

slq The Edge Auditorium

**\$35 full / \$31.50 concession /
\$28 Festival Friend**

Love is in the air in these gorgeous epistolary collections, which document longing, lust and everything in between. Romantic men Trent Dalton and Samuel Johnson will sweep you off your feet with these affairs of the heart, from the everyday to the amorous missives of Australia's best known public figures.

Tracey Lien on *All That's Left Unsaid*

In conversation with Claire Nichols
(The Book Show, ABC RN)

4–5pm, Saturday 13 May,
slq The Edge Auditorium

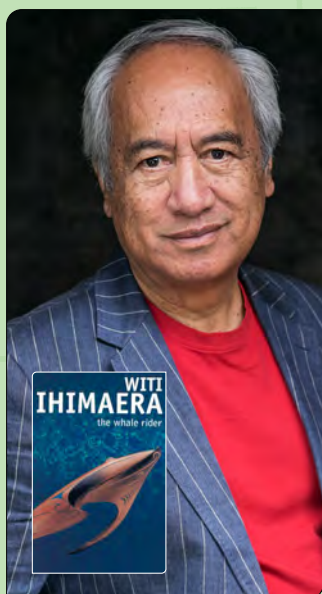
**\$35 full / \$31.50 concession /
\$28 Festival Friend**

A remarkable bestseller exploring internecine conflicts and systematic discrimination, *All That's Left Unsaid* is an impassioned, suspenseful study of life in Australia's migrant communities. Seasoned journalist Tracey Lien unpacks the process behind her debut novel, marrying a reporter's eye for detail to the fiction writer's empathetic odyssey.

Supported by QBD Books



Bora Chung



Witi Ihimaera



Trent Dalton



Tracey Lien

Blockbuster Crime

Panellists: Irvine Welsh (*The Long Knives*), Tracey Lien (*All That's Left Unsaid*), Candice Fox (*Fire With Fire*), Garry Disher (*Day's End*)
Moderator: Hayley Scrivenor

7–8pm, Saturday 13 May,
 slq The Edge Auditorium

\$35 full / \$31.50 concession / \$28 Festival Friend

Too often mystery novels are overlooked, despite the greatest crime fiction revealing our darkest impulses and social paranoias. Four titans of tension discuss the art of transcendent crime writing, and readers' enduring fascination with those who commit violence acts and those who bring them to justice.

Supported by QBD Books

Bill Hayes on Sweat

In conversation with Carody Culver (*Griffith Review*)

10–11am, Sunday 14 May,
 slq The Edge Auditorium

\$25 full / \$22.50 concession / \$20 Festival Friend

Too often, a life of the mind comes at the expense of the body. In this revealing new work of nonfiction, the wonderfully erudite Bill Hayes demystifies sweat and the body's relationship to exercise, from early bipeds to the physique cults of antiquity and the bloodless, avuncular wellness industry of the present.

Jenny Odell on Saving Time

In conversation with Christine Jackman

1–2pm, Sunday 14 May,
 slq Auditorium 1

\$25 full / \$22.50 concession / \$20 Festival Friend

Ever feel like you don't have enough time? Jenny Odell can help you clock off. In her brilliantly perceptive and subversive new book, the multidisciplinary artist and bestselling author dismantles the dominant conceptions of time that define our days, offering us different and more meaningful ways of experiencing the many rhythms of our lives.

Irvine Welsh on Trainspotting

In conversation with John Birmingham

1–2pm, Sunday 14 May,
 The Edge Auditorium

\$35 full / \$31.50 concession / \$28 Festival Friend

Thirty years after the release of *Trainspotting*, Irvine Welsh joins John Birmingham to discuss his grungy modern classic. Polarising critics at the time of its release, this subversive masterwork of addiction and alienation has only grown in stature in the decades since its release. In this exclusive event, Welsh reflects on the novel's cult legacy and the state of transgressive fiction today.

Gabrielle Zevin on Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow

In conversation with Maureen Engel

2:30–3:30pm, Sunday 14 May,
 slq The Edge Auditorium

\$35 full / \$31.50 concession / \$28 Festival Friend

Gabrielle Zevin has developed a reputation for writing seriously thoughtful literature with unabashed entertainment value. Her latest bestseller, *Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow*, is about the quest to create perfect worlds through technology and the imperfect nature of even our most treasured friendships. In conversation with Maureen Engel, Gabrielle reflects on how fiction both echoes the world we live in and imagines how we would like to live.

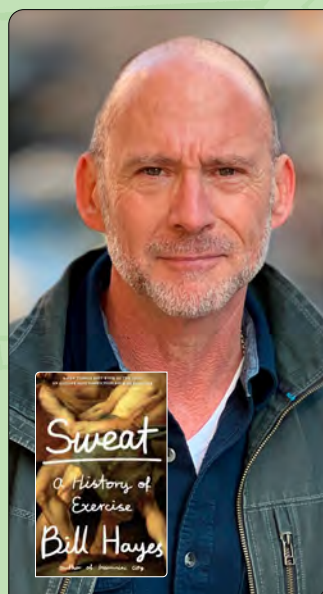
Tim Winton's Love Letter to Ningaloo

In conversation with Ashley Hay

4–5:15pm, Sunday 14 May,
 slq The Edge Auditorium

\$45 full / \$40.50 concession / \$36 Festival Friend

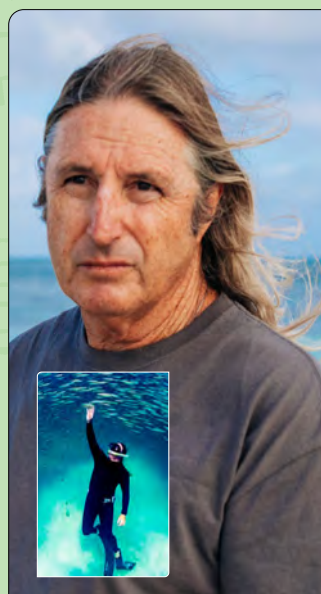
He's been writing about coastal life for more than forty years – but instead of publishing a new novel, this four-time Miles Franklin winner has delivered a three-part natural history series for television. What makes an artist step so far outside his lane at this stage of his career? How does a novelist reconcile a lifelong defence of 'useless beauty' with the urgent need for action? A reflection on writing in the throes of a climate emergency and extinction crisis.



Bill Hayes



Jenny Odell



Tim Winton



Gabrielle Zevin

Country of Focus

South Korea 한국

For the second year, BWF presents its Country of Focus program, an initiative highlighting the dynamic literature of the Indo-Pacific region. Situating Australian writing within a geopolitical context, Country of Focus emphasises the exchange of ideas across language, culture and geography and the critical role of literature in an interconnected modern world.

Korean culture has become an international sensation in the 21st century. People may immediately think of film, drama and K-pop, but Korean literature is equally impressive, as attested by prestigious international awards and regular appearances on bestseller lists.

Translators have enabled global recognition of works such as Shin Kyung-Sook's *Please Look After My Mother*, Kim Young-Ha's *I Have the Right to Destroy Myself* and Han Gang's *The Vegetarian* – stories that speak eloquently to Western readers in our turbulent era.

— Dr Sung-Ae Lee, Country of Focus Curator

This year, the festival has the pleasure of hosting some extraordinary South Korean talents, beginning with the incredible children's book illustrators Gihun Lee and JiHyeon

Lee, then expanding to include some of the most exciting and subversive voices in South Korean literature: the experimental Bae Suah; neoromantic Sang Young Park; feminist poet Kim Min Jeong; polymathic Kryss Lee; and literary luminary Bora Chung. Their astonishing work probes the psychological disquiet of modernity through radical formal innovation and devastating intimacy.

These are extraordinary South Korean artists and stories. They are stories that particularise the universal, reminding us of the enduring power of literature – to expose how we suffer and how we find salvation.

BWF is pleased to have partnered with the Korean Cultural Centre, the Australia-Korea Foundation, and the Literature and Translation Institute of Korea to bring this event to fruition. We thank them and Dr Sung-Ae Lee for their generosity and expertise.



Bae Suah



Kryss Lee



Sang Young Park

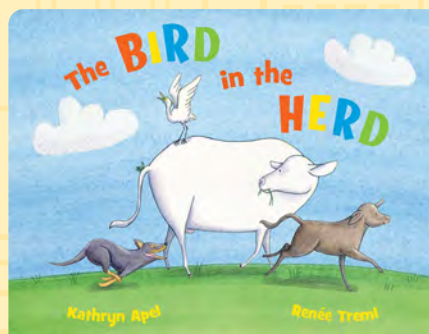


Kim Min Jeong

Families

Free programming for family groups
State Library of Queensland

**FREE
EVENTS**



Let's Get Mooooving

Kathryn Apel and Renée Tremblé

**10–11am, Sunday 14 May,
slq The Corner**

Bringing rural Queensland farm life to the city, there'll be a whole herd of crafts and activities with the creators of *The Bird in the Herd*, **Kathryn Apel** and **Renée Tremblé**.

Who Is YA Really For?

**Panellists: Youth Ambassadors
Sophie, Emily, and Kieren**

**Moderator: Danielle Binks
(*The Monster of Her Age*)**

**11:30am–12:30pm, Sunday 14 May,
slq The Parlour**

The absence of platforms for young people can lead to disengagement and disempowerment. In this turbo-charged panel, BWF's Youth Ambassadors share their personal take on what YA literature means to them, how it's captured the politics that affect their lives, and the spaces in between that can represent the experiences of Australia's youth. This panel is a must do for festival programmers and publishers who care about where the future of YA should be heading.

Microfiction Readings & Announcement Ceremony

**4–5pm, Thursday 11 May,
slq Queensland Terrace**

All are welcome for the announcement ceremony featuring readings of shortlisted and winning entries, presented by our guest judge: middle-grade and YA author Will Kostakis.

Find out more about entering the Microfiction Competition on page 20 or visit bwf.org.au/microfiction

Presented in partnership with
The University of Queensland



Discover more about Korean culture
at the Korean Cultural Centre AU (KCCA)
situated in the heart of Sydney CBD



www.koreanculture.org.au



Word Play

10–12 May, 10am–2pm,
State Library of Queensland

Nat Amore

Chaos Kid | Years 4–6

11:30am–12:30pm,
Wednesday 10 May, slq Auditorium 1
10–11am, Thursday 11 May,
slq Auditorium 1

Nat Amore presents a rollercoaster ride through the wild tale that is her life, showing kids how they can steal from their very own experiences to create characters and stories. How does the cheeky kid obsessed with Hollywood movies become an award-winning, internationally published author? You'll find out as we delve into the chaos of Nat's childhood and discover how your very own mistakes and mishaps can become hilarious tales of adventure and mayhem.

Unconventional: An Author's Journey | Years 7–8

1–2pm, Thursday 11 May,
slq The Edge Auditorium

Nat Amore didn't always want to be an author and she never dreamed she COULD be. But an unbelievable career path and a life of adventure gave her the experiences to fill the books she writes today. From reality shows to a travelling circus, rock concerts to Caribbean sail boats, discover why Nat's written adventures seem larger than life – but perhaps are not.

Lystra Rose

How To Fib Your Way To Fictional Truths | Years 9–12

11:30am–12:30pm,
Wednesday 10 May, slq Auditorium 2

Life is messy. So writing about life needs to be a catastrophic dramafest. Yet as writers, our stories – even magical fantasies – must be based on truth. Learn how and when to unleash your emotive ammo in a 'show, don't tell' presentation that may leave you finding shelter from the storytelling storm – literally and figuratively.



JiHyeon Lee

JiHyeon Lee

Dive into the Storytelling Pool | Prep–Year 3

In conversation with
Genevieve Kruyssen

11:30am–12:30pm, Wednesday
10 May, slq kuril dhagun

Join South Korean author/illustrator JiHyeon Lee as she discusses her wordless picture book *Pool*. Perfect for an early childhood audience, wordless books offer young readers the opportunity to discuss their own interpretations of the story, filling the gaps and making connections. A short in-conversation with JiHyeon Lee will be followed by activities based on the book as a storytelling tool and art form.

Matt Stanton

A World of Interesting Stories | Years 4–6

1–2pm, Wednesday 10 May,
slq Auditorium 1

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

This lively and funny presentation encourages students to see reading as the hunt for interesting stories. Interesting stories are hiding in all their school subjects but mostly in their library and local bookshop. For a story to be interesting it requires readers to engage, so Matt inspires them to pursue reading with enthusiasm and joy.

Allison Rushby

A Story is Like. a Jigsaw Puzzle | Prep–Year 3

1–2pm, Wednesday 10 May,
slq Auditorium 2

Join award-winning children's author Allison Rushby as she explains how a story is like a jigsaw puzzle and shows young readers how they can start to piece together their own story puzzles too.

Jared Thomas

Facing Truths and Finding Balance | Years 9–12

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

Author Jared Thomas is a Nukunu person and the highly regarded author of critically acclaimed books such as *My Spare Heart*, an uplifting story about family breakdowns, facing truths and finding balance. Join Jared Thomas as he talks about his inspiration for his writing for young adults and explores writing truths.

Offline and Online | Years 4–6

10–11am, Friday 12 May,
slq Auditorium 1

Join First Nations storyteller Jared Thomas, author of *Uncle Xbox*, for a session exploring growing up, family and finding your place in a digital world. Or not. Jared Thomas will talk about his inspiration for his writing and how you can enjoy reading, writing and gaming – not necessarily in that order.



Oliver
Phommavanh

Oliver

Phommavanh

What About Thao? | Years 7–8

1–2pm,
Wednesday 10 May,
slq The Edge Auditorium

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

11:30am–12:30pm, Friday 12 May,
slq The Edge Auditorium

What happens when a city kid moves to a country town in the middle of nowhere? Find out how Oliver P got inspired to write his latest book and why being different can make a difference. Discover how Oliver gets his ideas for stories, drawing from his experiences as a teacher, touring author and more recently an author YouTuber who loves his sneakers and games. You'll walk away with a few ideas to write your own stories too!

Proudly supported by **The University of Queensland**. Gihun Lee and JiHyeon Lee's visit is supported by the **Korean Cultural Centre Australia** and **Publication Industry Promotion Agency of Korea**.

Word Play is a celebration of reading, writing and storytelling for young people in years Prep–12.

The Word Play program is curated by **Megan Daley**.

Word Play tickets are available for purchase at bwf.org.au. Tickets sell quickly, so book early to secure a place for your students. See page 8 for pricing and pages 47–49 for timetable.



Gihun Lee

Gihun Lee

The Power of Art to Explore Global Issues | Years 4–8

In conversation with Genevieve Kruyssen

1–2pm, Wednesday 10 May, slq kuril dhagun

Join acclaimed South Korean picture book artist Gihun Lee for an in-conversation about his use of picture book art as a means to explore global issues of sustainability and climate change. Attendees will have the opportunity to discuss Gihun Lee's wordless picture book, *9:47*, in groups and unpack ideas and concepts with the audience and the author.

Kate & Jol Temple

Bin Chickens and Panda-monium! | Prep–Year 3

10–11am, Thursday 11 May, slq The Edge Auditorium

From Bin Chickens to Pandas that have lost their bottoms, Kate and Jol have created hilarious and strange animal characters to fill their books. What inspired these silly characters? And what do these funny furballs have to tell us? And how do you dance like a bin chicken? Get ready to join Kate and Jol as they rhyme their way through some of their most loved picture books. Warning, lots of silly voices!

Underdogs: True Crime for Kids! | Years 4–6

1–2pm, Thursday 11 May, slq Auditorium 1

A very serious crime has taken place in Dogtown: *SOMEONE HAS STOLEN ALL THE TENNIS BALLS* just before the Grand Slam. Join the Underdogs as we crack this Dogtown Mystery. This interactive session will see Kate and Jol lead the team of private eyes (audience!) through the clues of an open case. We'll need help as we act out some of the theories and uncover some new leads.

With the help of the kids, we might even solve the case on stage!

Bumbling Baddies and Rotten Rogues! | Years 4–6

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

Join Kate and Jol for an evil mastermind convention as they explore the world of kooky crooks! Using the hilarious detective series *The Underdogs* and Kate's middle-grade fantasy *The Dangerous Business of Being Trilby Moffat*, this session aims to inspire kids to create their own terrible baddies. Kate and Jol love talking about what makes a great villain, from Count Olaf to Gru plus Kate and Jol's own line up of bumbling baddies. Join them as we dive in behind the scenes of writing mysteries and building worlds.

Will Kostakis

The Ups and Downs of Being Personal | Years 9–12

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

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

We love it when singers and writers tell us their latest work is their 'most personal yet'. It often means it's their best. But we rarely talk about the toll of being personal. Equal parts frank and funny, Will Kostakis shares the joys and tortures of writing from the heart. It's a great presentation. His most personal yet.

Kathryn Apel & Renée Trembl

The Bird in the Herd: Shaping an Australian Farm Story | Prep–Year 3

10–11am, Friday 12 May, slq Auditorium 2

Share an interactive reading of a rollicking rhyming story about the bird in the herd, then see how Kat's rural experiences shaped the story – and how Renée sees shapes in ... everything!



Nova Weetman

Nova Weetman

Storytelling from Television to Books | Years 7–8

10–11am, Friday 12 May, slq The Edge Auditorium

Storytelling from Television to Books | Years 9–12

1–2pm, Friday 12 May, slq The Edge Auditorium

Join Nova as she talks about her path to publication through the land of television. She discusses how she starts with characters, struggles with plotting and writes books that are very firmly set in contemporary Australia. Nova demonstrates how starting with character can generate story and shows character creation for her books.

Amelia Mellor

Solving the Plot Puzzle | Years 7–8

1–2pm, Friday 12 May, slq Auditorium 2

How do you write an ending? Why doesn't everyone always live happily ever after? Can a story be exciting if it has no explosions? Knowing how to finish a story is one of the most difficult problems a writer of fiction must face. Amelia Mellor is here to guide aspiring writers through it.

Renée Trembl

Unravelling the Mysteries of Visual Storytelling | Years 4–6

1–2pm, Friday 12 May, slq Auditorium 1

Join Renée Trembl, author and illustrator of the *Sherlock Bones* graphic novel series, to learn the tricks and secrets to creating illustrations that tell a great story.

Teacher Professional Development Seminar

9am–12pm, Thursday 11 May,
slq Heritage Collections Learning Room

Teachers and teacher-librarians, don't miss out on this fantastic seminar for professional development, featuring:

Supporting AusLit in Schools: 'The Books of Our Own Backyard' with Danielle Binks

Creating Characters with Nova Weetman

Think Little, Grow Big: Creative Narratives From The Everyday with Samantha Wheeler

Read more about the workshops and presentations in this seminar at bwf.org.au/teacherpd

While you're here

Explore the State Library while you're visiting for Word Play. Check out 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/school-visits

Microfiction Competition

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

Calling young writers! BWF and UQ present the annual schools' microfiction competition, open to Queensland-based students. The 2023 prompt is...

The Unknown

You are invited to respond to the prompt in no more than 120 words, using any written format (verse or prose). Shortlisted entrants will be invited to present a reading of their microfiction at the awards ceremony at 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

Microfiction Readings & Announcement Ceremony

4–5pm, Thursday 11 May, slq Queensland Terrace

All are welcome for the announcement ceremony featuring readings of shortlisted and winning entries, presented by our guest judge: middle-grade and YA author Will Kostakis.

The Lost Thing

9 + 10 JUN

Rissmann *The Lost Thing*

Conductor Jen Winley

Presenter Paul Rissmann Choir Voices of Birralelee

Discounts available for schools

qso.com.au

Word Play Online

Word Play Online sessions are available on-demand at bwf.org.au from 10 May to 8 December 2023*.

The **Word Play Online** program is curated by **Megan Daley**.

Reece Carter

In conversation with Sarah Armstrong
Crafting Spooky Characters, Years 4–8

Learn how to create memorable heroes and terrible villains from scratch with Reece Carter, author of *A Girl Called Corpse*. Alongside Sarah Armstrong, Reece shares his secret recipe for developing spooky characters and guides you through an activity to create one of your own. Reece and Sarah reveal why strong characters are the foundation of great stories, then share some tips and tricks for writing exciting and engaging action for your own character.

Allison Tait

Finding Your Writing Superpower, Years 7–8

Everyone has a writing superpower – what's yours? In this fun, inspiring and motivating session, AL Tait helps you work out the strengths in your writing – and how to use them to create amazing stories. Drawing on her own work, she offers tips on everything from description to plotting, finding ideas to editing.

Graci Kim

Curiosity, Play and Resilience, Years 7–8

New York Times bestselling author Graci Kim talks about her journey of learning 'CPR' (AKA creativity, play and resilience) and how it's led her to live some of her most exciting lives: diplomat, soft toy entrepreneur, cooking show host and, of course, author.

Bronwyn Bancroft

Our Birds and Bugs, Years 4–6

Join Bronwyn Bancroft, proud Bundjalung Woman and author-illustrator, as she talks about her most recent two books, *Our Birds* and *Our Bugs*. The books highlight the beauty and wonder of Australia's wildlife. Bronwyn will talk about the personal care and responsibility we all need to undertake to protect the other species we co-exist with on this planet. We must contain our own need to consume in order to safeguard the future of our biodiversity.

Chaz Hayden

In conversation with Genevieve Kruyssen
Be Different. Leave a Trail., Years 9–12

YA author Chaz Hayden's novel *The First Thing About You* is a work of fiction with lived experience woven throughout. It is a story about what does – and doesn't – define you as a person. Chaz was diagnosed with spinal muscular atrophy at a young age, loves sport, chicken nuggets, telling stories and writing them down. Join him for a conversation about writing, life and everything in between as he encourages young adults to be different and leave a trail.

George Ivanoff

Surviving the Survival Guides, Years 4–8

The world is full of weird supernatural stuff (or is it?). The human body is really gross (but also fascinating). And Australia is trying to kill you (maybe). Find out how George went about researching and writing his *Survival Guide* series.

Tony Flowers

In conversation with Megan Daley
Writing in Pictures, Years 4–6

Join Tony Flowers and Megan Daley in conversation as they explore visual literacy and the process of writing stories in pictures. Through Tony's recent works, they'll look at innovation and creativity in publishing and how to take your stories to the world stage.

Sami Bayly

Explore Strange Deep-Sea Animals and Awesome Art Activities, Years 1–8

Join Sami in a fun, action-packed workshop where she will combine two awesome topics: deep-sea animals and art! Learn all you need to know about what lives below the ocean's surface and why they have evolved to look the ways they do (even if it's pink and blobby). Partake in noun quizzes and step-by-step drawing tutorials, plus a bonus drawing challenge that will be perfect for those kids with wild and creative imaginations. So bring your pencils (and submarines) and get ready to dive into the deep!

Sarah Ayoub

In conversation with Sarah Armstrong
Digging Deeply into People and Place, Years 9–12

Sarah Ayoub is a journalist, academic and bestselling author of YA and picture books. She is an advocate for education and Australian stories and will be in conversation about her writing with author and interviewer Sarah Armstrong.

Michael Wagner

Instant Plot Machine, Years 4–6

This is a fun workshop during which students discover exactly what a story is and how to use this knowledge to quickly turn any idea (or prompt) into a plot. In just a few minutes, students will be able to plan their stories and ensure they always have a quality, satisfying ending.

Andy Geppert

Blurring the Lines, Prep–Year 3

This interview with author-illustrator Andy Geppert delves into his latest picture book, examining how he blends fiction and nonfiction to create a unique reading experience for little ones. This discussion will explore the writing and illustration techniques he uses to flip the traditional field guide format on its head.



Adam Goodes

Adam Goodes & Ellie Laing

In conversation with Jasmin McGaughey
Family, Culture and Country, Prep–Year 6

Join former AFL player, Australian of the Year and Adnyamathanha and Narungga man Adam Goodes and co-writer Ellie Laing in conversation with Jasmin McGaughey as they share stories and discuss the process of creating the *Welcome to Our Country* series aimed at young readers and their families. Through sharing stories, young readers better understand First Nations culture and connection to Country, and the *Welcome to Our Country* series is a celebration of First Nations culture and an acknowledgement of our true shared history.

Jane Godwin

The Stories Behind the Stories!, Years 7–8

Jane Godwin has written many stories for children of all ages. In this session, Jane will explore every aspect of creating a book, including generating ideas, drafting, and working with illustrators. Using her bestselling picture books and new collection *The Isabelle Stories* as examples, Jane will inspire the students to share their ideas, write their own stories and have fun at the same time!

Lili Wilkinson

Fantasy Worlds, Years 9–12

Learn how Lili Wilkinson brings fantasy worlds alive with three-dimensional characters and a compelling plot. In this presentation, Lili will talk about her new YA fantasy release, *A Hunger of Thorns*, detailing her inspiration and research. Viewers will participate in a selection of workshop activities, including brainstorming and character creation.

Suzanne Leal

True Tales and Fiction, Years 7–8

Suzanne Leal's time-slip novel, *Running with Ivan*, was inspired by the wartime stories of her Czech-Jewish neighbours. In this session, Suzanne will talk about the magic of using real stories to create your own novel.

Mark Greenwood

Journeys of Discovery, Years 4–6

Mark Greenwood is a history hunter. He enjoys searching for glittering treasure and delving into baffling mysteries. Join Mark on a journey of discovery as he takes Word Play participants to the settings he writes about in his award-winning books. Walk in the footsteps of curious characters at the actual places where history happened. From the beach at Gallipoli to the ancient wonders of our country, Mark's presentation is a unique insight into the creative process.

Charlotte Barkla

How Are Books Made, Prep–Year 3

Using real-life examples from Charlotte's picture books, go behind the scene of how a book comes to be! Including storyboarding and illustration roughs, students will learn how picture books and novels are published. Students will explore all stages of the publication process, from an author coming up with an idea through to a book ending up in a bookstore.

Remy Lai

Surviving the Wild, Years 4–6

Meet Sunny the Shark, Rainbow the Koala and Star the Elephant! Remy Lai draws you into the world of her marvellous graphic novel series, *Surviving the Wild*, and shows you how she illustrates these characters and their adventures.

*Please note, *Surviving the Wild* with Remy Lai is only available until 7 June 2023.

“You can never get a cup of tea large enough or a book long enough to suit me.” – C.S. Lewis



T·C
THE TEA CENTRE
Est. 1993

Every tea tells a story.

An adventure awaits you within our library of loose leaf.

Select your best brew from our curated collection of 150+ teas.



\$5 VOUCHER

Enter code BWF at checkout or redeem this voucher in-store.
Expires 30/06/23. T&Cs apply.

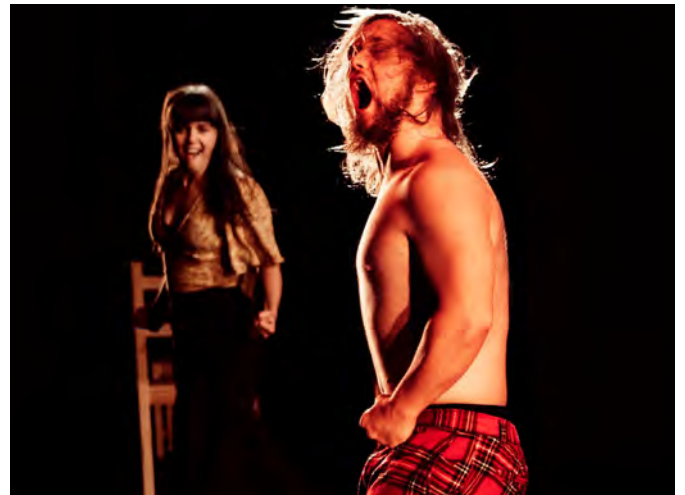
WWW.THETEACENTRE.COM.AU

THE MOST **AMAZING SEAT** IS YOURS AT QPAC

Queensland's premier destination for live performance is set to deliver – from *Moby Dick* reimagined and a powerful story about sibling love, to First Nations contemporary circus, the very best in chamber music... and more!



Dead Puppet Society
Ishmael
19 to 27 May



The Farm
Glass Child
31 May to 2 June



Na Djinang Circus
Common Dissonance
22 June to 1 July



Australian Chamber Orchestra
Mozart
26 June



Find out what's on at qpac.com.au

qpac
QUEENSLAND
PERFORMING
ARTS CENTRE



Love YA

Saturday 13 May,
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**.

Curated by **Karen Lee** and hosted by the **2023 Youth Ambassadors**, Sophie, Emily, Kieren and Maisie.

Everyone Loves a Rom-com

Panellists: Will Kostakis (*We Could Be Something*), Claire Christian (*West Side Honey*), Jodi McAlister (*Can I Steal You for a Second?*)

Moderator: Trisha Buckley

10–11am

Celebrate all things romance with our panel. How can you resist stories about coming of age, coming out, falling in love, falling out of love or just plain falling apart? Join our authors as they discuss how moments of fate and happenstance can kickstart the journey to finding love and leave us with a deeper understanding of what makes us yearn for it.

Magic, Monsters and Mayhem



Panellists: Lystra Rose (*The Upwelling*), Amelia Mellor (*The Bookseller's Apprentice*), Vanessa Len (*Only a Monster*)

Moderator:
Kieren Scougall

Vanessa Len

11:30am–12:30pm

From ancient supernatural worlds where monsters and magic roam, to the apocalyptic night-visions of a young truth dreamer, to familial relationships dealing with death and grief in a place where riddles and puzzles rule. Listen to how these authors craft worlds and strong characters that keep you on the edge of your seats.

Create Your Own Magic System

A workshop with Amelia Mellor

12:45–1:45pm

Who needs a magic system? You do if you're writing a fantasy adventure. Join author Amelia Mellor, whose novels *The Grandest Bookshop in the World* and *The Bookseller's Apprentice* are a great introduction to help you develop a magic

system. The system helps you decide what the rules of your world are: who can do magic, how does magic work, what its limits are, what are the impacts of those choices, whether pigs can fly – and why not? The sky's the limit! Come create your own or team up with others along the way.

Writing Family and Loss

Panellists: Rhiannon Wilde (*Where You Left Us*), Danielle Binks (*The Monster of Her Age*), Nova Weetman (*The Jammer*)

Moderator: Pauline McLeod

2–3pm

Tender and powerful are the stories of love, loss and grief. Of families torn apart, the awkwardness of early youth and how we find a way back to each other. Listen to our panel as they discuss letting go of anger, learning to forgive without forgetting, embracing change and fear, and ultimately how to live with hope in our hearts.

The Rise of Enemies-to-Lovers



Chloe Gong

Panellists: Chloe Gong (*Foul Lady Fortune*), Vanessa Len (*Only a Monster*), Stacey McEwan (*Ledge*)

Moderator: Kieren Scougall

3:30–4:30pm

They love them, they love them not: from a retelling of the original rivals-to-lovers couple Romeo and Juliet infused with fantasy elements, to the discovery of monster DNA, to a civilisation trapped on an icy ledge. Join our panel of authors as they discuss their craft, why the enemies to lovers storyline is such a nail biter and so much more.

YA fans, also check out these events at the festival

Who Is YA Really For?

Panellists: Youth Ambassadors Sophie, Emily and Kieren

Moderator: Danielle Binks (*The Monster of Her Age*)

11:30am–12:30pm, Sunday 14 May,
slq The Parlour

The absence of platforms for young people can lead to disengagement and disempowerment. In this turbo-charged panel, BWF's Youth Ambassadors share their personal take on what YA means to them, how it's captured the politics that affect their lives, and the spaces in between that can represent the experiences of Australia's youth. This panel is a must do for festival programmers and publishers who care about where the future of YA should be heading.

What Are Publishers Looking For in YA?

Panellists: Kate Stevens (Hachette), Zoe Walton (PRH), Anna McFarlane (A&U)

Moderator: Danielle Binks (*The Monster of Her Age*)

Online

So, you're polishing off your YA draft manuscript. Are you wondering what's next? What's hot and what's not? Come listen to our panel of commissioning editors from publishing houses with stellar YA lists: Hachette, PRH and A&U. Listen as they talk to literary agent, author and YA aficionado Danielle Binks about what they look for in a manuscript and what the trends are in Australia and overseas. A not-to-be-missed session for all those writing YA.

Books available for purchase and author book signings will take place at the end of each panel.

To register for these free events, visit bwf.org.au/loveya



**Saturday, 13 May, 2-5pm,
Whale Mall, Cultural Centre**

ZINE MARKET

Come along to the Whale Mall to experience a bustling Zine Market of local zinesters, comic creators, illustrators and graphic novelists selling their self-published publications! Have a browse, meet the creators and pick up some underground publications that you won't find in your usual bookshops!

FREE to attend but bring some cash to buy some zines!

Supported by 4ZZZ and MBE Brisbane



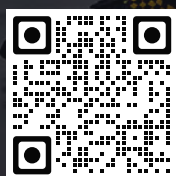
From the James C. Sourris AM Collection of Artist Interviews



MEET

THE ARTISTS

Hear the words of Australia's most acclaimed artists and see selected artwork from Vernon Ah Kee, Luke Roberts, Fiona Foley, Judith Wright, Leonard Brown, Anne Wallace, Sandra Selig, and Eugene Carchesio.



25 Feb – 9 Jul 2023
Free exhibition
State Library of Queensland



State Library
of Queensland



Queensland
Government

Vernon Ah Kee 2022, John Oxley Library,
State Library of Queensland. Photograph by Josef Ruckli.

Wednesday 10 May

First Word

Keynote by Lionel Fogarty

FREE
EVENT

3:30pm (for a 4pm start) to 5pm, Wednesday 10 May, slq Queensland Terrace

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 2023, that writer is leading Indigenous poet and political activist Lionel Fogarty. Born on an Aboriginal reserve on Wakka Wakka land, Fogarty has been at the forefront of the fight for Indigenous rights since he was a teenager. Today, with fourteen published poetry collections and a career of writing and activism spanning more than forty years, Fogarty's revolutionary spirit and rousing words are as strong and salient as ever. In addition to the First Nations keynote and as part of the First Word formalities, the audience will also hear from select festival figures and politicians; from representatives of BWF's 2023 Country of Focus, South Korea; and from author Trent Jamieson, who will give a short reading from his piece in the BWF book *Celebrating 60 Years of the Brisbane Writers Festival*.

Supported by University of Queensland

Anita Jacoby on Secrets Beyond the Screen

In conversation with Kay McGrath

6–7pm, Wednesday 10 May, slq Auditorium 1

Veteran television producer Anita Jacoby turns a documentarian lens on her family history, unravelling a family secret and shining a revealing light on the social mores of 1950s Australia. An intensely personal account of a migrant family as well as an investigation of marital life prior to no-fault divorce, *Secrets Beyond the Screen* is as culturally illuminating as it is psychologically astute. For this discussion, she's joined by a fellow television veteran, Kay McGrath.

Best Dressed



Deni Todorović

Panellists: Gregory Ladner (*A Boy and His Bear*), Deni Todorović (*Love This for You*)
Moderator: Carody Culver (*Griffith Review*)
6–7pm, Wednesday 10 May, slq Auditorium 2

Not since Meryl Streep's cerulean sermon in *The Devil Wears Prada* has clothing been so insightfully unstitched. These sartorial trailblazers consider the meaning behind our wardrobes: how we define ourselves and relate to others through fashion.



Irvine Welsh

Irvine Welsh on The Long Knives

In conversation with Mirandi Riwoe

6–7pm, Wednesday 10 May, slq The Edge Auditorium

No one writes a crime novel quite like Irvine Welsh, and no one solves a mystery like Detective Ray Lennox. The latest instalment in one of the darkest, most original detective series ever written, *The Long Knives* revels in Welsh's punkish penchant for blending satirical social commentary with body horror, a psychedelic odyssey into the bowels of Edinburgh's criminal underworld.

Lionel Fogarty on Harvest Lingo

In conversation with Samuel Watson

6–7pm, Wednesday 10 May, slq Talking Circle

Poet, activist and Australian luminary Lionel Fogarty discusses his latest collection, *Harvest Lingo*. Baptising the reader in a universal stream of consciousness, *Harvest Lingo* is a glowing meditation on language and belonging.

The Marion Taylor Opening Night Gala

SPECIAL
EVENT

Keynote speech by Shehan Karunatilaka

7–10pm, Wednesday 10 May, QAGOMA Water Mall

Join us for an elegant affair in the Queensland Art Gallery's exquisite Water Mall, where you will be wined, dined and illumined by our keynote speaker, Booker Prize winner Shehan Karunatilaka. Reflecting on his stratospheric year and the possibilities of literature in a globalised world, Shehan calls on us to celebrate the sublime and the strange – the perfect note on which to begin this year's Brisbane Writers Festival.

This event is only possible through the support of the Taylor family



Nat

Nat's What I Reckon on What Nat to Do

In conversation with Christian Hull

7:30–8:30pm, Wednesday 10 May, slq Auditorium 1

YouTube sensation Nat is here to give unsolicited advice with his trademark humour, irreverence and insight. The mental health advocate and stand-up comedian takes a ratbag approach to looking on the bright side and getting real about life's challenges – because sometimes if you don't laugh, you'll cry.

Supported by QBD Books

Nuclear Fallout

Panellists: Ian Lowe (*The Nuclear Industry in Australia*), Elizabeth Tynan (*The Secret of Emu Field*), Shastra Deo (*The Exclusion Zone*)

Moderator: Ashley Hay

7:30–8:30pm, Wednesday 10 May, slq The Studio

Atomic habits die hard, and with the evolution of climate discourse, nuclear energy has become more contentious than ever. This panel considers the economic, scientific and social realities of Australia's nuclear industry, how lessons from the past might shape the uncertain future, and the consequences of playing god.



Regurgitator's Unit

Panellists: Paul Curtis (manager), Ben Ely (band member), Lachlan Goold (recording engineer and author), Lauren Istvandity (author).

Moderator: Ian Powne

7:30–8:30pm, Wednesday 10 May, slq The Edge Auditorium

Join us for a dirty pop fantasy wherein a manager, a band member, a producer and an author walk into a bar to discuss the iconic Brisbane band Regurgitator. Reflecting on the legacy of these lo-fi luminaries, this thirtieth anniversary celebration dissects the craft of great songwriting and the triumphs of a band ahead of their time.

Supported by 4ZZZ

Thursday 11 May

Border Crossing – The Importance of Translation for Korean Literature

Bae Suah (*Untold Night and Day*), Krys Lee (*How I Became a North Korean*). Moderator: James Jiang (*Griffith Review*)

10–11am, Thursday 11 May,
slq Queensland Terrace

While continuing to bring other literatures to Korean readers, a recent boom in translation is giving Korean literature increased global visibility. What impacts does this visibility have upon Korean writing? A translator is a literary alchemist, transforming not only words but the more abstract, conceptual elements of storytelling from one linguistic milieu to another. As South Korean writing becomes more prominent in the global literary marketplace, Bae Suah and Krys Lee reflect on how translation informs their writing process and the cross-cultural potentialities of literature.

Curated by Sung-Ae Lee

Bora Chung on *Cursed Bunny*

SPECIAL
EVENT

In conversation with Helen Marshall

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

Welcome to the sinister world of *Cursed Bunny*. In this chillingly good International Booker–shortlisted collection by South Korean sensation Bora Chung, body horror and hauntings collide with fables and magical realism to reveal the true terrors of our age: capitalism, patriarchy and unchecked power. In conversation with award-winning short fiction writer Helen Marshall, Chung breaks down her genre-defying literary style and scalpel-sharp critique.

Dissident Voices: Poetry and Prose Salon

FREE
EVENT

Readers: Shastra Deo, David Stavanger, Ellen van Neerven, Witi Ihimaera, Lionel Fogarty. Moderator: Raelee Lancaster
11:30am–12:30pm, Thursday 11 May,
slq kuril dhagan

Join us for a session of poetry and polemic as these bold, uncompromising and multi-award-winning writers shine

a light on injustice. A celebration of solidarity as much as a rallying cry for change, this salon event will move and inspire by reminding us of the political force of words and their capacity for healing.

Physician, Heal Thyself

Panellists: Dr Ben Bravery (*The Patient Doctor*), Dr Dinesh Palipana (*Stronger*). Moderator: Edwina Shaw

1–2pm, Thursday 11 May,
slq Auditorium 2

Two extraordinary men discuss their perspectives as both doctors and patients, and the imperative for a more compassionate approach to medicine. Drawing on their scientific knowledge and the obstacles each overcame to practise medicine, Dr Ben Bravery and Dr Dinesh Palipana unpack the biases of the medical establishment and the sometimes fraught relationship of healing to care.

What Readers Want

Panellists: Michael Williams (Editor, *The Monthly*), Alexandra Payne (Publisher, Murdoch Books), Clair Hume (Publisher, UQP), Grace Lucas-Pennington (Senior Editor, *black&write!*), Terri-ann White (Publisher, Upswell Publishing), Contributing Moderator: Esther Anatolitis (Editor, *Meanjin*)

1–2pm, Thursday 11 May,
slq Queensland Terrace

Lifting the hood on books and publishing, these behind-the-scenes gamechangers discuss the question every publisher and author wants to know: what is it readers actually want? Exploring recent trends and emerging markets, this panel is unmissable shop talk for anyone hoping to get wise to the publishing industry.

Coming of Rage

Panellists: Shirley Le (*Funny Ethnic*), Tom Crago (*Grand Crew*), Alison Ferguson (*Grey Nomad*), Joanna Horton (*Between You and Me*)
Moderator: Lauren Sherritt

2:30–3:30pm, Thursday 11 May,
slq Auditorium 1

The bildungsroman comes in for a modern update in these four wildly different novels documenting the universal experience of growing up. From the verdant forests of Tasmania to

the arrondissements of Paris, these are elegant coming-of-age tales for old souls and the young at heart.

Writing Biography: Exceptional Women

Ann-Marie Priest (*My Tongue is My Own*), Grantlee Kieza (*The Remarkable Mrs Reibey*)
Moderator: Michael Ondaatje

2:30–3:30pm, Thursday 11 May,
slq Auditorium 2

Two exceptional Australian lives – those of the poet Gwen Harwood and the colonial entrepreneur Mary Reibey – are explored in these rigorous and lively biographies. Shedding light on the complex social and political dynamics of their subjects' eras, these authors reveal their historical approaches to writing a life – and the ways in which their biographees were both of their time and ahead of it.

Haunting History

Shelley Parker-Chan, Chloe Gong, Angela Slatter, Kathleen Jennings
Moderator: Jo Anderton

2:30–3:30pm, Thursday 11 May,
slq The Edge Auditorium

We are all haunted by the past. These writers of speculative, gothic and historical fiction explore the macabre anima of history – how it manifests in the uncanny and dissolves the boundary between fantasy and reality.

Secrets and Grief



Kylie Ladd (*I'll Leave You With This*), Emma Grey (*The Last Love Note*), Sally Piper (*Bone Memories*), Charlotte Nash (*Twenty-Six Letters*)
Moderator:

Kylie Ladd
Cass Moriarty

2:30–3:30 pm, Thursday 11 May,
slq Queensland Terrace

Some truths can only be glimpsed through the prism of loss, with grief exposing us to the most painful and revelatory parts of the human experience. These moving novels depict grief as a painful, productive process through which we might apprehend the darkest and most deeply felt recesses of our own natures.

Alexis Wright on Praiseworthy (Livestreamed appearance)

In conversation with Cheryl Leavy
2:30–3:30pm, Thursday 11 May,
slq kuril dhagun

Wright is regarded as one of Australia's boldest literary innovators, and *Praiseworthy* cements her reputation as our premier writer of psychedelic fiction. Satirical and prophetic, this behemoth of a novel considers the dissolution of identity at the end of civilisation, invoking Wright's favourite motifs of religious mania and ecological apocalypse.

Admissions: Voices with Mental Health

Panellists: Shastra Deo, Pascale and Wendy Burton, Martin Ingle
Moderator: David Stavanger
2:30–3:30pm, Thursday 11 May,
The Studio

Admissions is a groundbreaking anthology documenting mental health issues in Australia via poetry and prose. Join some of the contributors for a polyvocal show of force and difference as they explore writing from a lived experience perspective.

Witi Ihimaera on His Life and Work

In conversation with Winnie Dunn
4–5pm, Thursday 11 May,
slq Auditorium 1

One of the greats of Māori literature, Witi Ihimaera is a prolific writer of short stories and novels whose sensational story *The Whale Rider* is an antipodean classic. To mark the fiftieth anniversary of both his short story collection, *Pounamu Pounamu*, and of his first novel, *Tangi*, Ihimaera reflects on a life in writing and the reconciliation of Indigenous perspectives with Western forms of literature.

Funny About That

Panellists: Gregory Ladner (*A Boy and his Bear*), Sita Walker (*The God of No Good*), Siang Lu (*The Whitewash*), Alexandra Collier (*Inconceivable*)
Moderator: Jonathan O'Brien
4–5pm, Thursday 11 May,
slq Auditorium 2

What does it mean to laugh in the face of misery? These books depict our impulse to process complex traumas

FREE
EVENT

into comedy gold by using laughter to disavow or transform our pain. In the great tradition of sardonic outsiders, these three witty writers consider the intersection of suffering and satire and the sweet catharsis of a good giggle.

Kate Legge on Infidelity and Other Affairs

In conversation with Christine Jackman
4–5pm, Thursday 11 May,
slq The Edge Auditorium

Drawing on personal experience and wider research, Kate Legge poses a provocative question: is it possible for us to truly know the people we love? Considering infidelity through the paradigms of learned behaviour and innate disposition, Legge humanely extrapolates the nature of love and betrayal and how we recover from our deepest injuries.

When the Cilentos Met the Noonuccals

Panellists: Ross Wilson (*The Accidental Present*), Matthew Wengert (Publisher, AndAlsoBooks)
Moderator: Samuel Watson
4–5pm, Thursday 11 May,
slq kuril dhagun

This is the fascinating, little-known story of the connection between two prominent Australian families: the Cilentos and the Noonuccals. Examining the extraordinary life of Kabul Noonuccal – Oodgeroo Noonuccal's son with Raffe Cilento, Jr – as a performing arts polymath and his premature death from AIDS, this riveting study by documentarian Ross Wilson makes 20th century Brisbane come alive.

FREE
EVENT

Spilling the Tea with MUP

Panellists: Stuart Kells (*MUP: A Centenary History*), Nathan Hollier (Publisher and CEO, MUP)
Moderator: Esther Anatolitis (*Meanjin*)
4–5pm, Thursday 11 May,
slq The Studio

What's an industry scandal or two between friends ... or rivals? In celebration of its centenary, Australia's oldest university publisher, Melbourne University Press, lifts the lid on ... itself? This session covers the highs, lows – and the very point – of a university press, along with some triumphs and controversies specific to MUP. Shhh! This session is 'in the cone'.

Through Space & Time

John Birmingham (*The Forever Dead*), Shelley Parker-Chan (*She Who Became the Sun*). Moderator: Jo Anderton
5:30–6:30pm, Thursday 11 May,
slq Auditorium 1

Two strikingly inventive novels reimagine the genre epic as sweeping tales of empire and humanity. Taking us to the farthest reaches of space, and medieval China under Mongol rule, John Birmingham and Shelley Parker-Chan discuss the possibilities of epic writing and how a dash of escapism can help us see reality from a new perspective.

Food for Thought



Jess Ho

Panellists: Jess Ho (*Raised by Wolves*), Tom Crago (*Grand Crew*), Charlotte Ree (*Heartbake*)
Moderator: Carody Culver (*Griffith Review*)

5:30–6:30pm, Thursday 11 May,
slq Auditorium 2

Whet your palates with this conversational platter of pithy tastes and searing observations. Join some of the sharpest tongues in food writing as they tuck into a rich conversation about what stokes and satisfies our complex appetites.



Bryan Brown

Bryan Brown on Sweet Jimmy

In conversation with Venero Armanno

5:30–6:30pm,
Thursday 11 May,
slq The Edge Auditorium

Screen king Bryan Brown turns his actorly ear to Australia's tenebrous criminal underbellies in this noirish novel in vignettes. Gloriously vernacular and richly detailed, Brown's book synthesises a life on set into cinematic Australian storytelling.

Supported by QBD Books

Launch – 2022 Faber Writing Anthology

5:30–6:30pm, Thursday 11 May,
slq Queensland Terrace

Join the Faber Writing Academy for the launch of the 2022 *Faber Writing Anthology*, to be introduced by novelist and *Writing a Novel* tutor Emily O'Grady and featuring readings by students from Brisbane. The Faber Writing Academy

FREE
EVENT

offers an annual program of exciting writing courses, presented by Allen & Unwin and the prestigious publisher Faber & Faber.

Speakers: Emily O'Grady and Sam Twyford-Moore

Supported by Faber Writing Academy

Debra Dank on *We Come With This Place*

FREE
EVENT

In conversation with Suzy Wilson
5:30–6:30pm, Thursday 11 May,
slq kuril dhagan

A profound meditation on belonging and place, Debra Dank's remarkable memoir tells the story of Australia as much as it tells the story of her own family and ancestors. A Gudanji and Wakaja woman, Dank grew up in far-west Queensland in the 1950s and 60s, and she skilfully weaves the beauty and wonder of a rural childhood with the pain and dispossession that she, her people and her Country have faced over generations.

Trauma, Domestic Violence and Meaningful Change

Panellists: Manjula Datta O'Connor (*Daughters of Durga*), Nicole Madigan (*Obsession: The Psychology of Stalking*). Moderator: Mitra Khakbaz

5:30–6:30pm, Thursday 11 May,
slq The Studio

These writers interrogate the various forms of violence towards women, unpacking the psychology of perpetrators and the cultural structures enabling sex-based abuse. Examining the evolution of public discourse around this issue, these authors consider what has changed, and needs to change, to ensure the safety of communities.

Shehan Karunatilaka on *The Seven Moons of Maali Almeida*

In conversation with Heather Zwicker
7–8pm, Thursday 11 May,
slq The Edge Auditorium

The monastic world of letters meets the pagan energy of rock'n'roll in the most

recent Booker Prize-winning novel, *The Seven Moons of Maali Almeida*. This extraordinary book (with its unusual publication history) is a literary parable, a violent fusion of the sacred and profane, and a revolutionary moment for Sri Lankan fiction. Join Shehan Karunatilaka as he discusses his kaleidoscopic novel, both a history lesson and a masterclass in fiction.

Supported by the Taylor family

Literary Death Match

SPECIAL
EVENT

Judges: Gabrielle Zevin,
Deni Todorović, Jess

Ho. Competitors: Shirley Le, Myles McGuire, Siang Lu, Benjamin Stevenson. Host: Adrian Todd Zuniga

8:30–9:30pm, Thursday 11 May,
slq Auditorium 1

Four writers. Three judges. One winner. Co-creator and host Adrian Todd Zuniga presents the ultimate literary smackdown as four bold contestants complete for the Death Match crown. Join this year's writers and judges for a night of brilliance, barbs and belly laughs.

Looking for that light-bulb moment?

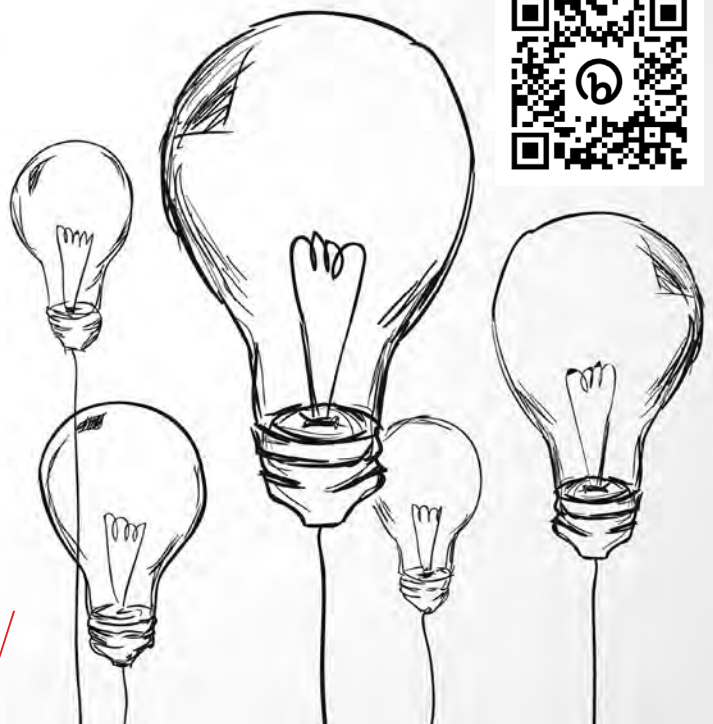
Every edition of *Griffith Review* offers fresh takes on big ideas.

Subscribe now for the price of a coffee to get your fix of the best new writing on arts, culture, technology, science, politics and more.

Head to **griffithreview.com** for unlimited digital access.

You can cancel any time (but we hope you'll stick around).

GriffithReview



Friday 12 May

The Best Kind of Beautiful Brisbane

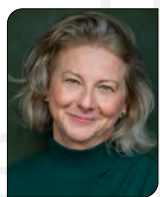
Frances Whiting in conversation with Matthew Condon

10–11am, Friday 12 May, slq Queensland Terrace

Frances Whiting may be known to millions of readers as one of Australia's most popular newspaper and magazine columnists, but it is in her extraordinary novels – *Walking on Trampolines* and *The Best Kind of Beautiful* – that her work transcends, exploring the landscapes of Brisbane and its surrounds with a brilliant and empathic eye. She talks to Matthew Condon about the physical and emotional impact of place and why Queensland produces writers unique to the rest of the country.

Curated by Matthew Condon

Fun With Midlife Crises



Toni Jordan

Dianne Yarwood (*The Wakes*), Toni Jordan (*Prettier if She Smiled More*), Sita Walker (*The God of No Good*), Charlotte Ree
Moderator: Melanie Myers

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

Midlife presents us with the terrifying opportunity to look back on our journey thus far and reckon with the possible futures ahead of us. With humour and grace, these writers depict the existential turmoil of the midlife crisis and how we can turn our present into our prime.

Another Australia



Shirley Le

Panellists: Shirley Le (*Funny Ethnic*), Winnie Dunn (editor of *Another Australia*)
Contributing Moderator: Melanie Saward

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

Shirley Le, Winnie Dunn and Melanie Saward discuss the changing face of Australian letters and how we are writing our way to a more diverse future.

Love and Other Brisbane Catastrophes

Susan Johnson in conversation with Matthew Condon

1–2pm, Friday 12 May, slq Queensland Terrace

Brisbane-based Susan Johnson is the master of vivisectioning affairs of the heart. From her first novel, *Messages from Chaos*, to her devastating new memoir, *Aphrodite's Breath*, Johnson's work feels like she's eavesdropped on the reader's own life. But book after book, she faces the same question – how much of this is based on her own life?

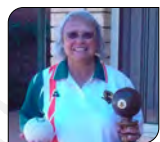
Curated by Matthew Condon

Shadow Sisters

10am–11am, Friday 12 May, slq kuril dhagun

Shadow Sisters is a love letter to those who came before, those that have walked alongside us and those whose history and being have contributed to our now. Join the Shadow Sisters, a group of First Nations women telling their stories, their ways.

For Our Elders



Auntie Vicky Duff

Panellists: Auntie Vicky Duff, Auntie Mary-Rose Hampson, Auntie Maureen Flaherty
Moderator: Samantha Faulkner

1–2pm, Friday 12 May, slq kuril dhagun

In 2023, the NAIDOC theme is 'For Our Elders'. Across every generation, our Elders have played and continue to play an important role and hold a prominent place in our communities and families. Come and listen to our three Elders on what it was like to grow up in the Torres Strait. An enjoyable yarn to listen in on.

Curated by Samantha Faulkner

IVF

Alexandra Collier (*Inconceivable*), Isabelle Oderberg (*Hard to Bear*), Ellidy Pullin (*Heartstrong*)
Moderator: Bec Mac

2:30–3:30pm, Friday 12 May, slq Auditorium 1

Science and shifting cultural attitudes have changed the way we think about parenting. Here, three bracing perspectives on pregnancy, motherhood and loss are brought to

bear for a fascinating discussion about modern families.

Why Is Short Fiction Important? (South Korean Focus)

Sang Young Park (*The Tears of an Unknown Artist, or Zaytun Pasta*), Bora Chung (*Cursed Bunny*)
Moderator: Michaela Kalowski

2:30–3:30pm, Friday 12 May, slq Auditorium 2

Why do writers continue to write and publish short fiction throughout their careers? What makes it an attractive form? A great short story is characterised by an eye for detail and a knack for identifying subjects that haunt us. Three brilliant South Korean writers discuss the art of short fiction and why writers return to the form throughout their careers.

Curated by Sung-Ae Lee

Genre Writing and Diaspora



Shelley Parker-Chan

Panellists: Chloe Gong (*Secret Shanghai*), Vanessa Len (*Only a Monster*), Grace Chan (*Every Version of You*)
Contributing Moderator: Shelley Parker-Chan (*She Who Became the Sun*)

2:30–3:30pm, Friday

12 May, slq The Edge Auditorium

Redefining the static conventions of fantasy to incorporate multi-faceted mythologies, these writers consider the aesthetic influence of cultural heritage, and how our definition of fantasy and science fiction might be broadened and subverted.

Emma Grey on *The Last Love Note*

In conversation with Rebecca Sparrow

2:30–3:30pm, Friday 12 May, slq Queensland Terrace

You'll laugh, you'll cry and you'll maybe even fall a bit in love with *The Last Love Note*, the fabulous new novel by Emma Grey. In conversation with Rebecca Sparrow, Emma discusses the art of great romance and the tension between healing and sorrow.

Writing about Other Things

**FREE
EVENT**

Panellists: Djon Mundine, Claire G Coleman, Grace Lucas-Pennington
Moderator: Raelee Lancaster
 2:30–3:30pm, Friday 12 May,
 slq kuril dhagun

Writing about the craft of writing can be exclusionary. In this session we break out of the closed shop to meet First Nations creatives who write about other things – visual art, politics, history and current affairs.

Curated by Daniel Browning

Empathy

Panellists: Laura Jean McKay (*The Animals in That Country*), Krys Lee (*How I Became a North Korean*), Fiona Kelly McGregor (*Iris*), Fiona McFarlane (*The Sun Walks Down*)
Moderator: Melanie Myers

2:30–3:30pm, Friday 12 May,
 slq The Studio

These writers illuminate the possibilities and limitations of empathy, how thought is transformed across boundaries of language, time and culture, and the indelible friction that's essential to the act of reading.

What's Democracy, Anyway?

Panellists: Tim Dunlop (*Voices of Us*), Paddy Manning (*The Successor*), Frank Bongiorno (*Dreamers and Schemers*), Esther Anatolitis (*Meanjin*)
Moderator: Michael Ondaatje

4–5pm, Friday 12 May, slq Auditorium 1

Democracy: it's a word we hear so often, we might just have forgotten what it means. This panel is here to help. Historian Michael Ondaatje talks to four of Australia's sharpest political minds about the many twists and turns of Australia's democratic project, from its ancient beginnings to its teal-tinged present and its potentially transformative future. Vote yes to this conversation.

Supported by 4ZZZ

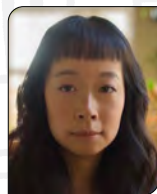
Kris Kneen on *Fat Girl Dancing*

**ADULTS
ONLY**

In conversation with Christine Jackman
 4–5pm, Friday 12 May, slq Auditorium 2

Kris Kneen's book *Fat Girl Dancing* invites a reader to join the struggle that they have with their own fat body on the page. In this session, Kris dances their body for the audience. Part burlesque striptease, part in-conversation, this is a performance of the body that is not to be missed.

The Ties that Bind



Jessica Au

Tracey Lien (*All That's Left Unsaid*), **Madelaine Lucas** (*Thirst for Salt*), **André Dao** (*Anam*), **Jessica Au** (*Cold Enough for Snow*)
Moderator: Michael Williams

4–5pm, Friday 12 May,
 slq The Edge Auditorium

These wonderful writers examine familial hauntologies and how we shape ourselves as individuals by negotiating the claims of the past. Blending psychological realism with suspense, these superb, ambient novels contemplate how we're bound by our origins and whether it's possible to ever truly transcend history.



Dianne Yarwood

Dianne Yarwood on *The Wakes*

In conversation with Jane Sullivan

4–5pm, Friday 12 May,
 slq Queensland Terrace

The relationship between food and death is well documented and serves as the impetus for this wry, melancholy novel about the lives and loves of funeral caterers. Jane Sullivan joins Dianne Yarwood to talk about life, death and lemon tarts – and the bittersweetness of hard-won wisdom.

Torres Strait Islander Youth and City Living

**FREE
EVENT**

Panellists: Destiny Dewis, Jamie Healey, Mayella Koro
Moderator: Samantha Faulkner

4–5pm, Friday 12 May, slq kuril dhagun

Our youth are our future. Hear from our emerging leaders on how they preserve and practise their cultural values and beliefs. How do they stay strong and maintain their Torres Strait Islander culture and identity?

Curated by Samantha Faulkner

Refugee and Migrant Stories



Rosemary Kariuki

Pirooz Jafari (*Forty Nights*), **Rosemary Kariuki** (*A Joyful Life*), **Manjula Datta O'Connor** (*Daughters of Durga*). **Moderator:** Mitra Khakbazz

4–5pm, Friday 12 May,
 slq The Studio

As migrant crises unfold the world over, it's critical that we understand these geopolitical upheavals from the perspective of the people whose lives they disrupt. Pirooz Jafari, Manjula Datta O'Connor and Rosemary Kariuki bring their powerful, authentic perspectives to the plight of refugees and the need for compassion in a volatile world.

Sandra Thom-Jones on *Growing in to Autism*

In conversation with Edwina Shaw

4–5pm, Friday 12 May, slq The Parlour

We've recently seen an expansion of thinking around autism, with a particular focus on the experience of neurodivergent women. Often misdiagnosed or ignored, many women have struggled with the pressure to present a neurotypical façade. Professor Sandra Thom-Jones discusses how understanding her autism has empowered her as a researcher, educator and parent, and the importance of enabling the full participation of autistic people in society.



John Safran

John Safran on *Puff Piece*

In Conversation with Paul Barclay

5:30–6:30pm,
 Friday 12 May,
 slq Auditorium 1

Deploying his trademark gonzo verve, John Safran investigates the curious pivot of Big Cigarette to so-called healthy alternatives. With smoking on its last legs, tobacco giant Philip Morris has spun itself as an anti-smoking business, marketing a new doohickie called the IQOS as the salvation of nicotine addicts. But is this just the callow ingeniousness of the profit-seeking mechanism at work, or are vapes really the future? In conversation with Paul Barclay, Safran uncovers the mendacious tobacco industry, dropping revelations that will leave you gasping.

Stephanie Johnson on *Kind*

In conversation with Sarah L'Estrange (*The Book Show*, ABC RN)

5:30–6:30pm, Friday 12 May,
 slq Auditorium 2

Class satire with a Kiwi inflection, *Kind* by Stephanie Johnson blends absurdism with social commentary to create a beguiling satire of the Covid era. Perfectly capturing the blink-and-you'll-miss-it feel

of the present, this is a personal and political comedy not to be missed.



Grace Tame on *The Ninth Life of a Diamond Miner*

In conversation with Carody Culver (*Griffith Review*)

Grace Tame

5:30–6:30pm, Friday 12 May, slq The Edge Auditorium

Grace Tame is perhaps the most influential Australian of the Year in recent memory. Her fight to tell her own story culminates with *The Ninth Life of a Diamond Miner*, an extraordinary memoir by a young woman whose passionate, plain-spoken tenacity has left an indelible mark on political life in Australia. With trademark wit and honesty, Tame proves as stirring a writer as she is a speaker: a rebellious firebrand whose story has only just begun.

Supported by WOW (Women of the World) Australia

The Doctors Will See You Now

Paul Biegler (*Why Does It Still Hurt*), Dr Ahona Guha (*Reclaim*), Professor Debbie Haski-Leventhal (*Make it Meaningful*). Moderator: Martine Kropkowski

5:30–6:30pm, Friday 12 May, slq Queensland Terrace

The complex networks connecting body and mind are only beginning to be understood. Combining expertise in the fields of medicine and psychology, these writers discuss the nuances of trauma and recovery and how we can recalibrate the sometimes fraught relationship between how we feel and how we think.

Art for Our Sake: Djon Mundine

In conversation with Katina Davidson

5:30–6:30pm, Friday 12 May, slq kuril dhagun

Writer and curator Djon Mundine is one of the most prolific critical writers on this thing we call Aboriginal art. Over four decades he has walked the fine line that exists between criticism and judgement and is widely regarded as Australia's leading First Nations voice on art criticism.

Curated by Daniel Browning

FREE
EVENT

Representing South Korea's Others

Krys Lee (*How I Became a North Korean*), Sang Young Park (*Love in the Big City*). Moderator: Michaela Kalowski

5:30–6:30pm, Friday 12 May, slq The Studio

Korean social life continues to be influenced by cultural practices that distinguish insiders and outsiders. What do writers seek to achieve by depicting the experiences of people deemed outsiders? The totalising Western worldview often fails to comprehend the nuances of social life in other countries. Krys Lee and Sang Young Park discuss the complex social hierarchies of South Korea and the capacity of the written word to illuminate what it's like to live on the margins.

Curated by Sung-Ae Lee

Whodunit?

Panellists: Benjamin Stevenson (*Everyone in My Family Has Killed Someone*), Sulari Gentill (*The Woman in the Library*), Rebecca Heath (*The Summer Party*), Loraine Peck (*The Double Bind*). Moderator: Jonathan O'Brien

5:30–6:30pm, Friday 12 May, slq The Parlour

The authors of four thrilling new crime novels convene to discuss the art of the old-fashioned whodunnit, filled with colourful characters and ornate puzzles that continue to delight and fascinate readers.

Something Wicked

Panellists: Bora Chung (*Cursed Bunny*), Paul Dalla Rosa (*An Exciting and Vivid Inner Life*), Katerina Gibson (*Women I Know*). Moderator: Myles McGuire

7–8pm, Friday 12 May, slq Auditorium 1

As our attention spans become ever more fractured, these absurd, provocative vignettes perfectly capture the disorientation of the present. With linguistic economy and imaginative perversity, these stars of short fiction are redefining the form for the modern age, their stories featuring twink death, talking poos and houses made of literal rubbish.

Australia's Place in the World



Clinton Fernandes

Ian Kemish (*The Consul*), Clinton Fernandes (*Subimperial Power*). Moderator: Peter Greste

7–8pm, Friday 12 May, slq Auditorium 2

Two insider accounts of Australia's role on the global political stage raise questions about the future of our foreign policy and the status quo of international relations in a time of political tumult. In conversation with leading journalist Peter Greste, two of our finest political minds – former Ambassador Ian Kemish and historian and academic Clinton Fernandes – chart a course for Australia in the 21st century.

Presented by The University of Queensland

Adaptations



Holly Ringland

Panellists: Bryan Brown (*Sweet Jimmy*), Trent Dalton (*Boy Swallows Universe*), Witi Ihimaera (*The Whale Rider*), Holly Ringland (*The Lost Flowers of Alice Heart*).

Moderator: Venero Armano.

7–8pm, Friday 12 May, slq The Edge Auditorium

The ancient proverb says the book is always better than the movie, but great adaptations are undeniable. These writers discuss the alchemy of transposing a terrific story into movie magic and the delights and challenges of adapting a cinema of the imagination to screens big and small.

Kylie Ladd on *I'll Leave You With This*

In conversation with Rebecca Sparrow and Jane Sullivan

7–8pm, Friday 12 May, slq Queensland Terrace

A family saga situated at the outer limits of sisterhood, *I'll Leave You With This* is a sharply relatable tale of big families with bigger problems. *Birds of a Feather* book clubbers Rebecca Sparrow and Jane Sullivan join author Kylie Ladd to unpack this exuberant tale of love and forgiveness.

Friday 12 May

Dislocation and Dispossession



Claire G Coleman

Panellists: Ben Hobson (*The Death of John Lacey*), Claire G Coleman (*Enclave*), André Dao (*Anam*), Pirooz Jafari (*Forty Nights*). **Moderator:** Martine Kropkowski

7–8pm, Friday 12 May, slq kuril dhagun

Violent eruptions and their disorientating results are the focus of these four provocative novels. From the goldfields of Ballarat to war-torn Somalia, these tales of characters unmoored by circumstances beyond their control consider the collision of personal and political and how we begin again when all we know is lost.

Resilience

Panellists: Shannon Molloy (*You Made Me This Way*), Rosemary Kariuki (*A Joyful Life*). **Moderator:** Sarah Klenbort

7–8pm, Friday 12 May, slq The Studio

All of us are made by our traumas, but how do we resolve these into a meaningful life? These intimate perspectives consider trauma and recovery, and the way we organise our personal narratives to take ownership of our stories.

Queensland Crime



Frank Chalmers

Panellists: Joanna Jenkins (*How to Kill a Client*), Frank Chalmers (*Conviction*), Judy Powell (*The Brisbane Line Trilogy*). **Moderator:** Mirandi Riwoe

4–5pm, Friday 12 May, slq The Parlour

Sydney may have the beaches and Melbourne may have the laneways, but when it comes to cloak-and-dagger intrigue, Brisbane leaves its rivals for dead. These writers reflect on the crepuscular side of the Sunshine State and the long legacy of corruption in Queensland.

Saturday 13 May



Stan Grant

Stan Grant on *The Queen is Dead*

In conversation with Clinton Fernandes
10–11am, Saturday 13 May,

slq The Edge Auditorium

Has the world changed, or have I changed? The death of Queen Elizabeth II after her seventy-year reign has prompted renewed debate about monarchy, sovereignty and republicanism. Few are better equipped than Stan Grant to answer these questions and undertake a poignant reckoning with Australia's colonial past and its hopes for the future.

Supported by Griffith University

The Case for Optimism

Panellists: Bill Hayes (*How We Live Now*), Dr Lachlan McIver (*Life and Death Decisions*). **Moderator:** Tracey Kirkland

10–11am, Saturday 13 May, slq Auditorium 2

It's easy to be overwhelmed by our constant exposure to bad news, the myriad portents of gloom that dominate public discussion. These inspiring writers bring hard-won wisdom to the case for optimism, discussing the difference between realism and pessimism, and the moral imperative for hope in times of hardship.

Good Influencers



Emma Carey



Ellidy Pullin

Panellists: Ellidy Pullin (*Heartstrong*), Emma Carey (*The Girl Who Fell From the Sky*). **Moderator:** Lauren Sherritt

10–11am, Saturday 13 May, slq The Edge Auditorium

These memoirs document the triumph of the human spirit in the face of unimaginable adversity. Having faced immense challenges, Ellidy Pullin and Emma Carey reflect on persistence, resilience and recovery, and the

power of hope to pull us through our darkest hours.



Kate Morton

Kate Morton on *Homecoming*

In conversation with Rebecca Sparrow and Jane Sullivan

10–11am, Saturday 13 May,

slq Queensland Terrace

Kate Morton has captivated readers with her immersive historical tales of long-buried mysteries. In conversation with Rebecca Sparrow and Jane Sullivan, Kate discusses her new novel *Homecoming*, a generation-spanning saga of family secrets, melancholy reunions and the sacrifices we make for love.

Class

Panellists: Eve Vincent (*Who Cares? Life on Welfare in Australia*), Sally Olds (*People Who Lunch*), Raewyn Connell (*Raewyn Connell: Research, Politics, Social Change*), Dr Ahona Guha (*Reclaim*). **Moderator:** Greg Marston

10–11am, Saturday 13 May, slq The Studio

The myth of a classless Australia is a thing of the past, with debates about power and privilege, and ongoing scandals like Robodebt, laying bare the fallacy of our egalitarian society. These erudite works of nonfiction consider the resurgence of material politics and show us what class looks like in the 21st century.

Supported by Griffith University

War of the Words



Waleed Aly

Waleed Aly & Scott Stephens (*Uncivil Wars*), John Safran (*Puff Piece*). **Moderator:** Amber Gwynne

11:30–12:30pm, Saturday 13 May, slq Auditorium 1

Recent years have seen intense scrutiny of the way language shapes our reality, with misinformation and freedom of speech becoming flashpoints in a polarised discourse. Examining the effect of political silos on democracy and the soft propaganda of public relations, Waleed Aly, Scott Stephens and John Safran consider how narratives provoke

and position us – and how to restore the possibility of productive debate.

Frank Bongiorno on *Dreamers and Schemers*

In conversation with Paul Barclay

11:30am–12:30pm Saturday 13 May, slq Auditorium 2

From great men of history to skeletons in the closet, this opus by Frank Bongiorno considers the *Dreamers and Schemers* who have made modern Australia. Scrupulously researched and perspicacious, Bongiorno's book navigates the distance between battler and bureaucrat, the machinations by which national identity and nationhood are formed, and the results of these grandiose visions.



Matt Brown



Sarah Brown

Matt and Sarah Brown on *She is Not Your Rehab*

In conversation with Bec Mac

11:30am–12:30pm, Saturday 13 May, slq The Edge Auditorium

Few things are as intimate as cutting someone else's hair. Barber turned domestic violence advocate Matt Brown and his wife, Sarah, discuss Matt's story and My Fathers Barbers, a radically compassionate hairdressing service aimed at breaking the cycle of intergenerational abuse.

Pip Williams on *The Bookbinder of Jericho*

In conversation with Frances Whiting

11:30am–12:30pm, Saturday 13 May, slq Queensland Terrace

From the acclaimed author of *The Dictionary of Lost Words* comes *The Bookbinder of Jericho*, a melange of scrupulous historical detail and the richly imagined inner lives of women. Discussing her novel with Frances Whiting, Williams explores her attraction to historical narratives and why little-known pockets of history exert such power over our imaginations.

Olympic Spirit and Experience

FREE
EVENT

Panellists: Patrick Johnson, Paula Dewis, Benny Mills
Moderator: Samantha Faulkner

11:30am–12:30pm, Saturday 13 May, slq kuril dhagun

With Brisbane set to be the Olympic host city in 2032, excitement is building. Listen to experienced voices on what it is like to participate as an Olympian and to be a volunteer and proud family member. You will be inspired, moved and motivated by their Olympic spirit.

Curated by Samantha Faulkner

Small Town, Big Problem

Panellists: Hayley Scrivenor (*Dirt Town*), Sean Wilson (*Gemini Falls*), Kerry McGinnis (*Gathering Storms*), Garry Disher (*Day's End*)
Moderator: Cass Moriarty

11:30am–12:30pm, Saturday 13 May, slq The Studio

Rural noir is having a renaissance, the bestseller lists chock-a-block with tales of smalltown intrigue. These fabulous writers break down the fascination exerted by isolated locations, colourful characters and long-buried secrets, and the art of weaving mystery into the landscape.

How to Do Nothing ... and Lunch

Panellists: Jenny Odell (*How to Do Nothing*), Sally Olds (*People Who Lunch*). Moderator: Michael Ondaatje

1–2pm, Saturday 13 May, slq Auditorium 1

Audiences are most cordially invited to dine upon a selection of intellectual morsels as two brilliant writers discuss the pleasures and pitfalls of leisure and work. Barack Obama favourite Jenny Odell and incisive essayist Sally Olds examine idleness as a radical act and consider how we might – even for a moment – hold the relentless demands of modern life at bay.

Conflict Reporting

Panellists: Andrew Quilty (*August in Kabul*), Anthony Cooper (*Dispatch from Berlin*). Moderator: Steve Austin

1–2pm, Saturday 13 May, slq Auditorium 2

What does it mean to report from the frontline? Two compelling records of

wartime journalism – Andrew Quilty's astonishing first-hand account of America's final days in Afghanistan, and Anthony Cooper's gripping history of five correspondents on a deadly air raid in 1943 – reveal the devastating cost of war and the lessons we can learn from those who witness it for a living.

Lovers of Love

SPECIAL
EVENT

Panellists: Trent Dalton (*Love Stories*), Samuel Johnson (*Dear Lover*)
Moderator: Christine Jackman

1–2pm, Saturday 13 May, slq The Edge Auditorium

Love is in the air in these gorgeous epistolary collections, which document longing, lust and everything in between. Romantic men Trent Dalton and Samuel Johnson will sweep you off your feet with these affairs of the heart, from the everyday to the amorous missives of Australia's best known public figures.

Queer in the Big City

Panelists: Bill Hayes (*Insomniac City*), Sang Young Park (*Love in the Big City*), Luke Rutledge (*A Man and His Pride*), Paul Dalla Rosa (*An Exciting and Vivid Inner Life*). Moderator: Myles McGuire

1–2pm, Saturday 13 May, slq Queensland Terrace

The lives and loves of men are vividly rendered in these superb books, exploring the nuances of sex and self in the urban jungle. From the time-honoured tradition of the 'palaestra addict' to the peripatetic sexual circuit of online dating, these stories examine the relationship between body and space, and what it means to be gay in the modern age.

Brenda Matthews on *The Last Daughter*

FREE
EVENT

In conversation with Jackie Huggins

1–2pm, Saturday 13 May, slq kuril dhagun

As a young child, Brenda Matthews lived between two worlds. Stolen from her parents at the age of two, she formed a loving bond with her white foster family and remained unaware of her Aboriginal identity until, after five long years, her biological mother and father finally won their fight to bring her home. Brenda's incredible true story – which is also the subject of a forthcoming documentary feature – is one of heartbreak, hope and healing.

Shame

Panellists: Eve Vincent (*Who Cares? Life on Welfare in Australia*), Brooke Blurton (*Big Love*), Ianto Ware (*Mother & I*), Shannon Molloy (*You Made Me This Way*). **Moderator:** Andie Fox

1–2pm, Saturday 13 May,
slq The Studio

So much of how we learn is informed by our aversion to shame – the fear of embarrassment or humiliation instilled from our earliest experiences. These writers discuss how to overcome shame and harness our negative self-talk into a productive and honest dialogue.

Faking It – Griffith Review 80: Creation Stories

FREE
EVENT

Toby Walsh in conversation with Antony Funnell (*Future Tense*, ABC RN)

2:30–3:30pm, Saturday 13 May,
slq Auditorium 1

From the trickery of the Mechanical Turk to the mimicry of ChatGPT, machines have been fooling us for centuries – but now more than ever before, it feels easy to believe in their sentience. To launch *Griffith Review 80: Creation Stories*, Toby Walsh, Chief Scientist at UNSW.ai, talks to Antony Funnell about what our increasingly complex interactions with AI mean for the future of humanity. In celebration of *Griffith Review*'s eightieth edition and twentieth anniversary, *Creation Stories* travels through time and space to explore the many tales of who we are and where we might be headed.

Supported by *Griffith Review*

Caitlin Mahar on *The Good Death Through Time*

In conversation with Scott Stephens

2:30–3:30pm, Saturday 13 May,
slq Auditorium 2

As voluntary assisted dying becomes enshrined in law, Caitlin Mahar's fascinating book interrogates diverse cultural attitudes towards death and the evolution of our society's understanding of euthanasia. Join her in conversation with Scott Stephens, ABC's Online Editor of Religion and Ethics, for an illuminating conversation about the big questions surrounding life's biggest mystery: how it ends.

DNA Disaster: The Judge and the Journalist



Hedley Thomas

Panellists: Hedley Thomas and Walter Sofronoff. **Moderator:** Matthew Condon

2:30–3:30pm,
Saturday 13 May,
slq The Edge Auditorium

In his recent hit podcast *Shandee's Story*, renowned investigative journalist Hedley Thomas exposed one of the greatest travesties in the administration of criminal justice in Queensland's history. His work triggered an inquiry by retired judge and brilliant legal mind Walter Sofronoff and the total revamp of the state's DNA testing laboratory, costing the government millions of dollars. For the first time, Thomas and Sofronoff publicly discuss this epochal case.

Curated by Matthew Condon, Presented by The University of Queensland



Meg Bignell

Meg Bignell on *The Angry Women's Choir*

In conversation with Rebecca Sparrow and Jane Sullivan

2:30–3:30pm,
Saturday 13 May, slq Queensland Terrace

The past few years have seen women raising their voices for social change; in Meg Bignell's warm, generous new novel, they are also required to harmonise. *Birds of a Feather* doyennes Rebecca Sparrow and Jane Sullivan join Meg to discuss this gloriously Australian tale of motherhood, independence and solidarity between women in the unmissable book club event of the year.

Supported by Sequel Books

Japan-Australia Research Project

FREE
EVENT

Panellists: Dr Julie Lahn, Dr Annick Thomassin, Jacinta Baragud: Will Kepa. **Moderator:** Samantha Faulkner

2:30–3:30pm, Saturday 13 May,
slq kuril dhagun

This panel charts an initiative to reimagine an archive of 50-year-old Japanese scholarship about life in the Torres Strait. Through an exciting visual presentation, the panel will discuss digital repatriation, reconnecting people and research materials and the importance of reinterpreting scholarship through a Torres Strait lens.

Curated by Samantha Faulkner

Sexuality and Gender

Panellists: Raewyn Connell (*Research, Politics, Social Change*), Fiona Kelly McGregor (*Buried Not Dead*), Rae White (*Exactly As I Am*), Ellen van Neerven (*Personal Score*). **Moderator:** Maureen Engel

2:30–3:30pm, Saturday 13 May,
slq The Studio

Ambiguities and ambivalences of sex and gender have preoccupied writers from Ovid to Virginia Woolf. Here, four writers consider sexuality and gender in a modern context, drawing on personal experience and social observation to chronicle the evolution of our relationship to gender in the present.

Presented by The University of Queensland

Greens, Teals and Ideals

Panellists: Tim Dunlop (*Voices of Us*), Paddy Manning (*The Successor*, 'Inside Queensland's Green Wave' for *The Saturday Paper*) **Moderator:** Michael Williams

4–5pm, Saturday 13 May,
slq Auditorium 1

The story of the 2022 Federal Election is unprecedented in Australian politics, with massive defections among Liberal voters frustrated by inaction on climate change to the emergent Teal bloc. With Labor forming government with the lowest primary vote in recent history, the landscape of Australian politics appears to have changed irrevocably, party loyalty superseded by the demands of informed, passionate voters. In Queensland, there was an inner-city 'greenslide'. Paddy Manning (author of the insightful *Saturday Paper* piece 'Inside Queensland's Green Wave') and Tim Dunlop (author of a revealing book about the significance of the independents movement) discuss the paradigm shift in Australian politics and what this unusually exciting election bodes for the future.

Supported by *The Saturday Paper*

Self-expression and Social Critique: Women's Writing in South Korea

Kim Min Jeong (*Beautiful and Useless*) and **Bora Chung** (*Cursed Bunny*). **Moderator:** Sarah L'Estrange (*The Book Show*, ABC RN)

4–5pm, Saturday 13 May,
slq Auditorium 2

In what ways does writing by Korean women distinguish itself within Korean

literature? Does it cultivate unique themes and styles? Writing about women's lives unearths both universal themes and culturally specific practices. Kim Min Jeong and Bora Chung discuss the women's writing tradition in Korean literature, how it distinguishes itself locally and its relationship to women's writing worldwide.

Curated by Sung-Ae Lee

Tracey Lien on *All That's Left Unsaid*

SPECIAL
EVENT

In conversation with Claire Nichols
(The Book Show, ABC RN)

4–5pm, Saturday 13 May,
slq The Edge Auditorium

A remarkable bestseller exploring internecine conflicts and systematic discrimination, *All That's Left Unsaid* is an impassioned, suspenseful study of life in Australia's migrant communities. Seasoned journalist Tracey Lien unpacks the process behind her debut novel, marrying a reporter's eye for detail to the fiction writer's empathetic odyssey.

Supported by QBD Books

Greatest Hits and Other Bits: Salon



Nick Earls



Patience
Hodgson



Samuel
Johnson

Readers: Samuel Watson,
Samuel Johnson, Matt Brown,
Stephanie Johnson, Nick Earls
Host: Patience Hodgson

4–5pm, Saturday 13 May,
slq Queensland Terrace

We'll be honest: we don't know what's going to happen at this salon event. That's one reason why you should come along – the other is the all-star roster of literary talent. We've invited these beloved writers to dive into their back catalogue and share their greatest (or most unexpected) essays and yarns with the crowd – so gather round, join the fun and be reminded that story time isn't just for kids.

Colonial Cringe

Fiona McFarlane (*The Sun Walks Down*), Janaka Malwatta (*blackbirds don't mate with starlings*), Claire G Coleman (*Lies Damned Lies*), Robbie

Arnott (*Limberlost*). Moderator:
Grace Lucas-Pennington

4–5pm, Saturday 13 May,
slq kuril dhagun

Through fiction, poetry and nonfiction, these powerhouse writers advance their critiques of colonialism, drawing on past atrocities to illuminate their lingering resonances in the present.

Thrills and Chills

Panellists: Candice Fox (*Fire With Fire*), Ashley Kalagian Blunt (*Dark Mode*), Dinuka McKenzie (*Taken*), Nikki Mottram (*Crows Nest*). Moderator: Cass Moriarty

4–5pm, Saturday 13 May,
slq The Studio

Send a shiver down your spine with these psychological thrillers, as four writers discuss why the things that scare us the most are often those which are most familiar.

Supported by QBD Books

The Meaning of Life

Antonia Case (*Flourish*), Debbie Haski-Leventhal (*Make it Meaningful*), James Kirby (*Choose Compassion*)
Moderator: Warren Ward

5:30–6:30pm, Saturday 13 May,
slq Auditorium 1

Psychology and philosophy meet in the works of these authors, who bring their extraordinary perspectives to the ultimate question: what does it all mean? Considering the alienation of modern life and the human impulse towards making meaning, these writers bring their experience to bear on the modern condition, reminding us of eternal truths easily lost in an overwhelming present.

Presented by The University
of Queensland

Whiskey Au Go Go

A presentation by Matthew Condon

5:30–6:30pm, Saturday 13 May,
slq Auditorium 2

This year marks the fiftieth anniversary of the firebombing of the Whiskey Au Go Go nightclub in Brisbane's Fortitude Valley – a tragedy that caused the loss of fifteen innocent lives. After the controversial trial of two of the alleged perpetrators and two official inquests, the story of what exactly happened that night and why is still a mystery. Investigative journalist and author Matthew Condon, who has written extensively about the Whiskey, tries to unpick what's been

described as one of the greatest crimes of 20th-century Australia.

Curated by Matthew Condon

Lit Girl Summit

Panellists: Gabrielle Zevin (*Young Jane Young*), Katerina Gibson (*Women I Know*), Anne Casey-Hardy (*Cautionary Tales for Excitable Girls*), Sulari Gentili (*The Woman in the Library*). Moderator: Alexandra Philp

5:30–6:30pm, Saturday 13 May,
slq The Edge Auditorium

The lives of women and girls take centre stage in these books, in which four new literary superstars depict the ambivalences and ambiguities of womanhood. From prickly short fiction to an epic of modern American life, these dynamic and daring works present the modern woman as the author of her own fate.

The Agony and the Ecstasy of Tech



Toby Walsh

Panellists: Toby Walsh (*Machines Behaving Badly*), Clinton Fernandes (*Subimperial Power*), Grace Chan (*Every Version of You*)
Moderator:

Helen Marshall

5:30–6:30pm, Saturday 13 May,
slq Queensland Terrace

It is to the great credit of Brisbane Writers Festival that this event copy was not written by a robot. The past few months have seen the rise of ChatGPT, a fun and totally harmless step towards Roko's Basilisk; things that recently seemed like science fiction are now playing prominent roles in our social reality. Join these powerful human mind machines to get to the bottom of future tech and whether we should be afraid of it – or terrified.

Blakpoetry

Speakers: Lorna Munro, Ancestress, Samuel Watson. Host: Cheryl Leavy

5:30–6:30pm, Saturday 13 May,
slq kuril dhagun

Lorna Munro, Ancestress and Samuel Watson share some unpublished new work, bridging the gulf between the momentary source of inspiration, the aspiration of the word in live performance and the printed word.

Curated by Daniel Browning

FREE
EVENT

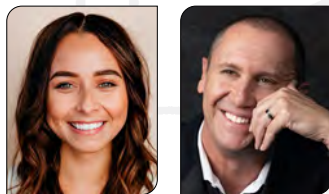
Saturday 13 May

The Fog of War

Panellists: Mark Willacy (*Rogue Forces*), Andrew Quilty (*August in Kabul*), Christine Helliwell (*Semut*). **Moderator:** Peter Greste
5:30–6:30pm, Saturday 13 May, slq The Studio

Australians were horrified by the revelations of *Four Corners*' 'Killing Fields' investigation into war crimes committed by Australian soldiers in Afghanistan. Mark Willacy, Andrew Quilty and Christine Helliwell discuss the lawless delirium of the frontline and our ethical reckoning with military adventurism.

Happy Ending



Brooke Blurton **Larry Emdur**

Panellists: Brooke Blurton (*Big Love*), Larry Emdur (*Happy As*). **Moderator:** Bec Mac

7–8pm, Saturday 13 May, slq Auditorium 1

Beloved television personalities Brooke Blurton and Larry Emdur share their secrets to happiness in these warm, uplifting memoirs. Self-aware and self-deprecating, Brooke and Larry emphasise the redemptive power of love in the journey to personal fulfillment.

Of Things Past

Nick Earls (*Empires*), **Bae Suah** (*Untold Night and Day*), **Pirooz Jafari** (*Forty Nights*), **Madelaine Lucas** (*Thirst for Salt*). **Moderator:** Ella Jeffery

7–8pm, Saturday 13 May, slq Auditorium 2

What is memory but the lens through which we perceive the past? These novels depict personal histories as dreamwork – a dangerous, seductive process of excavating ourselves for truth. Collapsing past, present and future, these writers bring luminous clarity to the opaque and obscure.

Blockbuster Crime

SPECIAL EVENT

Panellists: Irvine Welsh (*The Long Knives*), Tracey Lien (*All That's Left Unsaid*), Candice Fox (*Fire With Fire*), Garry Disher (*Day's End*)
Moderator: Hayley Scrivenor

7–8pm, Saturday 13 May, slq The Edge Auditorium

Too often mystery novels are overlooked, despite the greatest crime fiction revealing our darkest impulses and social paranoias. Four titans of tension discuss the art of transcendent crime writing, and readers' enduring fascination with those who commit violent acts and those who bring them to justice.

Supported by QBD Books

NSFW

ADULTS ONLY

Readers: Kylie Scott, Fiona Kelly McGregor, Claire G Coleman, Kris Kneen, Adam Hadley. **Host:** Patience Hodgson

7–8pm, Saturday 13 May, slq Queensland Terrace

Make sure you're in incognito mode for this (metaphorically) orgiastic affair, where some of the most unseemly minds in letters will regale you with dark, twisted fantasies. Fan fiction, body horror, steam and bonkers (pun intended) sex scenes are all on the docket for this adults-only event, where we'll not only entertain but flatter you ... by asking to see some ID.

Evolutions in Environmental Thinking

Panellists: Joëlle Gergis (*Humanity's Moment*), Coen Hird (Misc.), and Philip and Freya Mulvey (*Soil Security and Climate Change*)
Moderator: Ashley Hay

7–8pm, Saturday 13 May, slq The Studio

Though the climate crisis has been at the forefront of public discussion for decades, it is often unclear what is being done to address it, and how. These science writers discuss the practical solutions to global warming and climate change crying out to be implemented, and how we restore an understanding of ourselves as part of the earth.

Supported by *The Monthly*

Sunday 14 May

Growing Older Better



Dr Norman Swan

Panellists: Dr Norman Swan (*So You Want to Live Younger Longer*), Dr Rebecca Ray (*Small Habits for a Big Life*)
Moderator: Sally Piper

10–11am, Sunday 14 May, slq Auditorium 1

What can science teach us about how to live our best lives? Two health experts contemplate how we make the most of our time on earth, from breaking out of the habits that hold us back to discovering what can really keep us young. .

Supported by Feros Care

Spies Like Us

Christine Wells (*One Woman's War*), **Brett Mason** (*Wizards of Oz*), **Peter Greste** (*The First Casualty*)
Moderator: Melanie Myers

10–11am, Sunday 14 May, slq Auditorium 2

Don your trenchcoat and go undercover for this tense discussion of spy-craft and diplomacy. The fictionalised escapades of the real-life inspiration for Miss Money Penny, the remarkable true story of two Australians who helped the Allies win World War II, and the shocking account of a foreign correspondent imprisoned on trumped-up charges: these fascinating books chart the evolution of subterfuge and dissect the dynamics of international relations in a globalised world. Enjoy them shaken, not stirred.

Bill Hayes on Sweat

SPECIAL EVENT

In conversation with Carody Culver (*Griffith Review*)

10–11am, Sunday 14 May, slq The Edge Auditorium

Too often, a life of the mind comes at the expense of the body. In this revealing new work of nonfiction, the wonderfully erudite Bill Hayes demystifies sweat and the body's relationship to exercise, from early bipeds to the physique cults of antiquity and the bloodless, avuncular wellness industry of the present.

Sunday 14 May

All I Have Is a Voice Poetry Salon

Readers: Stuart Barnes, Pascale Burton, Janaka Malwatta, Bronwyn Lea, Katherena Vermette, Kim Min Jeong. **MC:** Adam Hadley

10–11am, Sunday 14 May,
slq Queensland Terrace

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

Writing Women's Stories

**FREE
EVENT**

Panellists: Lenora Thaker, Jillian Bowie
Moderator: Samantha Faulkner

10–11am, Sunday 14 May,
slq kuril dhagun

Torres Strait Islander women are deadly! Come and hear from these Deadly women and what they are working on. As Toni Morrison said, 'If you cannot find the book you want to read, you must write it,' and that's just what these ladies are doing.

Curated by Samantha Faulkner

BookTok Breakout

Panellists: Stacey McEwan (*Ledge*), Jodi McAlister (*Here for the Right Reasons*). **Moderator:** Alex Adsett

10–11am, Sunday 14 May,
slq The Studio

So much of how we live has been upturned by social media, but what about how we read? These authors consider the career-making potential of TikTok, the advent of impassioned online communities of readers and the future of publishing in the digital age.

Guillaume Pitron on The Dark Cloud

In conversation with Amanda Niehaus
11:30am–12:30pm, Sunday 14 May,
slq Auditorium 1



**Guillaume
Pitron**

The diffuse, pervasive nature of digital technology is conducive to the misapprehension that we've entered a post-material world. Journalist and researcher Guillaume Pitron challenges us to correct this fallacy, demonstrating the exhaustive infrastructure required to keep this alternative reality running and the very real environmental impact of digital technology.

Pandemedia: The Future of Journalism, post-Covid



Max Futcher

slq Auditorium 2

Panellists: Max Futcher, Dr Norman Swan, Gavin Fang, Tracey Kirkland
Moderator: Rachel Mealey

11:30am–12:30pm,
Sunday 14 May,

Assembling the perspectives of some of Australia's most prominent media figures, *Pandemedia* considers the way Covid transformed the news-making industry, possibly forever. Examining decentralised communication, social media and the responsibility of journalists to write the first draft of history, our panellists try to make sense of the seismic events dominating recent years and ask what lessons the media has learned – and what it means for you.

This Sporting Life



Peter Doherty

11:30am–12:30pm, Sunday 14 May,
slq The Edge Auditorium

Sport has long been inextricable from national identity, and there are few places in which this synergy is more pronounced than Australia. Nobel Laureate Peter Doherty, novelist Inga Simpson, and rugby-league player turned actor and writer Aaron Fa'Aoso

Panellists: Inga Simpson (*Willowman*), Peter Doherty (*Empire, War, Tennis and Me*), Aaron Fa'Aoso (*So Far, So Good*). **Moderator:** James Jiang (*Griffith Review*)

discuss their new books and reveal what our fixation on athletics reveals about our psychology.

Rich People's Problems



**Stephanie
Johnson**

Panellists: Rebecca Heath (*The Summer Party*), Stephanie Johnson (*Kind*), Michelle Upton (*Terms of Inheritance*)

Moderator: Claire Christian

11:30am–12:30pm,

Sunday 14 May, slq Queensland Terrace

[Gossip Girl voice] From *Anna Karenina* to *The White Lotus*, the dysfunctional lives of the rich have aroused pathos, contempt and fascination. These witty novelists discuss the complex appeal of bourgeois fiction – the mixture of escapism and schadenfreude that draws us to glamorous tales of secrecy and scandal.

Belonging and Race

**FREE
EVENT**

Sarah Malik (*Desi Girl*), **Brooke Blurton** (*Big Love*)
Moderator: Melanie Saward

11:30am–12:30pm, Sunday 14 May,
slq kuril dhagun

Exploring our complex connections to the past, these writers examine the powerful, sometimes passive-aggressive nature of kinship and community, and how we define ourselves while maintaining our connection to culture.

Toil and Trouble

Panellists: Angela Slatter, Trent Jamieson, Malcolm Devlin. **Contributing Moderator:** Kathleen Jennings

11:30am–12:30pm, Sunday 14 May,
slq The Parlour

Journey through ghostly gothic hallways, plague-infested streets and a town at the end of time in these four brilliantly imaginative works of sci-fi and fantasy. Through magic, monsters and mayhem, these novels peer beneath the veil that divides living and dead, using fable and fairytale to reveal what it means to be human.

Jenny Odell on *Saving Time*

SPECIAL
EVENT

In conversation with Christine Jackman
1–2pm, Sunday 14 May,
slq Auditorium 1

Ever feel like you don't have enough time? Jenny Odell can help you clock off. In her brilliantly perceptive and subversive new book, the multidisciplinary artist and bestselling author dismantles the dominant conceptions of time that define our days, offering us different and more meaningful ways of experiencing the many rhythms of our lives.

Silvia Micheli and Michael Keniger on *The New Queensland House*

Moderator: Heather Zwicker

1–2pm, Sunday 14 May,
slq Auditorium 2

The Queenslander may be Australia's most iconic style of residential architecture, but its namesake state is breaking new ground in how we conceive elegant dwellings for subtropical climates. Architects and *The New Queensland House* essay contributors Silvia Micheli and Michael Keniger discuss this gorgeous new book and the design trends emerging from the Sunshine State.

Irvine Welsh on *Trainspotting*

SPECIAL
EVENT

In conversation with John Birmingham
1–2pm, Sunday 14 May
slq The Edge Auditorium

Thirty years after the release of *Trainspotting*, Irvine Welsh joins John Birmingham to discuss his grungy modern classic. Polarising critics at the time of its release, this subversive masterwork of addiction and alienation has only grown in stature in the decades since its release. In this exclusive event, Welsh reflects on the novel's cult legacy and the state of transgressive fiction today.

Mothers

Panellists: Susan Johnson (*Aphrodite's Island: A Daughter, a Mother, and a Greek Island*), Jessica Au (*Cold Enough for Snow*), Ianto Ware (*Mother & I*), Anne Casey-Hardy (*Cautionary Tales for Excitable Girls*). Moderator: Joy Lawn

1–2pm, Sunday 14 May,
Queensland Terrace

Few relationships are as essential to who we are as the bond we share with our mothers. In their striking works, these writers immerse themselves in the primal connection of mother to child, chronicling the pleasure of kinship and the pain of forging an independent identity.

Lost and Found in Translation

FREE
EVENT

Panellists: Clint Bracknell, Lorna Munro. Moderator: Cheryl Leavy

1–2pm, Sunday 14 May,
slq kuril dhagun

What's the point of translating the classics into Australia's first languages? Why do oral cultures like ours need the printed word and what is lost or found in the attempt? Clint Bracknell talks translating Shakespeare's *Macbeth* and Bruce Lee's *Fistful of Fury* into Noongar, and Lorna Munro shares some of the challenges she encountered while translating one of Shakespeare's most famous soliloquies into Wiradjuri.

Curated by Daniel Browning

A Fine Romance

Panellists: Kay Kerr (*Love & Autism*), Amy Taylor (*Search History*), Hugh Breakey (*The Beautiful Fall*), Kylie Scott (*End of Story*)
Moderator: Jodi McAlister

1–2pm, Sunday 14 May, slq The Studio

We're all suckers for a good love story, and these fabulous authors are giving the romantic comedy a well-deserved revival. Grounded in authentic and relatable human experiences, these books are rewriting the love story for a new era, making us laugh, cry and fall head over heels.

Cut & Paste: Zines and Self-Publishing as an Artform

Panellists: Benjo Kazue, Bianca Martin, Rae White. Moderator: Jeremy Staples
1–2pm, Sunday 14 May, slq The Parlour

Whether you're an aspiring zine-maker, seasoned creator or keen zine reader, this is the panel for you. Explore the many folds of this dynamic subcultural art form, from its fan-driven beginnings to its exciting future possibilities, and discover how to get cracking if you're looking to start your very own zine revolution.

Writing the Landscape



Robbie Arnott

Panellists: Robbie Arnott (*Limberlost*), Inga Simpson (*The Willowman*), Claire G Coleman (*Enclave*)
Moderator: Sally Piper

2:30–3:30pm, Sunday
14 May, slq The Parlour

The brutal beauty of Australia's landscape has long fascinated writers and artists, as quaint, Rousseauian visions of nature routinely collapse into fire and flood. These novelists examine the psychological topography of Australian fiction and our passive-aggressive relationship to a volatile Mother Earth.

Katherena
Vermette

Katherena Vermette on *The Strangers*

In conversation with
Claire Nichols (*The Book Show*, ABC RN)

2:30–3:30pm,
Sunday 14 May,
slq Auditorium 2

The Book Show's Claire Nichols joins Métis poet and novelist Katherena Vermette to discuss her new book *The Strangers*, a sweeping epic about a family separated by the system. Examining addiction, foster care and intergenerational trauma, this powerful story insists on the primacy of family and the redemptive power of forgiveness.

Gabrielle Zevin on *Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow*

SPECIAL
EVENT

In conversation with Maureen Engel.

2:30–3:30pm, Sunday 14 May,
slq The Edge Auditorium

Gabrielle Zevin has developed a reputation for writing seriously thoughtful literature with unabashed entertainment value. Her latest bestseller, *Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow*, is about the quest to create perfect worlds through technology and the imperfect nature of even our most treasured friendships. In conversation with Maureen Engel, Gabrielle reflects on how fiction both echoes the world we live in and imagines how we would like to live.

Not Sticking to the 'Rules': Self-fashioned Writing

Bae Suah (*Untold Night and Day*) and **Kim Min Jeong** (*Beautiful and Useless*). **Moderator: Pascale Burton**

2:30–3:30pm, Sunday 14 May, slq Queensland Terrace

Two writers renowned for their innovative and unconventional creative practices talk about what inspires them and how readers have responded to their work. In literature and cinema, South Korea has developed a reputation for unorthodox storytelling and formal innovation. Bae Suah and Kim Min Jeong consider writing as a process of radical invention, describing their search for new forms and how disrupting convention expands our consciousness.

Curated by Sung-Ae Lee

Writing Men's Stories

Panellists: Benny Mills, Patrick Johnson, Aaron Fa'aoso. Moderator: Samantha Faulkner

2:30–3:30pm, Sunday 14 May, slq kuril dhagun

Come and hear some yarns from Torres Strait Islander men. What is it like to grow up in a strong and dynamic sea-faring culture? How do you maintain your culture and identity over the years in a fast-paced, ever-changing world?

Curated by Samantha Faulkner

Climate of Fear

Panellists: Joëlle Gergis (*Humanity's Moment*), **Guillaume Pitron** (*The Dark Cloud*), **Margi Prideaux** (*Fire: A Message from the Edge of Climate Catastrophe*). **Moderator: Liz Minchin** (*The Conversation*)

2:30–3:30pm, Sunday 14 May, slq The Studio

The images of a scorched Kangaroo Island in 2020 served as a devastating reminder of the impacts of climate change, with unprecedented weather ravaging one of Australia's most unique ecosystems. These writers discuss the causes and consequences of the climate crisis and what is required of us to mitigate worse catastrophes.

Brisbane Goes Wild

Darryl Jones (*Curlews on Vulture Street*), **Coen Hird** (*Misc.*), **Margaret Cook** (*A River With a City Problem*). **Moderator: Amanda Niehaus**

2:30–3:30pm, Sunday 14 May, slq The Parlour

Recentring nature in the urban narrative, these writers and illustrators investigate the Brisbane biosphere. In this session, they'll discuss the interaction between nature and people and the humbling reality of living astride a floodplain.



Sarah Malik

Wherever You Go, There You Are

Panellists: Mary Ryllis Clark (*Turning Points*), **Sarah Malik** (*Safar*). **Moderator: Joy Lawn**

4–5pm, Sunday 14 May, slq Auditorium 2

These two riveting books chart the pivotal moments and transformative journeys that make us who we are. In *Turning Points*, Mary Ryllis Clark shares the life-changing experiences of twenty-five remarkable Australians; in *Safar*, Sarah Malik explores the spiritual and emotional travels of Muslim women from diverse backgrounds. These true tales of adventure and adversity traverse the many bends, forks and bumps along the road to self-knowledge.

Tim Winton's Love Letter to Ningaloo

In conversation with Ashley Hay
4–5:15pm, Sunday 14 May, slq The Edge Auditorium

He's been writing about coastal life for over forty years – but instead of publishing a new novel, this four-time Miles Franklin winner has delivered a three-part natural history series for television. What makes an artist step so far outside his lane at this stage of his career? How does a novelist reconcile a lifelong defence of 'useless beauty' with the urgent need for action? A reflection on writing in the throes of a climate emergency and extinction crisis.

Raising Teens and Tweens



Chris Sarra

Panellists: Julie Fison (*One Punch*), **Chris Sarra** (*Good Morning, Mr Sarra*), **Susanne Gervay** (*The Edge of Limits*). **Moderator: Andie Fox**

4–5pm, Sunday 14 May, slq Queensland Terrace

Adolescence has never been easy, and in the overwhelming present, the transition from child to adult is more fraught than ever before. These authors discuss the challenges facing the parents of teens

and tweens, and how to raise confident, happy young people.

Resistance Songs

Panellists: Lorna Munro, Ancestress, Steven Oliver

4–5pm, Sunday 14 May, slq kuril dhagun

Poetry, slam and spoken word mainline politics. Why does this form sing to First Nations creatives and audiences more than any other? How does performance alter the text, and can a poem or song do the work of activism? We ask these leading First Nations practitioners.

Curated by Daniel Browning



Tony Wellington

Tony Wellington on *Freak Out* and *Vinyl Dreams: How the 1970s Changed Music*

In conversation with Andrew Stafford

4–5pm, Sunday 14 May, slq The Studio

Writer and music aficionado Tony Wellington reflects on the seismic cultural changes wrought by the rock'n'roll revolution of the sixties and the still more radical turn of the seventies. In conversation with Brisbane rock scholar Andrew Stafford, Wellington maps Australia's evolution from sleepy, parochial island to a vital part of the global sonic landscape.

Last Word: Closing Address with Alexis Wright

The World Needs Powerful Storytellers – Right Now!

5:30–7pm, Sunday 14 May, slq Queensland Terrace

The peerless Alexis Wright will close the 2023 Brisbane Writers Festival with a powerful exploration of apocalypse and creation. In this stirring speech, Wright probes the possibility for revelation in humanity's existential crisis, the rediscovery of ancient modes of being and perceiving, and the critical role of storytellers in this moment of peril. Join one of Australia's finest literary minds for an address that unifies philosophy and prophecy, bringing this year's festival to a rousing and provocative climax.

Supported by University of Queensland

Beyond Brisbane



With thanks to Moreton Bay Regional Council, BWF is thrilled to offer a selection of big names for author talks beyond Brisbane: Candice Fox, Garry Disher and Meg Bignell. Bookings for these events will be managed through the host libraries. Please see below for details.

Meg Bignell on *The Angry Women's Choir*

6:30–7:30pm, Thursday 11 May, North Lakes Library

10 The Corso, North Lakes

Tickets: NorthLakes.Library@moretonbay.qld.gov.au, (07) 3883 5745

The past few years have seen women raising their voices for social change; in Meg Bignell's warm, generous new novel, they are also required to harmonise.

Join Meg to discuss this gloriously Australian tale of motherhood, independence and solidarity between women in the unmissable book club event of the year.

Supported by Moreton Bay Regional Council



Garry Disher

Garry Disher on *Day's End*

11am–2pm, Sunday 14 May, Redcliffe Library

476 Oxley Ave, Redcliffe

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

In the latest instalment in his Hirsch series, Garry Disher reminds us why he's the master of rural noir. Knotty plots, compelling characters and a dark mirror held to the Australian psyche make *Day's End* a ruthlessly contemporary and timelessly atmospheric crime novel for lovers of hard-boiled fiction.

Supported by Moreton Bay Regional Council



Candice Fox

Candice Fox on *Fire with Fire*

1–2pm, Sunday 14 May, Redcliffe Library

476 Oxley Ave, Redcliffe

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

Candice Fox has made an international name for herself as one of Australia's most adventurous thriller writers. In *Fire with Fire*, she explores the psychology of vigilantism, with the frustrated parents of a missing girl taking matters into their own hands in a page-turning yarn of law and morality.

Supported by Moreton Bay Regional Council



BAFFIES OAN BOOKS

QUALITY BOOKS . LOCAL ART AND CRAFTS
CHILDREN'S BOOKS AND READING SPACE

LIFESTYLE CENTRE
225 MT. GLORIOUS RD., SAMFORD, QLD.

www.baffiesoanbooks.com.au

[baffiesoanbooks](https://www.facebook.com/baffiesoanbooks)
 [@baffiesoanbooks](https://www.instagram.com/baffiesoanbooks)



Pip Williams' Samford fans can see her (and to toast her success!) at a special Mother's Day Afternoon Tea supported by the area's charming local bookstore, Baffies Oan Books.

Mother's Day Afternoon Tea with Pip Williams

4:30–6pm, Sunday 14 May, Baffies Oan Books

225 Mount Glorious Road, Samford

Book your tickets through BWF

The fabulous Pip Williams discusses *The Bookbinder of Jericho* as part of BWF's Beyond Brisbane series. Luxuriate in the fresh Samford air during this special afternoon tea catered by Café Lagarto for Baffies Oan Books. \$45 covers your entry plus coffee, tea, and a selection of bite-sized cakes and sweets for your whole table's tasting pleasure. A cheeky glass of wine can also be purchased on request.

Supported by Baffies Oan Books

Workshops



Madelaine Lucas

Madelaine Lucas: Writing Dynamic Relationships

10am–1pm,
Friday 12 May,
slq Heritage Collections
Learning Room

Join Madelaine Lucas, author of the debut novel *Thirst for Salt* and a professor of creative writing at Columbia University, New York, for an interactive workshop on how to craft dynamic relationships in fiction and memoir. In this generative three-hour session, we will examine the textures and tensions of relationships between strangers, lovers and family members. Through targeted prompts and exercises, writers will begin to create their own compelling portraits of intimacy and learn how to use the tools of our craft – such as voice, form and sensory detail – to avoid familiar scripts when depicting romantic or familial bonds and bring relationships to life on the page. This workshop is open to prose writers at all stages of their practice and participants will be encouraged to share their responses to in-class writing exercises with the group.



Christine Wells

Christine Wells: Bringing History to Life

2–5pm, Friday 12 May,
slq Heritage Collections
Learning Room

Join internationally bestselling author of sixteen historical novels, Christine Wells, for an interactive, hands-on workshop for writers of historical fiction. Learn how to write a vivid story set in the past that will hold readers riveted, even in the age of Netflix and Nintendo. From premise, setting, structure and characterisation all the way to the final polish, Christine will share techniques and tips on how to immerse both yourself and your reader in another time and place.



Sally Piper

Sally Piper: Landscape Writing

10am–1pm,
Saturday 13 May,
slq Heritage Collections
Learning Room

Place and landscapes are often overlooked in stories when they could be used as powerful drivers of character and narrative. This workshop aims to redress this through a series of readings, writing exercises and discussions which assist writers to re-imagine their relationship with the natural world and guide them in new ways of thinking and writing about place.



Lee Kofman

Lee Kofman: Teaching What Makes You Blush

2–5pm,
Saturday 13 May,
slq Heritage Collections
Learning Room

Writers' best works often dwell in the caves of shame. Shame is a reliable barometer to detect those urgent stories we need to tell. But how to dare, and find the right language, to write about what makes us blush? Find the courage to write about what matters to you and work through the ethical issues involved (in both fiction and nonfiction), using practical exercises and strategies to make literature out of the uncomfortable.



Vanessa Len

Vanessa Len: Writing Heroes and Villains in YA

10am–1pm,
Sunday 14 May,
slq Heritage Collections
Learning Room

In this workshop, we'll explore how to create heroic and villainous characters, and character premises, that can drive a novel. We'll also run through brainstorming techniques that you can use to generate ideas and solve story problems at every stage of the writing process.



Kathleen Jennings

Kathleen Jennings: Australian Gothic Stories

2–5pm,
Sunday 14 May,
slq Heritage Collections
Learning Room

Do you love the creepy and strange, the howling and mysterious, the disturbing and shadowed (or sun-bleached)? Do you want to distil and brew your own range of Gothic tales? Writer and illustrator Kathleen Jennings teaches a crash course on harnessing the delights and terrors of the Australian Gothic. You will mine the visuals and themes of the Gothic for ideas, twist them into new shapes, experiment with shifting place and motif, and begin outlining short stories. This workshop is suitable for new and emerging writers who want to try writing Australian Gothic stories, and also for established writers who would like to try some rapid idea generation and variation in the Gothic mode. This version of the workshop focuses on writing techniques; however, illustrator-artists are welcome to attend and draw their notes and stories.

Online Events

Online events will be available to watch on demand at bwf.org.au. See page 8 for pricing.

The Second Book



Robbie Arnott



CS Pacat



Yumna Kassab

Never mind how a writer gets their first book published – how do they do it all again a second time? Tune in to The Second Book to find out how some of Australia's favourite authors tackled their 'difficult second album'. This online video series features ten fascinating interviews with writers working across a range of genres. In conversation with ABC's Michaela Kowalski, they share what they learned, what they loved and what they loathed about book number two.

What Are Publishers Looking For in YA?



Danielle Binks

Panellists: Kate Stevens (Hachette), Zoe Walton (PRH), Anna McFarlane (A&U)

Moderator: Danielle Binks (*The Monster of Her Age*)

Online

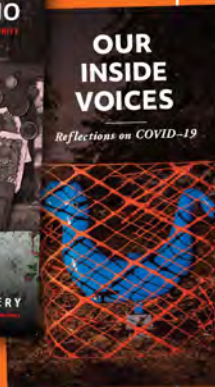
So, you're polishing off your YA draft manuscript. Are you wondering what's next? What's hot and what's not? Come listen to our panel of commissioning editors from publishing houses with stellar YA lists: Hachette, PRH and A&U. Listen as they talk to literary agent, author and YA aficionado Danielle Binks about what they look for in a manuscript and what the trends are in Australia and overseas. A not-to-be-missed session for all those writing YA.



AVID READER
FOR BOOKS THAT SATISFY
193 BOUNDARY STREET, WEST END
AVIDREADER.COM.AU

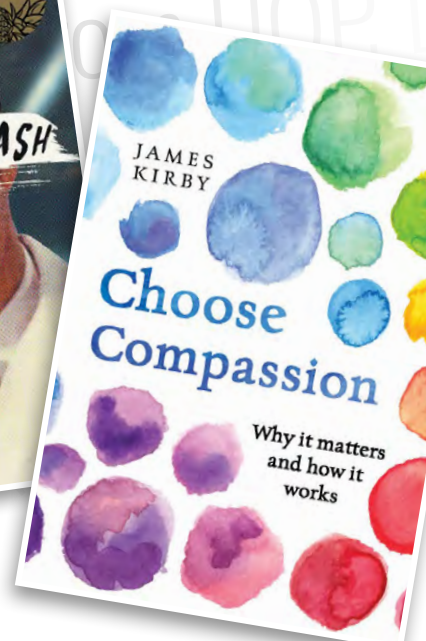
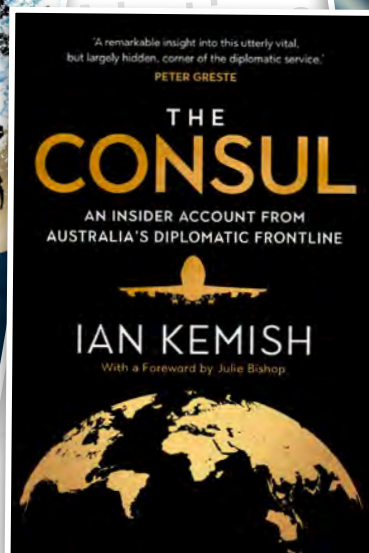
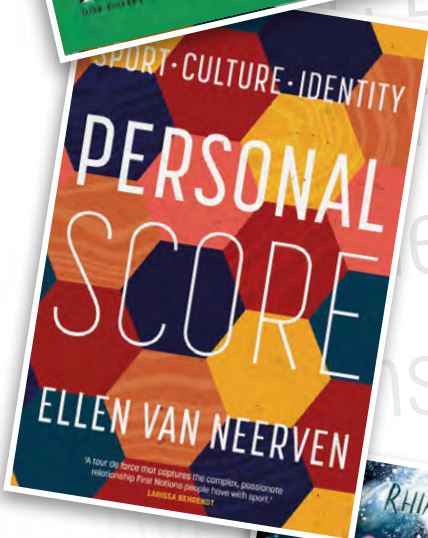
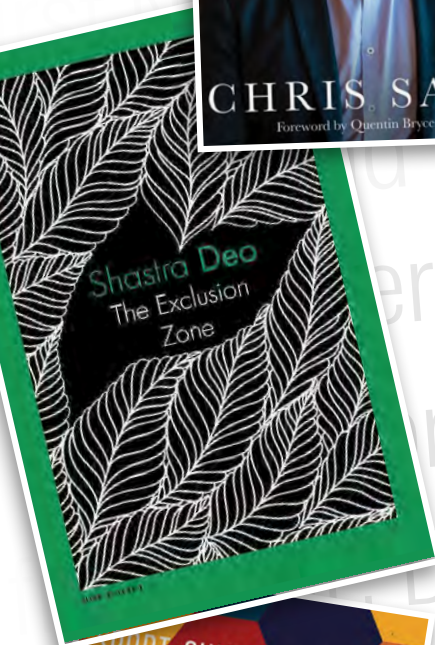
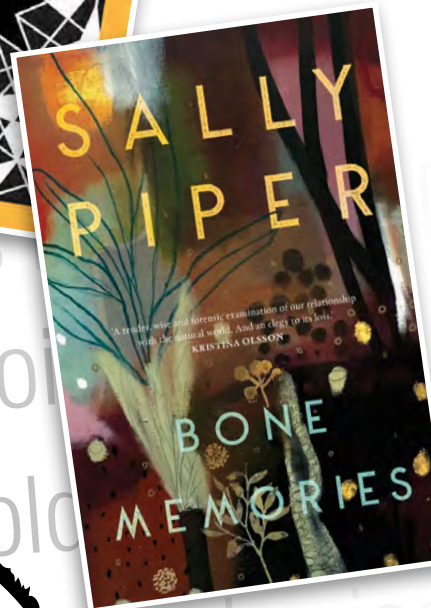
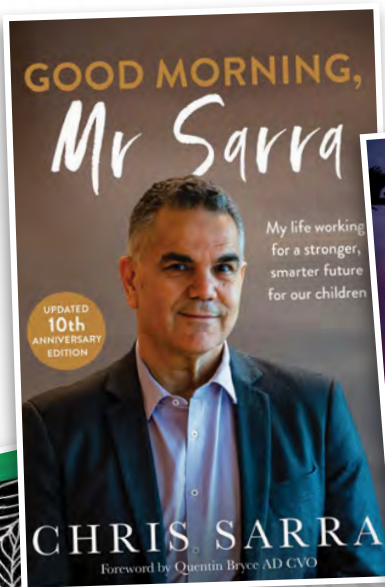
Print your book with the *locals*

*Supporting Brisbane writers
and publishers since 2004*



Paradigm

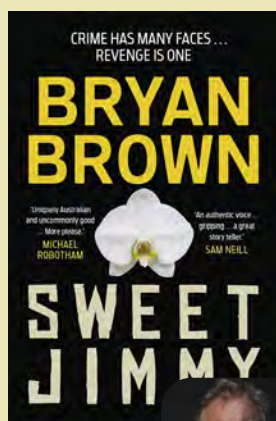
3394 1772 | 15 Nariel Street, Albion | paradigmprintmedia.com.au



**Discover
bold
Queensland
voices from
UQP.**



www.uqp.com.au



BRYAN BROWN



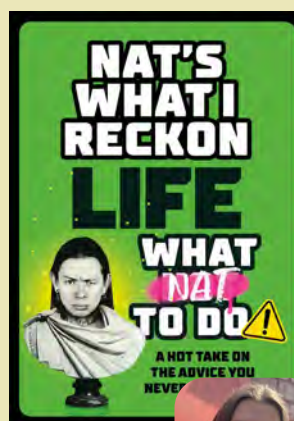
Taut and crackling with character, these gritty, raw and sometimes very funny stories from Australian great Bryan Brown are Aussie Noir at its best.



TRACEY LIEN



Tracey Lien's extraordinary debut is at once heart-pounding and heart-rending as it pulls apart the intricate bonds of friendship, family, culture and community that produced a devastating crime.



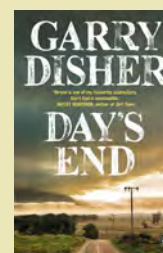
NAT'S WHAT I RECKON



Buckle up for Nat's unrequested take on pushing back against expectations and rolling through life with some laughs and kindness like a real, righteous ratbag!



CANDICE FOX



GARRY DISHER

ORDER NOW
WWW.QBD.COM.AU/BWF-2023



Talk to us regarding your school's educational needs:

- » LIBRARY SERVICES
- » BACK-TO-SCHOOL SERVICES
- » DIGITAL LEARNING
- » STATIONERY SUPPLIES

CONTACT US:



0428 086 057



cs@sequelbooks.com



www.sequelbooks.com

BAKERS BOOKSTORE PUBLISHING

sequel
BOOKS & STATIONERY



Timetable

Wednesday, 10 May

	Auditorium 1	Auditorium 2	The Edge Auditorium	Queensland Terrace	kuril dhagun	Other
11:30–12:30pm	Nat Amore – Chaos Kid (Years 4–6)	Lystra Rose – How to fib your way to fictional truths (Years 9–12)			JiHyeon Lee (Prep–Year 3)	
1–2pm	Matt Stanton – A World of Interesting Stories (Years 4–6)	Allison Rushby – A story is like a jigsaw puzzle (Prep–Year 3)	Oliver Phommavanh – What About Thao? (Years 7–8)		Gihun Lee (Years 3–8)	
3:30–5:30pm				First Word Lionel Fogarty keynote		
6–7pm	Anita Jacoby on Secrets Beyond the Screen (c) Kay McGrath	Best Dressed: Deni Todorović; Gregory Ladner; (c) Carody Culver	Irvine Welsh on The Long Knives. (c) Mirandi Riwoe			TALKING CIRCLE slq. Harvest Lingo with Lionel Fogarty. (c) Samuel Watson
7pm–10pm						Water Mall QAGOMA. Marion Taylor Gala with Shehan Karunatilaka
7:30–8:30pm	Nat's What I Reckon (c) Christian Hull	Nuclear Fallout. Ian Lowe, Elizabeth Tynan, Shastra Deo. (c) Ashley Hay	Regurgitator's Unit. Paul Curtis, Ben Ely, Lachlan Goold, Lauren Istvandy (c) Ian Powne			



	Auditorium 1	Auditorium 2	The Edge Auditorium	Queensland Terrace	kuril dhagun	The Studio	Other
10–11am	Nat Amore – Chaos Kid (Years 4–6)	Jared Thomas – Facing Truths and Finding Balance (Years 9–12)	Kate & Jol Temple – Bin Chickens and Pandamonium! (Prep–Year 3)	Border Crossing. Bae Suah, Kryss Lee. (c) James Jiang			Teacher Professional Development Seminar, featuring workshops from Nova Weetman, Samantha Wheeler & Danielle Binks (Heritage Collections Learning Room)
11:30–12:30pm	Matt Stanton – A World of Interesting Stories (Years 4–6)	Will Kostakis – The Ups and Downs of Being Personal (Years 9–12)	Oliver Phommavanh – What About Thao? (Years 7–8)	Bora Chung on Cursed Bunny. (c) Helen Marshall	Dissident Voices: Poetry and Prose Salon. Shashtra Deo, David Stavanger, Ellen van Neerven, Witi Ihimaera, Lionel Fogarty. (c) Radee Lancaster		
1–2pm	Kate & Jol Temple – Underdogs: True Crime for Kids! (Years 4–6)	Physician Heal Thyself: Dr Ben Bravery, Dr Dinesh Palipana. (c) Edwina Shaw	Nat Amore – Unconventional: An Author's Journey (Years 7–8)	What Readers Want. Michael Williams, Alexandra Payne, Grace Lucas-Pennington, Clair Hume, Terri-ann White. (c) Esther Anatolitis	Shadow Sisters		
2:30–3:30pm	Coming of Rage. Tom Crago, Joanna Horton, Alison Ferguson, Shirley Le. (c) Lauren Sherritt	Writing Biography: Exceptional Women: Ann-Marie Priest, Grantlee Kieza (c) Michael Ondaatje.	Haunting History. Shelly Parker-Chan, Chloe Gong, Angela Slatter, Kathleen Jennings. (c) Jo Anderton	Secrets and Grief. Kylie Ladd, Emma Grey, Sally Piper, Charlotte Nash. (c) Cass Moriarty	Alexis Wright: Praiseworthy (streaming in via Zoom) (c) Cheryl Leavy	Admissions: Voices With Mental Health. Pascalle and Wendy Burton (no Festival Pro for Wendy), Shashtra Deo, Martin Ingle. (c) David Stavanger	
4–5pm	Witi Ihimaera on his life and work (c) Winnie Dunn	Funny About That: Gregory Ladner, Sita Walker, Siang Lu, Alexandra Collier. (c) Jonathan O'Brien	Kate Legge on Infidelity and Other Affairs (c) Christine Jackman	Microfic Announcement event - Will Kostakis	When the Cilentos met the Noonuccals Ross Wilson, Matthew Wengert. (c) Samuel Watson	Spilling the Tea with MUP. Stuart Kells, Nathan Hollier. (c) Esther Anatolitis	
5:30–6:30pm	Through Space & Time. John Birmingham, Shelly Parker-Chan. (c) Jo Anderton	Food for Thought. Jess Ho, Charlotte Ree, Tom Crago (c) Carody Culver	Bryan Brown: Sweet Jimmy (c) Venero Armano	Launch - 2022 Faber Writing Anthology (c) Emily O'Grady	Debra Dank on We Come With This Place. (c) Suzy Wilson	Trauma, Domestic Violence, and Meaningful Change. Manjula Datta O'Connor, Nicole Madigan, Dr Ahona Guha (c) Mitra Khabaz	Meg Bignell at North Lakes Library 6:30–7:30pm. Ticketed by North Lakes Library
7pm–8pm			Shehan Karunatilaka on The Seven Moons of Maali Almeida (c) Heather Zwicker				
8:30–9:30pm	Literary Death Match Judges: Jess Ho, Deni Todorović, Gabrielle Zevin Competitors: Siang Lu, Myles McGuire, Shirley Le, Benjamin Stevenson. Host: Adrian Todd						

	Auditorium 1	Auditorium 2	The Edge Auditorium	Queensland Terrace	kuril dhagun	The Studio	Heritage Collections Room	The Parlour
10–11am	Jared Thomas – Offline and Online (Years 4–6)	Renee Tremblé & Kat Apel – The Bird in the Herd: Shaping an Australian Farm Story (Prep–Year 3)	Nova Weetman – Storytelling from Television to Books (Years 7–8)	The Best Kind of Beautiful Brisbane Frances Whiting (c) Matthew Condon			Madeline Lucas workshop: Writing Dynamic Relationships (10am–1pm)	
11:30am–12:30pm	Kate & Jol Temple – Bumbling Baddies and Rotten Rogues! (Years 4–6)	Will Kostakis – The Ups and Downs of Being Personal (Years 9–12)	Oliver Phommavanh – What About Thao? (Years 7–8)	Fun with Midlife Crises. Dianne Yarwood, Toni Jordan, Sita Walker, Charlotte Ree. (c) Melanie Myers	Another Australia: Winnie Dunn, Shirley Le. (c) Melanie Saward			
1–2pm	Renee Tremblé – Unravelling the Mysteries of Visual storytelling (Years 4–6)	Amelia Mellor – Solving the Plot Puzzle (Years 7–8)	Nova Weetman – Storytelling from Television to Books (Years 9–12)	Love and other Brisbane Catastrophes. Susan Johnson (c) Matthew Condon	For Our Elders: Aunty Vicky Duff, Aunty Mary-Rose Hampson, Aunty Maureen Flaherty. (c) Samantha Faulkner	Christine Wells workshop: Bringing History to Life (2pm–5pm)		
2:30–3:30pm	IVF: Isabelle Oderberg; Eliddy Pullin; Alexandra Collier (c) Bec Mac	Why Is Short Fiction Important? Sang Young Park, Bora Chung (c) Michaela Kalowski	Genre Writing and Diaspora: Vanessa Len, Chloe Gong, Grace Chan (c) Shelly Parker-Chan	Emma Grey on The Last Love Note (c) Rebecca Sparrow	Writing about Other Things. Dion Mundine, Claire G Coleman, Grace Lucas-Pennington. (c) Raelee Lancaster	Empathy. Laura Jean McKay, Krys Lee, Fiona Kelly McGregor, Fiona McFarlane (c) Melanie Myers		
4–5pm	What's Democracy, Anyway? Tim Dunlop, Paddy Manning, Frank Bongiorno, Esther Anatolitis. (c) Michael Ordaatje	Kris Kneen on Fat Girl Dancing. (c) Christine Jackman	The Ties that Bind Tracey Lien, Madeline Lucas, André Dao, Jessica Au. (c) Michael Williams	Dianne Yarwood on The Wakes. (c) Jane Sullivan	Torres Strait Islander Youth and City Living: Destiny Dewis, Jamie Healey, Mayella Koroi. (c) Samantha Faulkner	Refugee and Migrant Stories. Pirooz Jafari, Rosemary Karuki, Manjula Datta O'Connor (c) Mitra Khakbaz	Growing in to Autism with Sandra Thom-Jones (c) Edwina Shaw	
5:30–6:30pm	John Safran on Puff Piece. (c) Paul Barclay	Stephanie Johnson on Kind. (c) Sarah L'Estrange	Grace Tame on The Ninth Life of a Diamond Miner (c) Carody Culver	The Doctors Will See You Now: Paul Biegler, Dr Ahona Guha, Professor Debbie Haski-Leventhal (c) Martine Kropkowski	Art for Our Sake: Dion Mundine. (c) Katina Davidson	Representing South Korea's Others: Krys Lee, Sang Young Park. (c) Michaela Kalowski	Whodunit? Benjamin Stevenson, Sulari Gentill, Rebecca Heath, Loraine Peck. (c) Jonathan O'Brien	
7–8pm	Something Wicked. Paul Dalla Rosa, Katerina Gibson, Bora Chung. (c) Myles McGuire	Australia's Place in the World. Ian Kemish, Clinton Fernandes. (c) Peter Grete	Adaptations. Witi Ihimaera; Bryan Brown, Trent Dalton, Holly Ringland (c) Venero Armano	Kylie Ladd: I'll Leave You With This (c) Rebecca Sparrow, Jane Sullivan	Dislocation and Dispossession: Ben Hobson, Claire G Coleman, André Dao, Pirooz Jafari. (c) Martine Kropkowski	Resilience. Shannon Molloy, Rosemary Karuki. (c) Sarah Klenbort	Queensland Crime: Joanna Jenkins, Frank Chalmers, Judy Powell. (c) Mirandi Riwoe	

	Auditorium 1	Auditorium 2	The Edge Auditorium	Queensland Terrace	kuril dhagun	The Studio	Heritage Collections Room	Brisbane Square Library	The Whale Mall
10–11am	Stan Grant on The Queen is Dead. (c) Clinton Fernandes	The Case for Optimism: Dr Lachlan McIver, Bill Hayes. (c) Tracey Kirkland	Good Influencers: Ellidy Pullin and Emma Carey. (c) Lauren Sherritt	Kate Morton on Homecoming. (c) Rebecca Sparrow and Jane Sullivan		Class: Eve Vincent; Sally Olds; Raewyn Connell; Dr Ahona Guha. (c) Greg Marston	Sally Piper workshop: Landscape Writing (10am–1pm)	Everyone Loves a Rom-com. Claire Christian, Will Kostakis, Jodi McAllister (c) Trisha Buckley	
11:30am–12:30pm	War of the Words: Waleed Aly, Scott Stephens, John Safran. (c) Amber Gwynne	Frank Bongiorno on Dreamers and Schemers. (c) Paul Barclay	Matt and Sarah Brown: She is Not Your Rehab (c) Bec Mac	Pip Williams on the Bookbinder of Jericho. (c) Frances Whiting	Olympic spirit and Experience: Patrick Johnson, Paula Lewis, Benny Mills. (c) Samantha Faulkner	Small Town, Big Problem. Hayley Scrivenor, Sean Wilson, Kerry McGinnis, Gary Disher. (c) Cass Moriarty		Magic, Monsters and Mayhem. Lystra Rose, Vanessa Len, Amelia Mellor, (c) Kieren Scougall	
1–2pm	How to Do Nothing ... and Lunch. Jenny Odell, Sally Olds. (c) Michael Ondaatje	Conflict Reporting. Andrew Quilty, Anthony Cooper. (c) Steve Austin	Lovers of Love. Trent Dalton and Samuel Johnson. (c) Christine Jackman	Queer in the Big City. Sang Young Park, Luke Rutledge, Bill Hayes, Paul Dalla Rosa. (c) Myles McGuire	Brenda Matthews on The Last Daughter. (c) Jackie Huggins	Shame: Eve Vincent, Brooke Blurton, Ianto Ware, Shannon Molloy. (c) Andie Fox		Create Your Own Magic System (workshop). Amelia Mellor 12:45pm–1:45pm	Zine Market The Whale Mall (2–5pm)
2:30–3:30pm	Faking it - Griffith Review 80: Creation Stories. Toby Walsh in conversation with (c) Antony Funnell	Caitlin Mahar on 'The Good Death'. (c) Scott Stephens	DNA Disaster: The Judge and the Journalist. Hedley Thomas, Walter Soironoff. (c) Matthew Condon	Meg Bignelli: The Angry Women's Choir. (c) Rebecca Sparrow and Jane Sullivan	Japan-Australia Research Project Dr Julie Lahn, Dr Annick Thomassin; Jacinta Baragud; Will Kepa. (c) Samantha Faulkner	Sexuality and Gender. Raewyn Connell, Fiona Kelly McGregor, Rae White, Ellen van Neerven. (c) Maureen Engel	Lee Kofman workshop: Teaching What Makes You Blush (2pm–5pm)	Writing Loss and Family. Danielle Binks, Rhiannon Wilde, Nova Weetman, (c) Pauline McLeod 2pm–3pm	
4–5pm	Greens, Teals and Ideals. Tim Dunlop, Paddy Manning. (c) Michael Williams	Self-expression and Social Critique. Kim Min Jeong, Bora Chung. (c) Sarah L'Estrange	Tracey Lien on All That's Left Unsaid (c) Claire Nichols	Greatest Hits and Other Bits: Literary Salon. Samuel Watson, Samuel Johnson, Matt Brown, Stephanie Johnson, Nick Earls. (c) Patience Hodgson	Colonial Cringe: Fiona McFarlane, Janaka Malwatta, Claire G. Coleman, Robbie Arnott. (c) Grace Lucas-Pennington	Thrills and Chills. Candice Fox, Ashley Kalagian Blunt, Dinuka McKenzie, Nikki Mottram. (c) Cass Moriarty		The Rise of Enemies-to-lovers. Chloe Gong, Vanessa Len, Stacey McEwan, (c) Kieren Scougall 3:30pm–4:30pm	
5:30–6:30pm	The Meaning of Life: Antonia Case, Debbie Haski-Leventhal, James Kirby. (c) Warren Ward	Whiskey Au Go Go. Matthew Condon. Solo presentation.	Lit Girl Summit Gabrielle Zevin; Katerina Gibson; Anne Casey-Hardy; Sulari Gentill. (c) Alexandra Philp	The Agony and the Ecstasy of Tech. Toby Walsh, Clinton Fernandes, Grace Chan. (c) Helen Marshall	Blakpoetry. Lorna Munro, Ancestress, Samuel Watson. (c) Cheryl Leavy	The Fog of War. Mark Willacy, Christine Helliwell, Andrew Quilty. (c) Peter Greeste			
7–8pm	Happy Ending. Larry Emdur; Brooke Blurton. (c) Bec Mac	Of Things Past Nick Earls, Madeline Lucas, Bae Suah, Pirooz Jafari (c) Ella Jeffery	Blockbuster Crime: Irvine Welsh, Tracey Lien, Candice Fox, Gary Disher. (c) Hayley Scrivenor	NSFW: Kylie Scott, Fiona Kelly McGregor, Claire G Coleman, Kris Kneen, Adam Hadley. (c) Patience Hodgson		Evolutions in Environmental Thinking. Joëlle Gergis, Coen Hird, Philip Mulvey, Freya Mulvey. (c) Ashley Hay			

	Auditorium 1	Auditorium 2	The Edge Auditorium	Queensland Terrace	kuril dhagun	The Studio	Heritage Collections Room	Other	The Parlour	The Corner
10–11am	Growing Older Better. Dr Norman Swan, Dr Rebecca Ray. (c) Sally Piper	Spies Like Us: Christine Wells, Brett Mason, Peter Greste. (c) Melanie Myers	Bill Hayes on Sweat. (c) Carody Culver	All I Have is a Voice Poetry Salon. Stuart Barnes, Pascale Burton, Janaka Malwatta, Bronwyn Lea, Katherinea Vermette, Kim Min Jeong. (c) Adam Hadley	Writing Women's Stories: Leonora Thaker, Jillian Bowie. (c) Samantha Faulkner	BookTok Breakout. Stacey McEwan, Jodi McAlister, Amy Taylor. (c) Alex Adsett	Vanessa Len workshop: Writing Heroes and Villains in YA (10pm–1pm)	Mothers Day High Tea (Customs House) Holly Wainwright. (c) Frances Whiting. 10am–12pm		Renee Tremblé & Kat Apel – Let's Get Moovooing (Families)
11:30–12:30pm	Guillaume Pitron on The Dark Cloud (c) Amanda Niehaus	Pandemedia: The Future of Journalism, post-COVID: Gavin Fang, Max Fletcher, Dr Norman Swan, Tracey Kirkland. (c) Rachel Mealey	This Sporting Life: Inga Simpson, Peter Doherty, Aaron FaAoso. (c) James Jiang	Rich People's Problems. Rebecca Heath, Stephanie Johnson, Michelle Upton. (c) Claire Christian	Belonging and Race. Sarah Malik, Brooke Burton (c) Melanie Seward	Toil and Trouble: Angela Slater, Trent Jamieson, Malcolm Devlin (c) Kathleen Jennings		Garry Disher at Redcliffe Library (11am–12pm). Host provided by library. Ticketed by Library.	Who is YA really for? Youth Ambassadors Sophie, Emily, Kieren and Maisie, (c) Danielle Binks	
1–2pm	Jenny Odell on Saving Time (c) Christine Jackman	The New Queensland House: Silvia Micheli; Michael Keniger (c) Heather Zwicker	Irvine Welsh on Trainspotting. (c) John Birmingham	Mothers and Others. Susan Johnson, Jessica Au, Lanto Ware, Anne Casey-Hardy (c) Joy Lawn	Lost and Found in Translation. Clint Bracknell, Lorna Munro. (c) Cheryl Leavy	A Fine Romance: Kay Kerr, Amy Taylor, Hugh Breakey, Kylie Scott; (c) Jodi McAlister	Kathleen Jennings workshop: Australian Gothic Stories (2–5pm)	Candice Fox at Redcliffe Library (1pm–2pm)	Cut & Paste: Zines and Self-Publishing as an Artform. Benjo Kazue, Bianca Martin, Rae White. (c) Jeremy Staples	
2:30–3:30pm	Writing the Landscape Inga Simpson, Robbie Arnott, Claire G Coleman. (c) Sally Piper	Katherena Vermette on The Strangers. (c) Claire Nichols	Gabrielle Zevin on Tomorrow and Tomorrow. (c) Maureen Engel	Not Sticking to the Rules: Self-fashioned Writing. Bae Suah, Kim Min Jeong. (c) Pascale Burton	Writing Men's Stories: Benny Mills, Patrick Johnson, Aaron FaAoso. (c) Samantha Faulkner	Climate of Fear: Joëlle Gergis, Guillaume Pitron, Margi Prideaux. (c) Liz Minchin			Brisbane Goes Wild: Darryl Jones, Coen Hird, Margaret Cook. (c) Amanda Niehaus	
4–5pm	Tim Winton's Love Letter to Ningaloo. (c) Ashley Hay	Wherever You Go, There You Are: Mary Ryllis Clark, Sarah Malik. (c) Joy Lawn	Tim Winton's Love Letter to Ningaloo. (c) Ashley Hay	Raising Teens and Tweens. Julie Fison, Chris Sarra, Susanne Gervay. (c) Andie Fox	Resistance Songs: Lorna Munro, Ancestress, Steven Oliver. (c) Grace Lucas-Pennington	Tony Wellington on Freak Out and Vinyl Dreams. (c) Andrew Stafford		Pip Williams at Baffies Oan Books, Samford (4:30pm–6pm)		
5:30–7pm				Closing address by Alexis Wright: The World Needs Powerful Storytellers - Right Now!						

KLWAVE

is a centralized platform for
Korean literature.

Come, ride the Korean lit wave with us!



TICKETS ON SALE

A LIVE MUSIC
& FILM SERIES

CITY SYMPHONY



AUSTRALIAN CINÉMATHEQUE
GALLERY OF MODERN ART

FEB – NOV 2023

10 unmissable music performances
across 10 unique films.

These newly composed soundscapes – performed live
on stage during the screening – breathe contemporary
energy into these rarely-screened silent films.
Each its own 'City Symphony', these cinematic
experimentations celebrate the vibrancy and
poetry of cities around the world.

Screening monthly at GOMA Cinema.

#GOMAcinema

Artist Index

A			Bronwyn Lea			Ellie Laing		
Aaron Fa'Aoso	39, 41		Brooke Blurton	36, 38, 39		Emily O'Grady	30	
Adam Goodes	21		Bryan Brown	29, 33		Emma Carey	34	
Adam Hadley	39					Emma Grey	28, 31	
Ahona Guha	33, 34		C			Esther Anatolitis	28, 29, 32	
Alex Adsett	39		Caitlin Mahar	36		Eve Vincent	34, 36	
Alexandra Collier	29, 31		Candice Fox	15, 37, 38, 42				
Alexandra Payne	28		Carody Culver	15, 27, 29, 32, 38		F		
Alexandra Philp	37					Fiona Kelly McGregor	32, 36, 38	
Alison Ferguson	28		Cass Moriarty	28, 35, 37		Fiona McFarlane	32, 37	
Allison Rushby	18		Charlotte Barkla	22		Frances Whiting	13, 31, 35	
Allison Tait	21		Charlotte Nash	28		Frank Bongiorno	32, 35	
Amanda Niehaus	39, 41		Charlotte Ree	29, 31		Frank Chalmers	34	
Amber Gwynne	34		Chaz Hayden	21		Freya Mulvey	38	
Amelia Mellor	19, 24		Cheryl Leavy	29, 37, 40				
Amy Taylor	40		Chloe Gong	24, 28, 31		G		
Ancestress	37, 41		Chris Sarra	41		Gabrielle Zevin	13, 15, 30, 37, 40	
Andie Fox	36, 41		Christian Hull	27		Garry Disher	15, 35, 38, 42,	
André Dao	32, 33		Christine Helliwell	38				
Andrew Quilty	35, 38		Christine Jackman	14, 15, 29, 32, 35, 40		Gavin Fang	39	
Andrew Stafford	41					Genevieve Kruyssen	18	
Andy Geppert	21		Christine Wells	38, 43		George Ivanoff	21	
Angela Slatter	28, 39		Clair Hume	28		Gihun Lee	16, 19	
Anita Jacoby	27		Claire Christian	24, 39		Grace Chan	31, 37	
Anna McFarlane	24		Claire G. Coleman	33, 38, 40		Grace Lucas-Pennington	28, 31, 37	
Anne Casey-Hardy	37, 40		Claire Nichols	13, 36, 40		Grace Tame	33	
Annick Thomassin	36		Clint Bracknell	40		Graci Kim	21	
Ann-Marie Priest	28		Clinton Fernandes	33, 34, 37		Grantlee Kieza	28	
Anthony Cooper	35		Coen Hird	38, 41		Greg Marston	34	
Antonia Case	37					Gregory Ladner	27, 29	
Antony Funnell	36		D					
Ashley Hay	15, 27, 38		Daniel Browning	6, 31, 33, 37, 40, 41		H		
Ashley Kalagian Blunt	37					Hayley Scrivenor	15, 35, 38	
			Danielle Binks	17, 20, 24, 44		Heather Zwicker	14, 30, 40	
B			Darryl Jones	41		Hedley Thomas	36	
Bae Suah	16, 28, 38, 41		David Stavanger	28, 29		Helen Marshall	14, 28, 37	
Bec Mac	31, 35, 38		Debbie Haski-Leventhal	33, 37		Holly Ringland	40	
Ben Bravery	28		Debra Dank	30		Holly Wainwright	13	
Ben Hobson	33		Deni Todorovič	13, 27, 30		Hugh Breakey	40	
Ben Ely	27		Destiny Dewis	32				
Benny Mills	35, 41		Dianne Yarwood	31, 32		I		
Benjamin Stevenson	33		Dinesh Palipana	29		Ian Kemish	33	
Benjo Kazue	40		Dinuka McKenzie	37		Ian Lowe	27	
Bianca Martin	40		Dr Margi Prideaux	41		Ian Powne	27	
Bill Hayes	15, 34, 35, 39					Ianto Ware	36, 40	
Bora Chung	14, 16, 28, 31, 33, 36		E			Inga Simpson	39, 40	
			Edwina Shaw	28, 32		Irvine Welsh	15, 27, 38, 40	
Brenda Matthews	35		Elizabeth Tynan	27		Isabelle Oderberg	31	
Brett Mason	38		Ella Jeffery	38				
Bronwyn Bancroft	21		Ellidy Pullin	31, 34				

J

Jacinta Baragud	36
Jackie Barnes	35
James Jiang	28, 39
James Kirby	37
Jamie Healey	32
Janaka Malwatta	37, 39
Jane Godwin	22
Jane Sullivan	32, 33, 34, 36, 42
Jared Thomas	18
Jasmin McGaughey	21
Jenny Odell	15, 35, 40
Jeremy Staples	40
Jess Ho	13, 29
Jessica Au	32, 40
JiHyeon Lee	18
Jillian Bowie	39
Jo Anderton	28, 29
Joanna Horton	28
Joanna Jenkins	24
Jodi McAlister	24, 39, 40
Joëlle Gergis	38, 41
John Birmingham	15, 29, 40
John Safran	32, 34
Jonathan O'Brien	29, 33
Joy Lawn	40, 41
Judy Powell	34
Julie Fison	41
Julie Lahn	36

K

Kate Legge	29
Kate and Jol Temple	19
Kate Morton	34
Kate Stevens	24, 44
Katerina Gibson	33, 37
Katherena Vermette	39, 40
Katina Davison	33
Kathleen Jennings	28, 39, 43
Kathryn Apel	17, 19
Kay Kerr	40
Kay McGrath	27
Kerry McGinnis	35
Kim Min Jeong	16, 36, 39, 41
Kris Kneen	38
Krys Lee	16, 28, 33
Kylie Ladd	28, 33
Kylie Scott	38, 40

L

Lachlan McIver	34
Larry Emdur	38
Laura Jean McKay	32
Lauren Istavandity	27
Lauren Sherritt	34
Lee Kofman	43
Lenora Thaker	39
Lili Wilkinson	22
Lionel Fogarty	12, 27, 28
Liz Minchin	41
Loraine Peck	33
Lorna Munro	6, 37, 40, 41
Luke Rutledge	35
Lystra Rose	18, 24

M

Madelaine Lucas	32, 38, 43
Malcolm Devlin	39
Manjula Datta O'Connor	30, 32
Margaret Cook	41
Mark Greenwood	22
Mark Willacy	38
Martin Ingle	29
Martine Kropkowski	33
Mary-Rose Hampson	31
Mary Ryllis Clark	41
Matt Brown	35, 37
Matt Stanton	18
Matthew Condon	7, 31, 36, 37
Matthew Wengert	29
Maureen Engel	15, 36, 40
Maureen Flaherty	31
Mayella Koroï	32
Max Fitcher	39
Meg Bignell	36, 42
Melanie Myers	31, 32, 38
Melanie Saward	31, 39
Michael Keniger	40
Michael Ondaatje	28, 32, 35
Michael Wagner	21
Michael Williams	28, 32, 36
Michaela Kalowski	31, 33
Michelle Upton	39
Mirandi Riwoe	27, 34
Mitra Khakbaz	30, 32
Myles McGuire	13, 30, 33

N

Nat Amore	18
Nat's What I Reckon	27
Nathan Hollier	29
Nick Earls	37, 38
Nicole Madigan	30
Nikki Mottram	37
Norman Swan	38, 39
Nova Weetman	19, 20, 24

O

Oliver Phommavanh	19
-------------------	----

P

Paddy Manning	32, 36
Pascalie Burton	39, 41
Patience Hodgson	37, 38
Patrick Johnson	35, 41
Paul Barclay	32, 35
Paul Curtis	27
Paul Dalla Rosa	33, 35
Paul Biegler	33
Paula Dewis	35
Pauline McLeod	24
Peter Doherty	39
Peter Greste	33, 38
Philip Mulvey	38
Pip Williams	35, 42
Pirooz Jafari	38

R

Rachel Mealey	39
Rae White	36, 40
Raewyn Connell	34, 36
Raelee Lancaster	28, 31
Rebecca Heath	39
Rebecca Ray	38
Rebecca Sparrow	42
Reece Carter	21
Remy Lai	22
Renée Trembl	15, 19
Rhiannon Wilde	24
Robbie Arnott	37, 40
Rosemary Kariuki	32, 34
Ross Wilson	29

S

Sally Olds	34, 35
Sally Piper	28, 38, 42
Samantha Faulkner	6, 31, 32, 35, 36, 39, 41
Samantha Wheeler	20
Sam Twyford-Moore	30
Sami Bayly	21
Samuel Johnson	14, 35, 37
Samuel Watson	27, 29, 37
Sandra Thom-Jones	32
Sang Young Park	16, 31, 33, 35
Sarah Armstrong	21
Sarah Ayoub	21
Sarah Brown	35
Sarah Klenbort	24
Sarah L'Estrange	32, 36
Sarah Malik	39, 41
Scott Stephens	35, 36
Sean Wilson	35
Shadow Sisters	31
Shannon Molloy	34, 36
Shastra Deo	27, 28, 29
Shehan Karunatilaka	12, 14, 27, 30
Shelley Parker-Chan	28, 31
Shirley Le	13, 28, 30
Siang Lu	30
Silvia Micheli	40
Sita Walker	29, 31
Stacey McEwan	24, 39
Stan Grant	34
Stephanie Johnson	37, 39
Steve Austin	35
Steven Oliver	41
Stuart Barnes	39
Stuart Kells	29
Sulari Gentill	33, 37
Susan Johnson	40
Susanne Gervay	41
Suzanne Leal	22
Suzy Wilson	30

T

Terri-ann White	28
Tim Dunlop	32, 36
Tim Winton	15, 41
Toby Walsh	36, 37
Tom Crago	28, 29
Toni Jordan	31
Tony Flowers	21
Tony Wellington	41
Tracey Kirkland	34
Tracey Lien	14, 15, 32, 37, 38
Trent Dalton	14, 33, 35
Trent Jamieson	12, 27, 39
Trisha Buckley	24

V

Vanessa Len	24, 31, 43
Venero Armano	29, 33
Vicky Duff	31

W

Waleed Aly	34
Walter Sofronoff	36
Warren Ward	37
Wendy Burton	29
Will Kepa	36
Will Kostakis	17, 19, 20, 24
Winnie Dunn	14, 29, 31
Witi Ihimaera	14, 28, 29, 33

Y

Yumna Kassab	44
--------------	----

Z

Zoe Walton	44
------------	----

Great books for
young readers from
the 2021 & 2022
Small Publisher of
the Year



Teachers' notes for all titles available from
www.uqp.com.au

UQP

get noticed

Connect to your audience across Queensland

🔍 goa billboards

Our Partners

Government Partners



Country of Focus Partners



Australian Government



Australia-Korea FOUNDATION



한국문화원
Korean Cultural Centre AU



Major Partners



State Library
of Queensland



THE UNIVERSITY
OF QUEENSLAND
AUSTRALIA



Event Partners



Media Partners

The Monthly



7am



The Saturday Paper



Benefactors

Taylor Family, Philip Bacon AO, The Honourable Anthe Philippides, Tom Nelson, and Bruce and Jocelyn Wolfe

Acknowledgments

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

We are a not-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 the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body.



Brisbane Writers Festival Team



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

BWF Board

Chair The Hon Justice Thomas Bradley
Vice Chair Emma Hansford
Secretary Christine Jackman
Acting Treasurer Fiona Taylor
Georgina Buckley
Cheryl Leavy

BWF Team

CEO Melissa Bates
Artistic Director Jackie Ryan
Program Manager (Youth & Online) Emily Bowman
Program Consultant Daniel Seed
Program Coordinator Myles McGuire
Artist Services Coordinator Cieon Hilton
Marketing Manager Nadia Jade
Special Events & Operations Manager Leigh Holdaway
Cover Image Brent Wilson
Program Design Evans and Hartshorn

BWF Crew

Production Manager Jaime Ng
Zine Market Coordinator Jeremy Staples
Green Room Manager Georgia Fitzgerald
Box Office Manager Lois Spangler
Front of House Manager Amara Motala
Production Coordinator Connor Crossley
Volunteers Manager Brooke Maddison
Volunteers Coordinator Hannah Fuller

Interns

Media Intern Safiyah Weise, SAE Creative Media Institute
Communication Intern Kimmy Kwong, UQ
Communication Intern Ardhia Popitari, UQ

2023 Youth Ambassadors

Emily Winter
Kierien Scougall
Maisie Palmer
Sophie Hutchinson

LOCK STOCK & BARREL

DISTRIBUTORS OF FINE WINE AND CRAFT BEER



lockstockbarrel.com.au

HOME GROWN HEROES

New books by Brisbane-based authors



A raw, powerful examination of fatness, beauty and self-knowledge through the lens of art and burlesque.
'Enthralling.'
Christos Tsiolkas



A sexy, laugh-out-loud romantic comedy about a single mum reclaiming her life.
'Warm, poignant.'
Holly Ringland

textpublishing.com.au



ZED DIGITAL



CHAMPIONING BRISBANE CULTURE

SINCE 1975



LISTEN ON-AIR,
ONLINE,
AND ON-DEMAND

WWW.4ZZZ.ORG.AU

