



CANBERRA WRITERS FESTIVAL

*** SPECIAL EVENT**

LIGHTBULB MOMENT

That watershed moment
that changes lives forever.

PAGE 12



*** SPECIAL EVENT**

GIRLS' NIGHT IN – THE FULL CATASTROPHE

Sharing stories with a feel-
good tonic for when the
proverbial sh*t hits the fan.

PAGE 20



POWER POLITICS PASSION

“

Oh God,
do something,
take us to a
nice place.
Kiss, kiss.”

Behrouz Boochani
*No Friend but the Mountains:
Writing from Manus Prison*





WELCOME



ACT Chief Minister Andrew Barr

WELCOME to the Canberra Writers Festival 2019. The ACT Government is again proud to support this event. It has been wholeheartedly embraced by Canberrans and people in the region and, after just four years, is a keenly anticipated fixture on Canberra's event calendar.

In 2019 the Canberra Writers Festival will feature an exceptional line-up of local, national and international authors for a five-day celebration of all things literature.

Under the theme *Power. Politics. Passion*. I urge you to join the conversations with acclaimed national and international authors. The 2019 program covers a range of genres and panel discussions that delve into issues past, contemporary and future. A stunning line-up in stunning venues – Australia's national institutions.

I thank the Foundation Partners, especially the Australian National University, National Museum of Australia, the Museum of Australian Democracy at Old Parliament House, the National Portrait Gallery and the National Press Club of Australia.

My thanks also to corporate sponsors the National Press Club of Australia, Audi, National Circuit Network and the National Library of Australia. Thanks to our media partners, The Saturday Paper, RiotACT, The Canberra Times and ABC Radio Canberra for invaluable support.

Finally, I thank the team of trusty volunteers whose work and dedication helps deliver a very special event in our nation's capital.

Enjoy the Canberra Writers Festival.



Chair Ian Chubb

I'M delighted to present an excellent program. We are very proud of this year's festival which draws together a terrific line-up of international and local authors, writers, thinkers and provocateurs, performing in some of Australia's most iconic and important institutions.

Now in its fourth year, the Canberra Writers Festival has something for everyone, from the lover of fine fiction to those who wish to be entertained by Australia's leading foodies and non-fiction authors.

And, of course, we have tried to stay true to our mantra of *Power. Politics. Passion*. Indeed, it is entirely appropriate that here, in the national capital, we should debate some of the complex issues of the day, with vigour and insight, and with occasional good humour.

Our program incorporates 80 discreet events and I hope that you enjoy the chance to hear our line up debate issues as diverse as the future of the Catholic church, the state of our sporting 'discourse', the vexed issue of media power, and the decline in trust in our established institutions.

Last year's festival set new heights, and this year's will be equally fabulous. That is due, in part, to our generous partners and sponsors. We also rely on a fantastic group of volunteers and interns who provide much needed support to our small and passionate festival team.

Thank you for participating in the Canberra Writers Festival. I trust you get a decent dose of literary heaven over the festival days. Welcome!



Festival Director Paul Donohoe

IN an age where digital is the norm, it's quite beguiling that a book in hand remains one of life's joys. Reading a book is not, as we long feared, a fading trend. Indeed, this simple, age-old past-time is rejuvenated.

Gone are our cassettes, CDs and DVDs – but not our books. Despite the trend for digital and streaming, the success of writers' festivals nationally and internationally proves our unwavering curiosity and thirst for conversation, discussion and debate.

I welcome you to the 2019 and 4th Canberra Writers Festival. I can promise an open, vibrant, unpredictable, challenging and ultimately satisfying event.

My thanks to the dedicated team, particularly our newly appointed artistic director Michaela Bolzan, with support from creative contributors Steve Lewis and Jeanne Ryckmans, the program sings.

Thanks to our valued partners and sponsors who make this event possible.

And to our treasured patrons, a huge thanks. Your devotion is second to none. This event is for you. Your loyalty has taken the Canberra Writers Festival from strength to strength each year. We had 22 sell-out sessions in 2018. Your enthusiasm and commitment mean we're bound to surpass that in 2019.

Finally, my thanks to the Board for their wisdom and guidance that has steered us to a world-class writers' festival for all.



Artistic Director Michaela Bolzan

I have loved, participated in and programmed festivals for over 30 years. Bringing a community together in a celebration and exploration of literature and ideas is an immense joy. The 2019 Canberra Writers Festival will explore, debate and contemplate life in contemporary Australia, but also look to the past and the future.

The festival will showcase the work of more than 160 talented local, national and international authors, facilitated by Australia's leading journalists and commentators. Through the examination of books and their authors, the festival will contest ideas, challenge our understanding, change our perspective, inspire action, delight and entertain. But most of all I hope it reminds us why we love to read.

From beginning to end, the festival features Australia's finest. The opening dinner has Australia's favourite foodie, chef, educator and best-selling author of 17 books, Stephanie Alexander. Stephanie will delve into our love of food, while guests feast from her specially prepared menu. *Girls Night In – The Full Catastrophe* wraps up the festival with an all-female powerhouse attempting group therapy. The in between is equally promising. The festival looks back and forward and explores topics of our time through the perennial theme *Power. Politics. Passion*. The theme offers wide scope – patriotism, plastic, mathematics, media, murder, meat, the bush, the brain, history, romance and so much more, plus a generous dose of politics. We aim for diversity and appeal to many, in one way or another, including junior readers.



WHAT'S ON

WEDNESDAY 21 AUGUST

*** SPECIAL EVENT**

Down and Dirty in the Garden with a Legend

Stephanie Alexander in conversation with Malcolm Farr

WEDNESDAY 21 AUGUST
7.00PM – 10.00PM
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA
GANDEL ATRIUM

Stephanie Alexander, one of our top foodies and a best-selling author to boot, kicks off the Canberra Writers Festival with a fun-filled journey that will tempt the taste buds and explore our love of

good nosh. Meet the author of *The Cook's Apprentice* as Stephanie riffs about her Kitchen Garden Foundation, which teaches Australian children there's more to life than McDonalds. Be tempted with a special menu, prepared by Stephanie herself, in conversation with Malcolm Farr, from news.com.au and a regular panelist on the ABC's *Insiders*.



THURSDAY 22 AUGUST



*** SPECIAL EVENT**

Insiders, Live at the Canberra Writers Festival

Katharine Murphy, Niki Savva, Peter van Onselen and Mike Bowers hosted by Fran Kelly

THURSDAY 22 AUGUST
7.00PM – 8.00PM
NATIONAL PRESS CLUB OF AUSTRALIA

Join us for this special Canberra Writers Festival 'live' episode of the ABC's much-loved *Insiders*, with host Fran Kelly and a panel of political pundits. For those who like their politics up close and personal, join Peter van Onselen,

Katharine Murphy and Niki Savva as they rake over the aftermath of the 'miracle' federal election. The National Press Club will rock as *Insiders* present some of the video highlights of what passes for politics – and some of the best gaffes of this big election year. Photographer Mike Bowers will present his much-loved 'Talking Pictures' segment with a surprise guest.



FRIDAY 23 AUGUST



\$ FREE EVENT
Unbreakable Threads: an epic tale for the ages
Emma Adams in conversation with Alex Sloan
FRIDAY 23 AUGUST
11.30AM – 12.30PM
4 NATIONAL CIRCUIT

Be spellbound as author Emma Adams *Unbreakable Threads* takes us through the extraordinary true story of her fight to free an unaccompanied Hazara boy from detention, and include him in her family. When Adams, a psychiatrist and mother of three, meets Abdul in a Darwin detention centre, his spirit and body are near broken. What follows is a remarkable story of courage and kindness, and the ultimate triumph of family over endless bureaucracy and insurmountable odds.



\$ FREE EVENT
Just Add Love
Irris Makler, Gil Hovav moderated by Alex Sloan
FRIDAY 23 AUGUST
1.00PM – 2.00PM
4 NATIONAL CIRCUIT

Just Add Love chronicles the extraordinary stories of Holocaust survivors and details the recipes that have sustained their families for generations. Author and foreign correspondent Irris Makler joins one of Israeli's leading culinary journalists, Gil Hovav, to share personal stories about families, religion and politics through the powerful ritual of food, in conversation with former ABC presenter Alex Sloan.



*** SPECIAL EVENT**
Life after Politics
Kevin Rudd *The PM Years* in conversation with David Speers
FRIDAY 23 AUGUST
11.30AM – 1.30PM
NATIONAL PRESS CLUB OF AUSTRALIA
Kevin Rudd is a former Australian diplomat, foreign minister and Australia's 26th prime minister. As President of the Asia Society Policy Institute, chair of the Independent Commission on Multilateralism, chair of the Sanitation and Water for All global partnership and active media commentator in Australia and abroad, what does life after politics mean for Kevin Rudd? Where does he think the Labor Party is headed? Join Kevin Rudd to discuss this, and more, with Sky News political editor David Speers.

*** SPECIAL EVENT**
Fragile Inheritance
Peter Valentine in conversation with Bob Brown
FRIDAY 23 AUGUST
5.00PM – 6.00PM
NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA THEATRE

In his stunning new book, *World Heritage Sites of Australia*, a tribute to nature and cultural heritage, Peter Valentine captures the majesty and panorama of Australia's 19 world heritage sites. Don't miss this chance to



hear Peter discuss this ambitious project, with one of Australia's most celebrated and dedicated environmentalists, former Greens' leader Bob Brown. This new book is a celebration of the exceptional contribution Australian sites make to humanity's collective legacy, and an entreaty to preserve them for future generations.



*** SPECIAL EVENT**
Has the Luck Run Out?
David Fagan, Laura Tingle, Katharine Murphy, George Megalogenis moderated by Sabra Lane
FRIDAY 23 AUGUST
6.30PM – 8.00PM
MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIAN DEMOCRACY KINGS HALL
Four of Australia's leading and most thoughtful commentators lay out their vision for the nation's future. If you could change just one thing, what would it be? With trust in our cherished institutions at a record low, how can we – the lucky country – overcome our sense of gloom and restore the pride in Australia Inc. Can we ever become a republic? Is nuclear energy the answer to our energy woes? Will the Constitution ever formally recognise the rights of our First Peoples? Join the ABC's Laura Tingle, *Guardian Australia's* Katharine Murphy, former News Corp editor and author *Has the Luck Run Out* David Fagan and author George Megalogenis as they clash in a battle of big ideas.



SATURDAY 24 AUGUST



Meaty Matters

Matthew Evans, Katrina Fox, Gil Hovav and Lisa Donaldson moderated by Dr Norman Swan

SATURDAY 24 AUGUST
9.30AM – 10.30AM
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA
VISIONS THEATRE

Think beef is killing the world? What about asparagus farms? Or golf? Going vegan might be all the rage but the fact is the world has an ever-growing, insatiable appetite for meat - especially cheap meat. Sure to spark intense debate,

an acclaimed panel including gourmet farmer, chef and author *On Eating Meat* Matthew Evans, Israeli culinary journalist and TV presenter Gil Hovav, founder of VeganBusinessMedia.com, Katrina Fox, and local nutritionist and educator, Lisa Donaldson will debate (until the cows come home) if it is at all possible to be an ethical carnivore in this day and age. Joined by Dr Norman Swan from ABC Radio's *Health Report* to moderate.



Balancing Act

Hugh White in conversation with Allan Behm

SATURDAY 24 AUGUST
9.30AM – 10.30AM
MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIAN DEMOCRACY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CHAMBER

Can Australia defend itself in the Asian century? What kind of strategy, and what Australian Defence Force, do we need? In his groundbreaking new book *How To Defend Australia*, Hugh White, one of our most provocative, revelatory and realistic commentators on defence, considers these questions and makes the case for a radically reconceived defence of Australia. Hugh will be in conversation with Allan Behm, a specialist in political and sovereign risk, strategy and security.



Good Kenny / Bad Kenny

Mark Kenny, Chris Kenny moderated by Alice Workman

SATURDAY 24 AUGUST
9.30AM – 10.30AM
MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIAN DEMOCRACY
SENATE CHAMBER

Join these first cousins and bad boys of journalism as they riff about footy, politics, the Canberra 'bubble' and other weighty matters. Sky News broadcaster and columnist Chris Kenny goes toe to toe with columnist and ANU visiting fellow Mark Kenny, in a battle of wit and brawn that will make parliamentary question time seem like a walk in the park. *The Australian's* politics reporter, Alice Workman, moderates and keeps score.



Capital Culture

Paul Daley, Andrew Leigh MP, Marion Halligan, Tracy Hawkins, Marg Wade, Nichole Overall moderated by Irma Gold

SATURDAY 24 AUGUST
9.30AM – 10.30AM
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA
PENINSULA ROOM

Some of Canberra's finest and most creative writers join forces in this irresistible ode to the national capital.

Take a wild ride through a place as described by the vivid imaginations of some of this city's best talents. *Capital Culture* brings stories not just of politics and power, but of ghosts and murder and mayhem, of humour and irreverence, and the rich underlying lode that makes Canberra such a fascinating city.



SATURDAY 24 AUGUST



Never Never

Chris Hammer, Kathryn Hind and Don Watson moderated by Lucy Barbour

SATURDAY 24 AUGUST
9.30AM – 10.30AM
NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA
CONFERENCE ROOM

There is a complex ambiguity in the role that the bush plays in our collective imagination. The bush can be for some a hostile, fearful, lawless and harsh environment. But what do we mean by “the bush” and how has it shaped us? A unique trio of Australian writers, Don Watson *The Bush*, Chris Hammer *Scrublands* and Kathryn Hind *Hitch*, explore the power of the bush - from popular rural noir to a revelatory journey deep into the heart of our national character. ABC journalist and rural specialist Lucy Barbour moderates the discussion.



Defining Moments

Dr Catie Gilchrist, Hedley Thomas, Felicity Packard and Rachel Franks moderated by Paul Barclay

SATURDAY 24 AUGUST
11.30AM – 12.30PM
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA
VISIONS THEATRE

Crime might not pay, but it has delivered rich opportunities for some of Australia’s best writers and journalists. Hedley Thomas discusses the inspiration behind his successful podcast *The Teacher’s Pet*, while Felicity Packard discusses her impressive body of work as a screenwriter of *Underbelly* and other hits. Catie Gilchrist also brings us tales of murder and mayhem from our convict past as she delves into the very public business of determining death in colonial Sydney through her latest book *Murder, Misadventure and Miserable Ends* and Rachael Franks shares her PhD in Australian crime fiction. In conversation with ABC RN’s Paul Barclay. *Defining moments is an NMA project in conjunction with ABC RN.*



Dirty John (Tom, Dick & Harry)

Stephanie Wood in conversation with Caroline Baum

SATURDAY 24 AUGUST
11.30AM – 12.30PM
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA
PENINSULA ROOM

Women the world over are brought up to expect to find the man of their dreams and live happily ever after. When *Good Weekend* journalist and award-winning writer and author of *Fake*, Stephanie Wood, met a charming man online, she embarked on a whirlwind romance with him. But when she ended the relationship, she discovered a story of mind-boggling duplicity and manipulation. She learned that the man she thought she was in love with did not exist. She also found she was not alone; the world is full of smart people who have suffered at the hands of liars, cheats, narcissists, fantasists and phonies. Stephanie shares her own story, and that of other women, with respected presenter and writer Caroline Baum. This is a story for our times and for all women.

Green Nomads

Dr Bob Brown, Paul Thomas with Prof Xuemei Bai

SATURDAY 24 AUGUST
9.30AM – 10.30AM
UNIVERSITY HOUSE ANU
GREAT HALL

Take an armchair journey with former Greens’ leader Bob Brown and partner Paul Thomas as they recount their extraordinary three-month adventure

across Australia. *Green Nomads Wild Places* was a journey undertaken by Bob and Paul, which followed Bob’s retirement after 16 years in the Senate. Sailing in hidden harbours and on ancient rivers, climbing over age-old rock formations, and camping at isolated Bush Heritage properties, these are stories celebrating the diverse wonder and raw beauty of south and west Australia. Professor Xuemei Bai, one of the World’s 100 Most Influential People in Climate Change Policy, introduces the speakers.





SATURDAY 24 AUGUST



**Inside the Bubble:
How Did They Get
It So Wrong?**
Prof Mark Evans,
Michelle Grattan,
Katharine Murphy,
Chris Kenny moderated by
David Speers

SATURDAY 24 AUGUST
11.30AM – 12.30PM
MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIAN DEMOCRACY
SENATE CHAMBER



The 2019 federal election was, according to mainstream media, un-losable for Labor. How did the media get it so wrong? Can opinion polls be the sole source of blame? How can we rebuild trust in distrusting times? Is the problem cultural or structural?

What must politicians do to regain our trust? Mark Evans, Michelle Grattan, Katharine Murphy, Chris Kenny and David Speers – influential media commentators – reflect on how and why the mood of the country was so misread.

Paper Emperors
Sally Young, Tim Dunlop,
Peter Fray,
Genevieve Jacobs
moderated by
Paul Bongiorno

SATURDAY 24 AUGUST
11.30AM – 12.30PM
MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIAN DEMOCRACY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CHAMBER

Before newspapers were ravaged by the digital age, they were a powerful force. From the first print magnate in 1803, a convict who became a wealthy bank owner, to today’s media landscape dominated by a handful of empires and powerful family dynasties, these “Paper Emperors” have influenced policy-making, lobbied and shaped internal party politics. Author of *Paper Emperors* Sally Young dissects the barons of print with *Guardian Australia*’s Tim Dunlop, former Fairfax Editor-in-Chief Peter Fray, the RiotACT’s Genevieve Jacobs and *The Saturday Paper*’s Paul Bongiorno.



**Witness
for the
Defense**
Prof Elizabeth Loftus
in conversation with
Eryn Newman

SATURDAY 24 AUGUST
11.30AM – 12.30PM
NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA
THEATRE

Join world-renowned cognitive psychologist and American academic and author of *Witness for the Defense* Elizabeth Loftus in a not-to-be missed event as she talks about her groundbreaking research into the study of memory. When people witness

a serious automobile accident, how accurate is their recollection of the facts? If a witness is questioned by a police officer, will the manner of questioning alter the representation of the memory? Can memories be supplemented with additional or false information? A rare moment with one of the leading experts on human memory. Eryn Newman is an ANU Lecturer in the Research School of Psychology.



The Strong Man
Commander Grant Edwards
in conversation with
Dr Norman Swan

SATURDAY 24 AUGUST
11.30AM – 12.30PM
NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA
CONFERENCE ROOM

Grant Edwards *The Strong Man*, was once an elite athlete, Olympics qualifier and Australia’s strongest man. A highly sought after and disciplined security adviser for governments around the world such as East Timor, Afghanistan and the Americas, Edwards was considered the last person to ‘crack’, but a narrow escape from a deadly attack in Kabul pushed him to breaking point.

This is the story of an extraordinary man and his extraordinary battle back from the brink. Commander Edwards will be in conversation with ABC Radio’s *Health Report* host, Dr Norman Swan.



SATURDAY 24 AUGUST

Fair Go, Sport?

George Megalogenis,
Peter Fitzsimmons,
Sam Mostyn moderated by
Greg Jericho

SATURDAY 24 AUGUST
11.30AM – 12.30PM
UNIVERSITY HOUSE ANU
GREAT HALL

Sport in Australia connects diverse and disparate communities and its importance in daily life has meant it has often been described as our national 'religion'. It seems, however, you can't keep politics out of sport because sport is politics – full of one-eyed tribalism and captain's calls. Two of Australia's veteran journalists and authors, George Megalogenis *The Football Solution* and Peter Fitzsimons *Fair Go, Sport*, are at their passionate best dissecting the politics of sport and uplifting tales of the good, the bad and the downright ugly. They are joined by leading business adviser, with a long history of sports governance, Sam Mostyn, moderated by journalist Greg Jericho.



For Whom the Pell Tolls

David Marr, Louise Milligan moderated
by Chris Uhlmann

SATURDAY 24 AUGUST
1.30PM – 2.30PM
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA
VISIONS THEATRE

The Catholic Church in Australia is in crisis. The sentencing of Cardinal George Pell, Australia's most senior Church leader, mesmerised and shocked

the public and dealt another devastating blow to the trust and faithfulness of Catholic parishioners worldwide. David Marr, journalist and author of *The Prince: Faith, Abuse and George Pell*, joins best-selling author of *Cardinal: The Rise and Fall of George Pell* Louise Milligan to assess the impact of the recent appeal. Where to now for the Catholic Church?



Headstrong Daughters

Nadia Jamal in conversation
with Sarah Macdonald

SATURDAY 24 AUGUST
1.30PM – 2.30PM
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA
PENINSULA ROOM

The lives of ordinary Muslim women around Australia are little known and often misunderstood. They are working professionals, mothers and students navigating the expectations of their families and the traditions they brought with them to their new country. These women are the new face of Islam. Lawyer and author of *Headstrong Daughters* Nadia Jamal reveals, to ABC journalist Sarah MacDonald, how these "Headstrong Daughters" are finding ways to stay true to their faith as well as themselves.

The Change Maker

Sally Rugg in conversation
with Dan Bouchier

SATURDAY 24 AUGUST
11.30AM – 12.30PM
AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY
COMMON ROOM

One of Australia's leading activists takes us behind the scenes of one of Australia's biggest campaigns to show how we can use our voice to champion what we believe in. Sally Rugg author of *How Powerful We Are* is an LGBTIQ rights activist, writer and public speaker. She is executive director at political activist group change.org, and was previously campaign director at GetUp where she led the campaign for marriage

equality for five years. Sally's awards include: the 2017 SMAC of the Year at the Fbi Awards, Woman of The Year Harpers Bazaar, one of Australia's Most Influential LGBTIQ people by Cosmopolitan magazine and Top 15 Women Championing Human Rights, Amnesty International. Moderated by ABC Radio Canberra Breakfast and ABC News 7pm Presenter, Dan Bouchier.





SATURDAY 24 AUGUST



Cooking the Books

Michael Roddan,
Justin O'Brien
moderated by
Karen Middleton

SATURDAY 24 AUGUST
1.30PM – 2.30PM
MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIAN DEMOCRACY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

How did the banks run wild for so long? Six months after the end of the Royal Commission into Misconduct in the Banking, Superannuation and Financial Services Industry, what really has changed? The government along with the opposition has accepted all recommendations. A wave of litigation is promised. Civil and criminal penalties have increased. Some CEOs have lost their jobs. But major questions over governance and culture remain unanswered. Experts in the field Michael Roddan, journalist and author of *The People Vs The Banks*, and Professor Justin O'Brien, author of *Trust, Accountability and Purpose*, discuss with the *Saturday Paper's*, Karen Middleton the legal, corporate and political battles ahead when businesses put profit before punters.



You Daughters of Freedom

Clare Wright,
Prof Anne Tiernan
moderated by Daryl Karp

SATURDAY 24 AUGUST
1.30PM – 2.30PM
MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIAN DEMOCRACY
SENATE CHAMBER

Join author Clare Wright as she delves into the inspirational stories of five women whose feminist consciousness was forged in the remarkably successful suffrage campaigns of late-19th-century Australia. *You Daughters of Freedom* is crammed full with stories of bravery and energy, of Australia and its trailblazing democracy, and details the intense battles that led to women being given the vote, just over a century ago. Also on the panel is Anne Tiernan, Dean (Engagement) for the Griffith Business School, Griffith University. Anne is a political scientist, respected for her independent, professional and research-informed analysis and commentary on national politics, public administration and public policy. In conversation with Daryl Karp, Director of the Museum of Australian Democracy.



Home Is Where the Heart Is

Emma Adams,
Peter Papathanasiou,
moderated by
Virginia Haussegger

SATURDAY 24 AUGUST
1.30PM – 2.30PM
NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA
CONFERENCE ROOM

International adoption can run the gamut of emotions for all concerned: hope, grief, loss, rejection and extreme joy. Issues arise such as identity development and self-esteem. Emma Adams *Unbreakable Threads*, and Peter Papathanasiou *Little One*, share with Virginia Haussegger, their personal and powerful stories of courage, desperation and the ultimate triumph of family over insurmountable odds.



Simon Winchester in conversation with Richard Fidler



Dear Dad

William McInnes,
John Birmingham,
Hung Le moderated
by Phil Barker

SATURDAY 24 AUGUST
1.30PM – 2.30PM
UNIVERSITY HOUSE ANU
GREAT HALL

In an era of toxic masculinity, what does it mean to be a father? An authority figure or a source of stability and security? William McInnes *Fatherhood*, John Birmingham *On Father* and Hung Le *The Crappiest Refugee*, trade intimate stories of how their lives have been shaped by their fathers' presence and absence, as well as what fatherhood means to them today. Moderated by Phil Barker author of *The Revolution of Man*.

SATURDAY 24 AUGUST
1.30PM – 2.30PM
NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA
THEATRE

He's the ultimate dinner party guest. The distinguished and charming Simon Winchester OBE, best-selling author including *Exactly*, and global traveller talks, with leading conversationalist Richard Fidler, about a lifetime of exploration of the big ideas and forces that have transformed society and the world.



SATURDAY 24 AUGUST



Creative Disruption

Mark Scott in conversation with Rebecca Huntley

SATURDAY 24 AUGUST
1.30PM – 2.30PM
UNIVERSITY HOUSE ANU
COMMON ROOM

Former media executive and managing director of the ABC, current secretary at the NSW Department of Education and author of *On Us*, Mark Scott has been at the vortex of technological change. The internet and artificial intelligence are changing the nature and future of work. How do we educate our children and ourselves to deal with the transformative implications technology is bringing into our lives? From cyber bullying to cyber currencies, it's a brave new world. Respected social researcher, Rebecca Huntley discusses with Mark Scott whether a dystopian future has become our present reality.



The Teacher's Pet

Hedley Thomas in conversation with Matthew Condon

SATURDAY 24 AUGUST
3.30PM – 4.30PM
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA
VISIONS THEATRE

The Teacher's Pet is a global, Gold Walkley Award-winning podcast phenomenon with almost 50 million

downloads. Join *The Australian's* investigative reporter Hedley Thomas as he provides the extraordinary, behind-the-scenes account, with writer and journalist Matthew Condon, to unravel the investigation, the police breakthrough and the latest developments in the alleged 1982 murder of a young wife and mother.

A Good Death

Margaret Rice, Dr Suharsha Kanathigoda moderated by Dr Catie Gilchrist

SATURDAY 24 AUGUST
3.30PM – 4.30PM
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA
PENINSULA ROOM

Two universal events bookend our lives: we are all born and we will all die. But we live in a period of intense death denial. Why is it that we cannot have a conversation about death and dying? With the recent legalisation of euthanasia in Victoria, has the ultimate taboo been broken? Journalist and author of the successful blog, good-grief.com.au and *A Good Death*, Margaret Rice joins Suharsha Kanathigoda, Director of Palliative Care in the ACT and Catie Gilchrist in a candid and compassionate conversation.



Assassination

David Crowe, Niki Savva moderated by David Speers

SATURDAY 24 AUGUST
3.30PM – 4.30PM
MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIAN DEMOCRACY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CHAMBER

On the first anniversary of the execution of Australia's 29th prime minister, hear the inside story on how the Liberal Party toppled one of its own, from two of Canberra's best-connected reporters. Join Niki Savva as she discusses *Plots & Prayers*, her follow up to the best-selling *Road to Ruin*. Niki is joined by Nine political editor David Crowe, whose new book *Venom* takes us inside the betrayal and bastardry that saw Turnbull ousted as the nation's leader. Moderated by David Speers, Sky News' political editor, who is shortly to become the new host of the ABC's *Insiders* program.





SATURDAY 24 AUGUST



**Bubble & Squeak:
The Art of Politics**
Troy Bramston,
Patrick Mullins moderated
by Edwina Jans

SATURDAY 24 AUGUST
3.30PM – 4.30PM
MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIAN DEMOCRACY
SENATE CHAMBER

Robert Menzies, Australia’s longest serving prime minister, and William McMahon, our 20th prime minister, are both recent subjects of extensive biographies. Both men had turbulent careers and were often maligned, but do they offer important contemporary lessons for those who want to understand, and master, the art and science of politics? Troy Bramston, author of *Robert Menzies – the art of politics* and Patrick Mullins author of the new McMahon biography *Tiberius with a Telephone*, discuss their latest works with Edwina Jans, from the Museum of Australian Democracy.



**Best of the
Best: Bookclub
Favourites**
Sophie Green, Nicola Moriarty
moderated by Sally Pryor

SATURDAY 24 AUGUST
3.30PM – 4.30PM
NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA
CONFERENCE ROOM

You can’t sugar-coat the work involved in writing a bestseller. At the top of the publishing pyramid is commercial

women’s fiction. Authors Nicola Moriarty *The Ex* and Sophie Green, *The Inaugural Meeting of the Fairvale Ladies Book Club*, are at the top of their game. Join two favourite novelists with *Canberra Times* journalist Sally Pryor, to chat about writing, a world that’s as heart-warming, fulfilling and Australian as a lamb roast and full-bodied Shiraz.



Nerd Out
Eddie Woo,
Dr Karl Kruszelnicki,
Lee Constable
moderated by
Robyn Williams

SATURDAY 24 AUGUST
3.30PM – 4.30PM
NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA
THEATRE

Two of our country’s, nay, universe’s most incredible science and maths brains – the legendary Dr Karl Kruszelnicki and Eddie Woo (*Woo’s Wonderful World of Maths*), the maths teacher you wish you’d always had, go head-to-head with guest TV host and science communicator Lee Constable, answering curly questions from host Robyn Williams and the audience. They debate the greatest Eureka moments in science and maths. Suitable for adults and children age 10+.

**Who’s Minding
the Farm**
Patrice Newell,
Father Rod Bower
moderated by
Prof Ian Chubb

SATURDAY 24 AUGUST
3.30PM – 4.30PM
UNIVERSITY HOUSE ANU
GREAT HALL



Climate change was meant to be the great moral question of our time. Across the world, developed countries are questioning the cost of taking action. Back home, the debate continues long on rhetoric but short on substance. Patrice Newell, farmer and author of *Who’s Minding the Farm*, Father Rod Bower, author of *Outspoken*, discuss the price we are prepared to pay for gratification deferred, with former Chief Scientist, Ian Chubb.



SATURDAY 24 AUGUST

Women, Men and the Whole Damn Thing

Prof Gillian Triggs, Jane Gilmore, Sally Rugg and David Leser moderated by Jane O'Dwyer

SATURDAY 24 AUGUST
3.30PM – 4.30PM
UNIVERSITY HOUSE
COMMON ROOM

Why is #MeToo playing out so differently on our shores? In the US, the wave of women speaking out about sexual harassment and assault has kick-started the downfall of more than two hundred powerful public figures. How has history brought us to the #MeToo movement? Where did we go wrong and how do we navigate our relationships? Join Gillian Triggs (*Speaking Up*), Jane Gilmore (*Fixed Up*), Sally Rugg (*How Powerful We Are*) and David Leser (*Women, Men and the Whole Damn Thing*), with ANU's Jane O'Dwyer moderating on where to from here.



* SPECIAL EVENT Lightbulb Moment

John Birmingham, Sasha Marianna Salzmann, William McInnes, Hung Le, Nicola Moriarty, Meg Keneally, Mikey Robins

SATURDAY 24 AUGUST
7.30PM – 8.30PM
UNIVERSITY HOUSE ANU
GREAT HALL

That pivotal moment where everything changes. Festival guests: John Birmingham, Sasha Marianna Salzmann, William McInnes, Hung Le, Nicola Moriarty, Meg Keneally, and Mikey Robins have seven minutes to talk about that one, watershed moment that changed their lives forever. Tick, tock! *Lightbulb Moment* is co-presented with the Goethe-Institut.



Ladies in Black: A 30-Year Obsession

Bruce Beresford in conversation with Margaret Pomeranz

SATURDAY 24 AUGUST
5.30PM – 6.30PM
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA
VISIONS THEATRE

Growing up in Western Sydney near the migrant camp at Villawood meant Academy Award nominated film director, Bruce Beresford had a personal connection to the characters in his latest film *Ladies in Black*. Beresford had another special connection to the classic book written by Madeleine St John: he and St John knew each other as students at Sydney University, at a time when fellow students Germaine Greer and Clive James would go on to become the country's most influential thinkers. Beresford shares with Margaret Pomeranz the behind-the-scenes story of why it took him almost 30 long years to bring *Ladies in Black* from the printed page to the big screen.



No Friend but the Mountains

Behrouz Boochani, Omid Tofighian moderated by Anna Vidot

SATURDAY 24 AUGUST
5.30PM – 6.30PM
NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA
THEATRE

Winner of the 2019 NSW Premier's Award, the Victorian Premier's Prize for Non-Fiction and the Victorian Prize for Literature, Behrouz Boochani is a Kurdish-Iranian journalist and refugee who has been detained on Manus Island since 2013. In this unmissable event, Boochani speaks live from Manus about his powerful memoir, *No Friend but the Mountains*, which was painstakingly tapped out on a mobile phone and translated from Farsi by Omid Tofighian. Speaking with ABC Radio Canberra journalist Anna Vidot, Omid and Behrouz reflect on the importance of literature and creativity as well as the Manus Prison Theory.



Coming Home

Gordon Traill in conversation with Karen Middleton

SATURDAY 24 AUGUST
5.30PM – 6.30PM
UNIVERSITY HOUSE ANU
COMMON ROOM

Veterans returning home face multiple challenges, including unemployment, poor mental health and physical injuries. There are wounds, both mental and physical. Through the unifying and healing power of sport and initiatives, such as the Invictus Games, veterans have proven that they can overcome the mental and physical trauma inflicted through service. But the common scars remain both apparent and invisible. Gordon Traill, spent 28 years in the army, with service in Iraq. Since leaving the army he has worked as a veterans' advocate and art mentor for Australian National Veterans Arts Museum. Now a professional photographer, Gordon has contributed to a number of books, including *The Victoria Cross: Australia Remembers* by Michael Madden. Join Gordon in conversation with Karen Middleton.



SUNDAY 25 AUGUST



Viral Outbreak: To Vax or Not to Vax

David Isaacs in conversation with Dr Karl Kruszelnicki

SUNDAY 25 AUGUST
9.30AM – 10.30AM
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA
VISIONS THEATRE

We may fear terrorist attacks but humans have always had more to fear from infections. Over the past century, countless lives have been saved thanks to immunisation programs. But could complacency lead to a resurgence of preventable diseases? The history of vaccination is rich with trial, error, sabotage and success. Professor David Isaacs, Clinical Professor of Paediatrics & Child Health at the Children’s Hospital, Westmead and author of *Defeating the Ministers of Death* and Dr Karl Kruszelnicki debate to vax or not to vax. This is a discussion for everyone who wants to understand our past, and cares about our future.



On Indignation

Don Watson in conversation with Paul Daley

SUNDAY 25 AUGUST
9.30AM – 10.30AM
MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIAN DEMOCRACY
SENATE CHAMBER

With characteristic wit, author Don Watson explores indignation in our post-truth world. Corrosive, mad and frequently fatal, indignation is a great destructive force in human affairs, and just as often a wellspring of mirth and merriment. Wherever there is indignation, stupidity and lies abound. In conversation with Walkley Award winning journalist and author Paul Daley.



A Cultural Passion

Munya Andrews in conversation with Margo Neale

SUNDAY 25 AUGUST
9.30AM – 10.30AM
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA
PENINSULA ROOM

All of us are cultural beings. Our culture shapes how we view the world and how we make sense of it. Culture influences all of our behaviours and interactions. Culture is acquired: we learn about it from others. Aboriginal Elder, Aunty Munya Andrews (*Aboriginal Dreamtime*) with Margo Neale, Senior Research Fellow of the National Museum of Australia and principal adviser to the Director on Indigenous Matters, reveal important insights into Indigenous languages and customs, history, native title, art and dance, storytelling and cultural awareness.



Follow the Leader!

Eddie Woo, Prof Anne Tiernan and Sam Mostyn moderated by Shaun Carney

SUNDAY 25 AUGUST
9.30AM – 10.30AM
MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIAN DEMOCRACY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CHAMBER

What makes a good leader? Why is strong leadership so elusive? Now, more than ever, we need leaders who can be strong yet humble, bold and assertive when it counts, but have the capacity to listen and learn, motivate and influence. 2018 Australia’s Local Hero, Eddie Woo, and Anne Tiernan, Dean of the Griffith Business School, discuss their insights and lessons on the essence of what it takes to be an inspiring leader with journalist Shaun Carney.



\$ FREE EVENT

Sunday Funday

with Simon Mitchell

SUNDAY 25 AUGUST
9.30AM – 10.30AM
NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA
BRINDABELLA ROOM

Simon Mitchell is an award-winning author whose latest book, *The Fighting Stingrays*, won the 2018 NSW Premier’s History Award. Simon writes stories for young people that are fast-paced, funny and just that little bit quirky. Simon reads and writes with budding young fans. For ages 10+.



SUNDAY 25 AUGUST

Don Dunstan – the visionary

Angela Woollacott in conversation with Mark Kenny

SUNDAY 25 AUGUST
11.30AM – 12.30PM
UNIVERSITY HOUSE ANU
COMMON ROOM

Don Dunstan was one of the most significant political figures of twentieth-century Australia. As Premier of South Australia, he blazed a trail of reform. But his influence reached far beyond his home state. He was seen as the architect of a new kind of Australian society, and his decade in office marked a golden age. Author Angela Woollacott, recently completed the first major biography on Dunstan, is in conversation with ANU’s Mark Kenny, Senior Fellow in the School of Australian Studies Institute.



Mind Your (Grey) Matters

Amee Baird,
Dr Sarah McKay,
Prof Felice Jacka
moderated by
Robyn Williams

SUNDAY 25 AUGUST
11.30AM – 12.30PM
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA
VISIONS THEATRE

Whether it’s the female brain vs the male brain, the teen brain, the ageing brain, sex on the brain or how best to feed (literally) your brain, the human brain is wonderfully complex. A headspin of three impressive minds - Amee Baird (*Sex in the Brain*), Sarah McKay (*The Women’s Brain Book*) and Felice Jacka (*Brain Changer*) share their insights with Robyn Williams into how our minds work and how we can look after our most precious organ.



Identity

Tara June Winch in conversation with Yvette Henry Holt

SUNDAY 25 AUGUST
11.30AM – 12.30PM
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA
PENINSULA ROOM

Tara June Winch is a Wiradjuri woman and critically acclaimed author, now based in France. Tara’s latest novel *The Yield* is the story of a people and culture dispossessed and their reclaiming of Indigenous language, storytelling and identity. Tara is joined in conversation by award winning poet, academic and comedian Yvette Henry Holt from the Yiman, Wakaman and Bidjara Nations of Queensland. In this International Year of Indigenous Languages, Tara and Yvette explore and celebrate the power of Indigenous language, storytelling and identity.



Is Hate Our New Normal?

Prof Gillian Triggs,
Tim Soutphommasane
moderated by Rosie Lewis

SUNDAY 25 AUGUST
11.30AM – 12.30PM
MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIAN DEMOCRACY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CHAMBER

With the rise of nationalist populism and the return of race politics, it's time to question the powers at play. Why are we so reluctant to talk about it, let alone deal with it? Former Race Discrimination Commissioner, Tim Soutphommasane (*On Hate*) and former President of the Australian Human Rights Commission, Gillian Triggs (*Speaking Up*) debate with Rosie Lewis how hatred and vitriol are shaping our society and our politics. This is an urgent call for citizens to defend democracy against extremism.



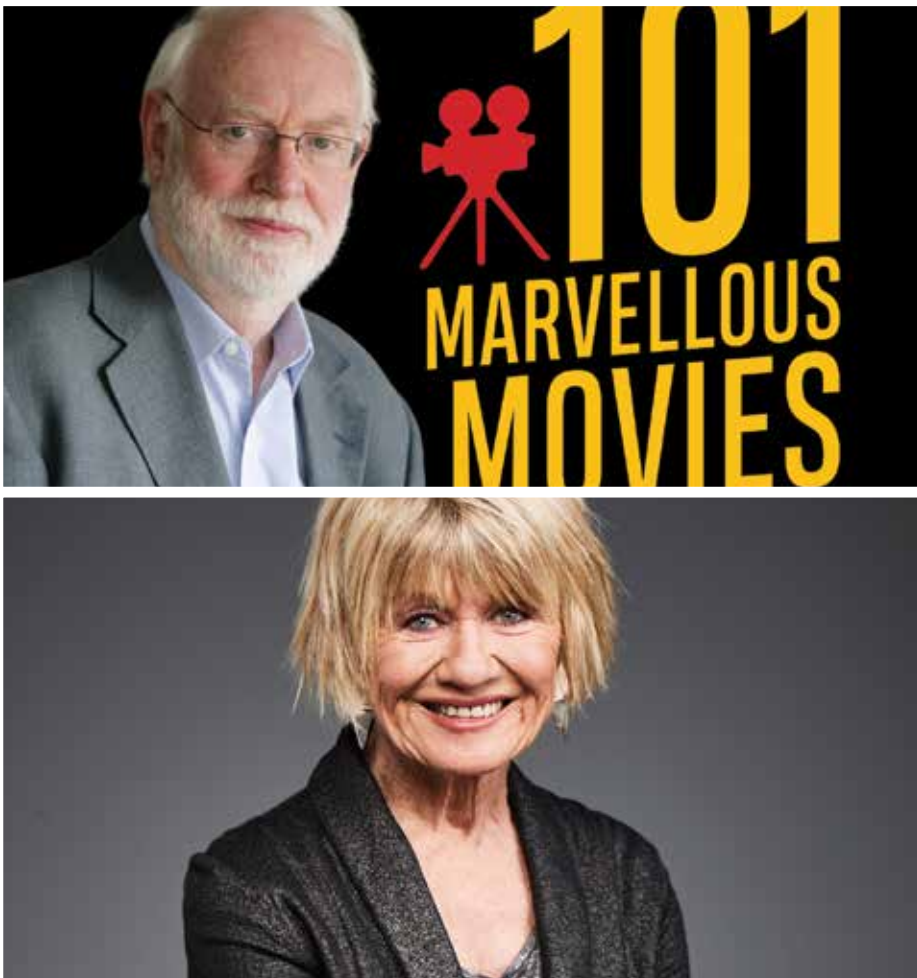
SUNDAY 25 AUGUST

Silver is the New Blonde

Jane Caro, Virginia Duigan, Stephanie Wood moderated by Paula Kruger

SUNDAY 25 AUGUST
11.30AM – 12.30PM
MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIAN DEMOCRACY
SENATE CHAMBER

Women over 55 are the fastest growing group among Australia’s homeless. Why are the spoils of feminism and financial independence so unequal? Paula Kruger, ABC Radio Canberra’s Afternoons Presenter talks to authors Jane Caro *Accidental Feminists*, Virginia Duigan *Age of Discretion* and Stephanie Wood *Fake*, about why life is so precarious for a growing number of women over 50. How does government and society address the yawning gap in wealth accumulation between men and women and the increasing risk of homelessness for women?



David & Margaret

David Stratton in conversation with Margaret Pomeranz

SUNDAY 25 AUGUST
11.30AM – 12.30PM
NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA
CONFERENCE ROOM

Tired of sifting through meaningless titles on Netflix in search of a worthwhile film? One of the world’s most distinguished film critics, has recommendations aplenty. In a reunion of the much-loved co-hosts of SBS TV’s *The Movie Show*, Margaret Pomeranz invites former sparring partner David Stratton, author of *101 Movies You May Have Missed*, to reveal overlooked gems, in a range of genres, by acclaimed directors including David Lynch, Ang Lee and Sidney Lumet.



Ivory Towers

Raewyn Connell, Ian Chubb, Don Watson moderated by Julie Hare

SUNDAY 25 AUGUST
11.30AM – 12.30PM
UNIVERSITY HOUSE ANU
GREAT HALL

The higher education industry is booming, with over 200 million students in universities and colleges worldwide and an unprecedented flow of funds to the university sector. So why is there a university crisis? Corporate-style management, government cost-cutting, an angry and active student body and staff strikes have taken their toll around the world. Join Julie Hare, author at *The Australian*, in a compelling panel discussion on the crisis in universities, with author of *The Good University* Raewyn Connell, former ANU Vice Chancellor Professor Ian Chubb and author Don Watson.



\$ FREE EVENT

Sunday Funday

Storytelling with Stephanie & Kerry

SUNDAY 25 AUGUST
11.30AM – 12.30PM
NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA
BRINDABELLA ROOM

For many bingeing on TV or social media has replaced reading as a popular past time. Canberra Writers Festivalgoers know that neither offers the rewards and benefits of reading. Canberra-based children’s authors Stephanie Owen Reeder *Marvellous Miss May* and Kerry Malone *Sophie Makes New Friends* share our reading passion and aim to instill a love of reading with young audiences. Stephanie and Kerry will read from their latest works and inspire the young generation of readers and writers.



SUNDAY 25 AUGUST



The PM's Pick

Prof Brian Castro in conversation with Caroline Baum

SUNDAY 25 AUGUST
1.30PM – 2.30PM
UNIVERSITY HOUSE ANU
COMMON ROOM

Brian Castro is one of Australia's most prolific poets and critically acclaimed novelists. Winner of many of Australia's literary prizes, each prize delivers Brian a new lease of life to return to his 'lonely desk'. Brian's latest book *Blindness and Rage: A Phantasmagoria*, won the 2018 Prime Minister's Literary Award Poetry. Told in 34 cantos, Brian's latest work is innovative and playful and explores the struggle for recognition for literary authors. Join Caroline Baum in an intimate conversation with Australia's pre-eminent writer's writer.

The Seven Deadly Sins

Mikey Robins in conversation with Chris Ryan and Tim Gibson

SUNDAY 25 AUGUST
1.30PM – 2.30PM
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA
VISIONS THEATRE



Not to be missed is favourite son of Triple J, author of *Seven Deadly Sins* and *One Very Naughty Fruit*, columnist and comedian Mikey Robins for an irreverent romp through the history of food via the Seven Deadly Sins. In conversation with Canberra comedians, and self-proclaimed non-experts, Chris Ryan and Tom Gibson, Mikey shares the most bizarre food-related stories in history.



Behind Closed Doors

Karen Viggers, Father Rod Bower, Phil Barker, Jane Gilmore moderated by Virginia Haussegger

SUNDAY 25 AUGUST
1.30PM – 2.30PM
MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIAN DEMOCRACY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CHAMBER

Australia has a national emergency. Every two minutes police are called to a family violence matter. Every week a woman is killed by a current or former partner. Violence against women is preventable. Worryingly, an increase in domestic violence corresponds with the increase in public discourse on the issue. Authors Karen Viggers *The Orchardist's Daughter*, Rod Bower *Outspoken* and Jane Gilmore *Fixed Up*, join Phil Barker *The Revolution of Man* to discuss the causes of a style of masculinity that is suffocating and constraining and can ultimately lead to domestic violence, where the victims are almost always female. How do we turn toxic into positive masculinity for the benefit of men, women and children?



Wonder Women

Meg Keneally, Kate Forsyth, Penelope Hanley moderated by Sally Pryor

SUNDAY 25 AUGUST
1.30PM – 2.30PM
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA
PENINSULA ROOM

Through history, female literary characters have played important roles in affirming women to be strong, smart and secure. Join *Canberra Times* journalist Sally Pryor, in discussion with three of Australia's great storytellers, Meg Keneally *Fled*, Kate Forsyth *The Blue Rose* and Penelope Hanley *After She Left*, each of whose latest historical novels feature complex leading ladies.



On Patriotism

Paul Daley in conversation with Clare Wright

SUNDAY 25 AUGUST
1.30PM – 2.30PM
MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIAN DEMOCRACY
SENATE CHAMBER

Australia is endowed with the world's oldest continuing surviving culture in the world, and yet militarisation defines us. Sixty thousand years of rich, ancient Aboriginal tradition, culture and civilisation is disregarded for the contrived myths of 1788 and Anzac. Why does commemorating the centenary of World War I dominate our

sense of patriotism? What does it really mean to love and serve your country? Historian, author and broadcaster Clare Wright and Walkley Award winning journalist and author of *On Patriotism* Paul Daley, discuss Australia's national identity through militarisation. What does it really mean to love your country?

SUNDAY 25 AUGUST



Failure to Launch
Tony Dreise,
David Marr,
Prof Gillian Triggs
moderated by
George Megalogenis

SUNDAY 25 AUGUST
1.30PM – 2.30PM
NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA
THEATRE

In 2008, newly elected prime minister Kevin Rudd, held the Australia 2020 Summit: a bipartisan convention aimed to “help shape a long-term strategy for the nation’s future”. As 2020 fast approaches, political and social commentator, journalist and author George Megalogenis is joined by an outstanding panel of Australia’s most respected thinkers Tony Dreise, David Marr and Gillian Triggs to discuss Australia now and into the future, including the economy, sustainability, rural, Indigenous and creative Australia.



See Change
William McInnes in
conversation with
Jane O'Dwyer

SUNDAY 25 AUGUST
1.30PM – 2.30PM
UNIVERSITY HOUSE ANU
GREAT HALL

William McInnes is a household name. He is one of Australia's best-known and much-loved storytellers and actors. His latest book *Fatherhood* is a nostalgic journey that harks back to a style of fatherhood from a bygone era. William’s book is about family, his memories of his father and the memories he’s creating with his own kids. His beautifully crafted yarns are universally relatable and demonstrate how fatherhood has evolved. Join William in conversation with Jane O’Dwyer, Vice-President (Engagement and Global Relations) at the ANU.

\$ FREE EVENT
Sunday Funday
Storytelling with
Sandra and Jacqueline

SUNDAY 25 AUGUST
1.30PM – 2.30PM
NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA
BRINDABELLA ROOM

“If you want your children to be intelligent, read them fairy tales. If you want them to be more intelligent, read them more fairy tales.”
– Albert Einstein



Children’s authors Sandra Bennett and Jacqueline de Rose-Ahern are passionate advocates for children’s literature as the key to better understanding the world. The authors read from their latest works *Secrets Hidden Below* and *Charlie’s Adventures*, to engage young readers and chat about the importance of reading and writing.



From the Summer of Love to the Winter of Discontent
Michelle Arrow in
conversation with
David Marr

SUNDAY 25 AUGUST
3.30PM – 4.30PM
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA
VISIONS THEATRE

In 1970 homosexuality was illegal, *God Save the Queen* was our national anthem and to access the pill women had to pretend to be married. By the end of the decade conscription was scrapped, tertiary education was free, access to abortion had improved, the White Australia policy was abolished and a woman read the news on the ABC for the first time. The Seventies was the decade that shaped modern Australia. Political and social commentator David Marr takes a rollicking tour through this tumultuous but transformative decade with author of *The Seventies* Michelle Arrow.

What a waste!
Clare Williams Roldan,
Louise Williams,
Cameron Muir moderated
by Lee Constable

SUNDAY 25 AUGUST
3.30PM – 4.30PM
UNIVERSITY HOUSE ANU
COMMON ROOM

We wear it, eat from it, drink from it, sit on it and ingest it. By 2050 there will be more plastic in the oceans than fish. Authors of *Quitting Plastic* Clara Williams Roldan and Louise Williams, and contributing author of the *Griffith Review* 63 *Writing the Country* Cameron Muir, discuss ways to get started on reducing use of this ubiquitous and seemingly indispensable part of our daily lives.





SUNDAY 25 AUGUST



Our Backyard
Nigel Featherstone,
Patrick Mullins,
Kathryn Hind,
Karen Viggers moderated
by Emma Alberici

SUNDAY 25 AUGUST
3.30PM – 4.30PM
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA
PENINSULA ROOM

Get up close and personal with four of Canberra’s literary gems, Nigel Featherstone *Bodies of Men*, Patrick Mullins *Tiberious With A Telephone*, Kathryn Hind *Hitch* and Karen Viggers *The Orchardist’s Daughter*, as they share their creative process. Moderator Emma Alberici explores each author’s approach from the genesis of an idea, to plotting, writing and remaining committed in a crowded market.



Reporting from the Frontline
Iris Makler, Helen Lewis
moderated by
Caroline Baum

SUNDAY 25 AUGUST
3.30PM – 4.30PM
MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIAN DEMOCRACY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CHAMBER

Imagine reporting from an active war zone. How do reporters gain access, what rules must they follow to avoid becoming casualties themselves and what are the ethics and aesthetics of disseminating images of atrocity? Caroline Baum Australian journalist, broadcaster and author delves into this fraught and imperative area of writing and recording with award-winning foreign correspondent and author Iris Makler *Our Woman in Kabul* and journalist and former deputy editor of the New Statesman and author Helen Lewis *The Dead Still Cry Out*.



Why Speeches Matter
Lucinda Holdforth in
conversation with
Charlotte Wood

SUNDAY 25 AUGUST
3.30PM – 4.30PM
MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIAN DEMOCRACY
SENATE CHAMBER

For centuries speeches have commemorated momentous events, but have the demands of the daily media usurped the set speech? Years ago Paul Keating said “If Abraham Lincoln gave the Gettysburg Address in 1992, the chances are journalists wouldn’t report the speech but the ‘doorstop’ that followed it”. If you want to be heard, it’s not enough to have something to say: you must know how to say it.

Of Winston Churchill’s rhetoric, John F Kennedy said “He mobilised the language and made it fight”. Taking examples from history, literature and her 25-year career as a speechwriter, author of *Leading Lines* Lucinda Holdforth explains how the right words can be transformative; they can stir the heart or reimagine the world! Catch Lucinda in conversation with acclaimed Australian author Charlotte Wood.



\$ FREE EVENT
The New Kid
James O’Loughlin

SUNDAY 25 AUGUST
3.30PM – 4.30PM
NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA
BRINDABELLA ROOM

Everyone knows that new kids aren’t cool. As the new kid at school, 11-year-old Sam plans to make himself the most popular kid ever. James O’Loughlin’s latest book *The New Kid* is about the unsettling experience of moving to a new city. James is the author of seven books, a broadcaster and is perhaps best known as the host of *The New Inventors* on ABC TV.

Published or be Damned
Tim Slee, Alice Spigelman,
Nicola Moriarty moderated
by Sophie Green

SUNDAY 25 AUGUST
3.30PM – 4.30PM
NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA
THEATRE



Fancy surviving on less than the minimum wage? That’s the realistic prospect for most writers. Ditch the rat race, chase the dream, become a writer? Authors Tim Slee *Taking Tom Murray Home*, Alice Spigelman *The Budapest Job*, and Nicola Moriarty *The Ex*, took the leap. In conversation with author and publisher Sophie Green, they will discuss their past careers, leap of faith, the struggles, doubts and success (albeit possibly tenuous). Do they make a decent living from writing?



SUNDAY 25 AUGUST

The Politics of the Common Good

Jane Goodall in conversation with Matthew Condon

SUNDAY 25 AUGUST
3.30PM – 4.30PM
NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA
COMMON ROOM

In her latest book *The Politics of the Common Good*, Jane Goodall espouses a radically different kind of economy, one that truly serves the common good. Jane believes the 2019 federal election shocked and dispirited many Australians. For Jane it was not just a



matter of one side of politics prevailing over another. There were principles at stake that are fundamental to our democracy and to our ‘common wealth’ in the widest and most enduring sense. In conversation with journalist and author, Matthew Condon, Jane discusses key issues that will determine Australia’s future: to thrive or further fracture.

The Future of Everything

Tim Dunlop in conversation with Greg Jericho and Prof Elanor Huntington

SUNDAY 25 AUGUST
9.30AM – 10.30AM
UNIVERSITY HOUSE ANU
COMMON ROOM

We are in the middle of the greatest technological revolution in history, the impact of which extends to all corners of the globe. Will the revolution deliver us a better quality of life and a new model for more cooperative living? Or will it further entrench inequality, putting more of the world’s wealth in the hands of a few?



Join Greg Jericho, journalist with the *Guardian Australia*, in conversation with in-demand public commentator and author of the *Future of Everything* Tim Dunlop, as they ponder the future with Elanor Huntington, the first female Dean of Engineering and Computer Science at the ANU. Tim’s vision is bold, but refreshingly optimistic as he proposes very practical ideas to make the world a better place: fairer, more democratic, less violent and, delightfully, more joyous.

The Age of Discretion

Virginia Duigan in conversation with Caroline Baum

SUNDAY 25 AUGUST
5.30PM – 6.30PM
UNIVERSITY HOUSE ANU
GREAT HALL

Novelist Virginia Duigan’s latest novel *The Age of Discretion* is a witty, provocative and profoundly relatable story that proves love is not reserved for the young. Virginia talks to journalist and broadcaster Caroline Baum about sexism and ageism.



The Good Life

Julienne van Loon, Jane Caro, Sasha Marianne Salzmann moderated by Virginia Haussegger

SUNDAY 25 AUGUST
5.30PM – 6.30PM
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA
VISIONS THEATRE

What does it mean to live a good life? Sam Mostyn moderates a lively panel, Julianne van Loon, Jane Caro and Sasha Marianna Salzmann, as they contemplate life through six themes: love and friendship, work and play, fear and wonder. They may transform our own views of what it means to live a good life. *The Good Life* is co-presented with the Goethe-Institut.



Growing Up Queer

David Marr, Sally Rugg, Sally Wheeler OBE moderated by Nigel Featherstone

SUNDAY 25 AUGUST
5.30PM – 6.30PM
NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA
THEATRE

Join author Nigel Featherstone for a candid conversation about growing up queer, with journalist, author and progressive political and social commentator David Marr, leading LGBTIQ rights activist Sally Rugg, and Professor Sally Wheeler, Pro-Vice Chancellor for International Strategy and Dean of ANU College of Law.





SUNDAY 25 AUGUST

*** SPECIAL EVENT**

Girls' Night In – The Full Catastrophe

Rebecca Huntley, Sarah MacDonald, Chris Ryan, Emma Alberici, Virginia Duigan moderated by Jane Caro

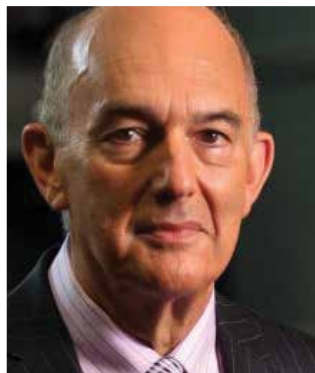
SUNDAY 25 AUGUST
7.30PM – 9.00PM
LLEWELLYN HALL
ANU

We've all had days when if we didn't laugh, we'd cry. We've all been there, whether it's a domestic drama, career

cockup or just a run-of-the-mill disaster. In what promises to be a tour de force to wrap up the festival, join Jane Caro in mass therapy with festival authors Rebecca Huntley, Sarah Macdonald, Chris Ryan, Emma Alberici and Virginia Duigan sharing their stories with a feel-good tonic for when the proverbial sh*t hits the fan.



THE LATE ADDITION



The Saturday Paper

Paul Bongiorno, Karen Middleton in conversation with Peter Fray

SUNDAY 25 AUGUST
1.30PM – 2.30PM
NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA
CONFERENCE ROOM

The *Saturday Paper* is a weekly newspaper dedicated to narrative journalism. It offers the biggest names and best writing in news, culture, and analysis. In this session, two of the paper's favourite journalists, Paul Bongiorno and Karen Middleton, discuss articles from the week's edition with Peter Fray, Professor of Journalism Practice at the University of Technology Sydney.



A Writer's Life

Charlotte Wood, Prof Brian Castro, Simon Winchester OBE in conversation with Emma Alberici

SUNDAY 25 AUGUST
11.30AM – 12.30PM
NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA
THEATRE

Prolific poet and acclaimed novelist, Brian Castro's latest book *Blindness and Rage: A Phantasmagoria* explores in 34 cantos the struggle for recognition for literary authors. Provocative writer Charlotte Wood's latest novel, *The Natural Way of Things*, is a fable about young women imprisoned in the desert after complaining about being sexually assaulted by men. New York Times best-selling author and journalist Simon Winchester's *The Perfectionists: The Story of Precision* celebrates unsung engineers. Literary awards abound for Australia's two pre-eminent writers, while Simon was awarded an OBE for his services to journalism and literature. Surely a festival highlight, ABC TV's Emma Alberici delves into the artistic lives of three pre-eminent writers.



HOW TO BOOK

Ticket Information

This year’s Canberra Writers Festival ticket prices are listed below. All tickets must be booked and paid for online through the Canberra Writers Festival website: www.canberrawritersfestival.com.au

Once booked, print tickets at home and our volunteers will scan them at the event. Alternatively, bring photo ID and volunteers will check your name on the attendee list for the event.

Concessions and Junior ticket holders must show ID at the door to gain entry.

No ticket refunds or exchanges after 1pm Wednesday 14 August.

Ticket Prices

**Stephanie Alexander Dinner
National Museum of Australia**
Adult **\$135**
Concession **\$130**

Standard Event
Adult **\$25**
Concession **\$20**
Junior **\$15**

Special Events
Adult **\$35**
Concession **\$30**
Junior **\$20**

National Press Club (includes lunch)
Members **\$70**
Corporate Members **\$80**
Social Members, Guests and Non-Members **\$85**

(All inclusive of GST)
www.canberrawritersfestival.com.au or
www.npc.org.au

IMPORTANT NOTE

Please purchase tickets separately for Girls’ Night In – The Full Catastrophe
<https://premier.ticketek.com.au/>

Note: Booking Fees and Charges Apply

Stay & Play



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EVENT PLANNER

	NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA — GANDEL ATRIUM	MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIAN DEMOCRACY — KINGS HALL	NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA — THEATRE	NATIONAL PRESS CLUB OF AUSTRALIA	4 NATIONAL CIRCUIT
WEDNESDAY 21 AUGUST					
6.30pm - 10.00pm	* SPECIAL EVENT Down & Dirty in the Garden with a legend Page 3				
THURSDAY 22 AUGUST					
7.00pm - 8.00pm				* SPECIAL EVENT Insiders, Live at the Canberra Writers' Festival Page 3	
FRIDAY 23 AUGUST					
11.30am - 12.30pm					\$ FREE EVENT Unbreakable Threads Page 4
11.30am - 1.30pm				* SPECIAL EVENT Life after Politics Page 4	
1.00pm - 2.00pm					\$ FREE EVENT Just Add Love Page 4
5.00pm - 6.00pm			* SPECIAL EVENT Fragile Inheritance Page 4		
6.30pm - 8.00pm		* SPECIAL EVENT Has the Luck Run Out? Page 4			



	NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA — GANDEL ATRIUM	NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA — VISIONS THEATRE	NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA — PENNINSULA ROOM	MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIAN DEMOCRACY — KINGS HALL	MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIAN DEMOCRACY — HOUSE OF REPS CHAMBER	MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIAN DEMOCRACY — SENATE CHAMBER	NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA — THEATRE	NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA — CONFERENCE ROOM	NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA — BRINDABELLA ROOM	UNIVERSITY HOUSE ANU — GREAT HALL	UNIVERSITY HOUSE ANU — COMMON ROOM	ANU — LLEWELLYN HALL
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SATURDAY 24 AUGUST

9.30am - 10.30am	Book Store	Meaty Matters Page 5	Capital Culture Page 5	Book Store	Balancing Act Page 5	Good Kenny / Bad Kenny Page 5		Never Never Page 6		Green Nomads Page 6		
11.30am - 12.30pm	Book Store	Defining Moments Page 6	Dirty John (Tom, Dick & Harry) Page 6	Book Store	Paper Emperors Page 7	Inside the Bubble: How Did They Get it So Wrong? Page 7	Witness for the Defense Page 7	The Strong Man Page 7		Fair Go, Sport? Page 8	The Change Maker Page 8	
1.30pm - 2.30pm	Book Store	For Whom the Pell Tolls Page 8	Headstrong Daughters Page 8	Book Store	Cooking The Books Page 9	You Daughters of Freedom Page 9	Simon Winchester in Conversation with Richard Fidler Page 9	Home is Where the Heart Is Page 9		Dear Dad Page 9	Creative Distruption Page 10	
3.30pm - 4.30pm	Book Store	The Teacher's Pet Page 10	A Good Death Page 10	Book Store	Assassination Page 10	Bubble & Squeak: The Art of Politics Page 11	Nerd Out Page 11	Best of the Best: Bookclub Favourites Page 11		Who's Minding the Farm? Page 11	Women, Men and the Whole Damn Thing Page 12	
5.30pm - 6.30pm	Book Store	Ladies In Black: A 30-Year Obsession Page 12		Book Store			No Friend but the Mountains Page 12				Coming Home Page 12	
7.30pm - 8.30pm										* SPECIAL EVENT Lightbulb Moment Page 12		

SUNDAY 25 AUGUST

9.30am - 10.30am	Book Store	Viral Outbreak Page 13	A Cultural Passion Page 13	Book Store	Follow the Leader Page 13	On Indignation Page 13			\$ FREE EVENT Sunday Funday with Simon Mitchell Page 13		The Future of Everything Page 19	
11.30am - 12.30pm	Book Store	Mind Your Grey Matters Page 14	Identity Page 14	Book Store	Is Hate Our New Normality Page 14	Silver is the New Blonde Page 15	The Life of A Writer Page 20	David & Margaret Page 15	\$ FREE EVENT Sunday Funday with Stephanie & Kerry Page 15	Ivory Towers Page 15	Don Dunstan - the visionary Page 14	
1.30pm - 2.30pm	Book Store	The Seven Deadly Sins Page 16	Wonder Women Page 16	Book Store	Behind Closed Doors Page 16	On Patriotism Page 16	Failure to Launch Page 17	The Saturday Paper Page 20	\$ FREE EVENT Sunday Funday with Sandra and Jacqueline Page 17	See Change Page 17	The PM's Pick Page 16	
3.30pm - 4.30pm	Book Store	From the Summer of Love Page 17	Our Backyard Page 18	Book Store	Reporting From the Frontline Page 18	Why Speeches Matter Page 18	Published or Be Damned Page 18	The Politics of the Common Good Page 19	\$ FREE EVENT Sunday Funday with James O'Loughlin Page 18		What A Waste Page 17	
5.30pm - 6.30pm	Book Store	The Good Life Page 19					Growing Up Queer Page 19			The Age of Discretion Page 19		
7.30pm - 9.00pm												* SPECIAL EVENT Girls Night In - The Full Catastrophe Page 1

No Friend but the Mountains

Behrouz Boochani, Omid Tofighian moderated
by Anna Vidot

SATURDAY 24 AUGUST
5.30PM – 6.30PM
NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA
THEATRE

Winner of the 2019 NSW Premier’s Award, the Victorian Premier’s Prize for Non-Fiction and the Victorian Prize for Literature, Behrouz Boochani is a Kurdish–Iranian journalist and refugee who has been detained on Manus Island

since 2013. In this unmissable event, Boochani speaks live from Manus about his powerful memoir, *No Friend but the Mountains*, which was painstakingly tapped out on a mobile phone and translated from Farsi by Omid Tofighian. Speaking with ABC Radio Canberra journalist Anna Vidot, Omid and Behrouz reflect on the importance of literature and creativity as well as the Manus Prison Theory.



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The Canberra Writers Festival acknowledges the Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the first inhabitants of the nation and the traditional custodians of the lands where we live, learn and work.