



15 MELBOURNE WRITERS FESTIVAL 2008

# SUNDAY, AUGUST 31



David Francis



Sean Whelan



Elly Varrenti



Keri Glastonbury

10:00AM - 11:00AM

## States of mind

BMW EDGE | EVENT NO 3111

Tales of ordinary madness. We like a reliable narrator, but as **Toni Jordan**, **Emily Perkins** and **Mirielle Juchau** have shown, a protagonist who disintegrates mentally gives a narrative a kick. Chair: **Doris Brett**.

-Emily Perkins' visit is supported by the New Zealand Book Council

## Philistines, barbarians and bureaucrats

ACMI 1 | EVENT NO 3131

Are Australia's intellectual resources running low? **Andrew Brennan** asks this question in the face of a waning culture of free intellectual enquiry in our universities.

-Sponsored by Monash University.

## Unborn Beauty launch

FESTIVAL CLUB | FREE EVENT NO 3141

Edited by **Rochelle Manners**, *Unborn Beauty: Celebrating Pregnancy and Parenthood* is a collection of frank, funny and heart-warming short stories and poems from women who have been there.

10:15AM - 11:15AM

## Socialism is Great!

ACMI 2 | EVENT NO 3121

**Lijia Zhang's** life took a dramatic turn, when, bored with life in the missile factory she escaped into literature and taught herself English. She is now an acclaimed journalist and author living in Beijing. Her memoir *Socialism is Great! A Worker's Memoir of The New China* captures the last 4 decades of change in China.

-Lijia Zhang's visit is supported by the Australia-China Council.

11:30PM - 12:30PM.

## Liars make the best writers

ACMI 2 | EVENT NO 3112

**Mark Billingham**, **Matt Condon** and **Delia Falconer** try to convince us that they are straight as a die.

11:30PM - 1:30PM.

## Memory Guide My Hand

ACMI 1 | EVENT NO 3132

The past is foreign country. **Julie Meadows** celebrates a second anthology of autobiographical writings by Jewish immigrants from the former Soviet Union with readings by **Pip Mushin** and **Elisa Gray**, music by **Yuriy** and **Isabella Mougerman** on balalaika and keyboard and images of photojournalist, **Emmanouil Droukman**. (2hrs)

11:45PM - 12:45PM

## Illusions of Crime

ACMI 2 | EVENT NO 3122

**Gil Adamson**, **Fiona Capp** and **Nick Gadd** have all written books with a crime at the heart but are they or are they not crime novels?

-Gil Adamson's visit is supported by the Canada Council for the Arts.

12:00NOON - 1:00PM

## Parentonomics launch

FESTIVAL CLUB | FREE.EVENT NO 3142

If you applied key economic principles to raising children how successful would you be? Professor of Economics **Joshua Gans** crunched the numbers with his own kids and presents the findings in *Parentonomics*.

1:00PM - 2:00PM

## American close up - Don Watson

BMW EDGE | EVENT NO 3113

Since de Tocqueville, the sharpest analysis of America has often come from outsiders. **Don Watson** gazes across the Pacific and tells **Louise Adler** what he sees.

1:15PM - 2:15PM.

## Climate Culture

ACMI 2 | EVENT NO 3123

**Maude Barlow**, **Gwynne Dyer** and **Mark Davis** discuss the implications of the climate wars on society - both Australian and global.

-Maude Barlow and Gwynne Dyer's visits are supported by the Canada Council for the Arts.

2:00PM - 3:00PM

## Land justice

ACMI 1 | EVENT NO 3133

The most fundamental right. In this final lecture on writing Indigenous policy, **Nicole Watson** takes a look at land rights: how far we have gone, how far is left to go.

2:00PM - 3:00PM

## The Unlikely Voyage of Jack De Crow launch

FESTIVAL CLUB | FREE.EVENT NO 3143

Odysseus in a dinghy. **A. J. McKinnon** got into his boat on the Severn river for a week's messing about and ended up a year later in the Black Sea.

2:30PM - 3:30PM

## As innocent Russia writhed - the poetry of Anna Akhmatova

ST PAULS CATHEDRAL | EVENT 3191

'Can you describe this?' she was asked, and Anna Akhmatova accepted the duty. In the beautifully restored St Pauls Cathedral **Robert Dessaix**, **Orlando Figes**, **Anya Ulinich**, **David Francis**, **Helen Garner** and **Sophie Cunningham** all passionate about her poetry read the work of Anna Akhmatova. Produced and chaired by **Ellen Koshland**.

## A reading life

BMW EDGE | EVENT NO 3114

**Robert Drewe** and **Anita Heiss** have absorbed much from the authors they love. Here they relive the pages that now seem part of the bone.

-This project has been assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body.

2:45PM - 3:45PM

## Eavesdropping on guilt

ACMI 2 | EVENT NO 3124

**Gil Adamson**, **Joan London** and **Rhyll McMaster** muse on the impetus provided by family love or its absence.

-Gil Adamson's visit is supported by the Canada Council for the Arts.

3:30PM - 5:00PM

## Writing voices into Australian history

ACMI 1 | EVENT NO 3134

Voices. Women. Men. Children. The marginalised. The winners. We hear them in the history pages but whose voices are we hearing - that of the writer or of the subject? Come on a journey as a panel of historians delve into such ethical and historical dilemmas. Chaired by Radio National's **Michelle Rayner** with **Corinne Manning**, **Mark Peel**, **Richard Trembath** and **Dorothy Wickham**. (90 minutes) - Presented by the Professional Historians Association (Vic)

4:00PM - 5:00PM

## Can poetry save the world?

FESTIVAL CLUB | FREE EVENT NO 3144

'Poetry makes nothing happen.' But what did Auden know? A debate on the effect poetry has upon the world with **Tracie Morris**, **Michael Farrell**, and **Ian Syson**. **Tom Clark** handles the fire extinguisher.

-Sponsored by Victoria University

## Art and Motherhood

BMW EDGE | EVENT NO 3115

Do the roads to artistic fulfillment and family happiness cross? Join singer-songwriter **Clare Bowditch**, journalist and comedian **Catherine Deveny**, poet **Lisa Gorton** and freelancer **Rachel Power** as they discuss art and motherhood with chair **Alicia Sometimes**.

4:15PM - 5:15PM

## A man in full

ACMI 2 | EVENT NO 3125

Actor, director, writer, reviewer, biographer and now memoirist. Man of many parts, **Graeme Blundell** describes to **Corrie Perkin** how his life has added up to an interesting whole.

5:30PM - 6:30PM

## Foreign Bodies

BMW EDGE | EVENT NO 3116

A discussion about the best crime writing from around the world with **Mark Billingham**, **Xavier-**

Marie Bonnot and Andrea Maria Schenkel.

-Xavier-Marie Bonnot visit is supported by Alliance Francaise de Melbourne.

-Andrea Maria Schenkel's visit is supported by the Goethe Institut Australien

5:45PM - 6:45PM

## Writing Melbourne

ACMI 2 | EVENT NO 3126

**Steven Carroll**, **Michelle de Kretser**, **Nick Gadd** and **Toni Jordan** have Melbourne tattooed on their hearts and minds and across the pages of their books.

6:00PM - 7:30PM

## From Friedan to feminists

RMIT CAPITOL THEATRE | EVENT NO 3161

See P5 for more details.

7:15PM - 8:45PM

## Poetry Idol Final

ACMI 2 | EVENT NO 3127

Verse that's low on fizz so you can slam it down fast. Come and scream for your favourite as the quest to find Melbourne's Poetry Idol comes to its climax.

Also featuring renowned New York slammer, **Tracie Morris**. (90mins)

Produced and compered by **Michael Crane**.

8:00PM - 9:00PM

## Out of the brown paper bag

RMIT CAPITOL THEATRE | EVENT NO 3162

See P5 for more detail.



## SPECIAL EVENTS

### WORDPLAY @ ARTPLAY

#### Festival events for kids!

ARTPLAY, BIRRARUNG MARR | EVENT 3151

(beside Federation Square on the river bank)

A full-day of activities for children under 13 years. Hear your favourite authors, join in fun activities and write your own stories at WordPlay.

**Leigh Hobbs** and **Ann James**, appear in a dazzling array of literary activities designed to stretch kids' imaginations.

For more information [www.mwf.com.au](http://www.mwf.com.au)

All day tickets: \$20. Parents FREE.

### WORKSHOPS & MASTERCLASSES

With **Mark Sarvas**, **Andrew Davies** and

**Charmaine O'Brien** & **Lucy Malouf**.

See P21 for more detail.

1:30PM - 3:30PM

## Schmattes: a history of the Flinders Lane garment trade

EVENT 3192

Flinders Lane is where Melbourne's fashion industry once thrived. Join author of *Schmattes* and filmmaker **Lesley Sharon Rosenthal** to retrace the history of the city's gutsy and glitzy rag trade. She will revisit sites of the Lane's long gone factories, showrooms and warehouses while relating stories of the characters that made it famous. Ends with afternoon tea at the Sofitel. Tickets \$40

## FESTIVAL CLUB

6:00PM

### Reading Material launch

FREE EVENT NO 3145

Filmmaker **Nicholas Hansen**, overt experimentalist **Michael Farrell** and post-medium poets **Peter O'Mara** and **Patrick Jones** turn ACMI's function space into an environment of the poetical with readings from new books: Farrell's *a raiders guide* (Giramondo) and O'Mara-Jones' *How to do Words with Things* (treeElbow).

7:30PM

### Josh Earl is a librarian

FREE EVENT 3146

Working for hush money. As delighted audiences in comedy festivals around the world have discovered over the past few years, stand-up **Josh Earl** really knows his way around the stacks.

8:30PM

### 15 minutes of fame

FREE EVENT 3147

You can say you saw them when. Writers at the cusps of their careers take the spotlight and the microphone. Will you please give it up for **Karen Andrews!** Chaired by **David Ryding** and presented by the Emerging Writers Festival.

9:00PM

FREE EVENT 3148.

Join singer-songwriter and playwright **James Griffin** as he performs pieces from his new song cycle, *Songs For a Season at Ghost Town Bridge* - an evocation, in poetry & music, of country town Australia.

10:00PM

### LoveTV

FREE EVENT 3149

In the intimacy of her tiny circus tent, **Aphrodite** elicits candid confessions on the universal topic of love from the festival's authors. And it is broadcast to the big screen so we can all enjoy the intimacy.

### Poetry Idol

Whether you are an angel-headed hipster burning for that ancient heavenly connection, or just a geek who likes to recite in the shower, you can have a shot at prizes and publication by entering Poetry Idol.

So choose your measure and find your rhymes and get ready to make those iambic feet dance! Heats take place at St Kilda Library, 150 Carlisle Street, with the Grand Final on Sunday, August 31 at 7:15PM in the ACMI Cinema, Federation Square. The judges are Geoff Lemon, Odette Snellen and Sally McPhee.

Poetry Idol is produced and compered by Michael Crane and to take part or simply to find out more you can contact Michael by email: [mfcrcrane2000@yahoo.com](mailto:mfcrcrane2000@yahoo.com)

# DO LIARS MAKE THE BEST WRITERS?