



# SPECIAL EVENTS

## AWARDS

The festival hosts many prestigious awards including The Age Book of the Year Awards, The Ned Kelly Awards, The Blazey Award, The Alice Literary Award, the National Jazz Writing Competition and the Text Young Adult Prize.

This year the festival is proud to be associated with not only the richest Victorian awards but also one of the most convivial which presents a great opportunity to rub shoulders with many authors and the entire Australian publishing industry.

### Victorian Premier's Literary

#### Awards 2008 Dinner

MON, SEPT 1, 7:00PM

ZINC, FEDERATION SQUARE

Join leading writers and publishers in celebrating the best in Australian literature at a gala dinner for the Victorian Premier's Literary Awards, offering over two hundred thousand dollars in prize money in twelve categories. The keynote speaker will be **Alice Pung**.

Tickets: \$130/\$125/\$120

Bookings: 03 8664 7016 or [www.slv.vic.gov.au/pla](http://www.slv.vic.gov.au/pla)

### The Ned Kelly Awards for Crime Fiction

FRI, AUG 29 | 7:30PM TILL LATE | FREE EVENT 2946

A much more rollicking and raffish night is to be had at the Ned Kelly Awards for crime fiction.

Perpetrators of theft, deceit, and murder deserve everything they get at this year's Ned Kelly Awards presented by the Crime Writers Association and hosted by **Jane Clifton**. Prizes and the annual Crime Writers debate with **Leigh Redhead, Jarad Henry, Joel Becker** and **Tara Moss**. **Marele Day** will be awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award.

## FOOD & WINE

There being no finer marriage than food and literature, the festival offers some delectable events.

All events should be booked through the MWF box-office (see P22) except for The Press Club dinner. Bookings are essential.

### Bottega Restaurant - Beyond Cuisine

#### EAT DRINK READ LIVE

EVENT 2292 | FRI 22

EVENT 2393 | SAT 23

Readings by **Jane Clifton, Reg Evans, Suzanne Shubart** and **David Tredinnick**.

EVENT 2992 | FRI 29

EVENT 3093 | SAT 30

Readings by **Paul English, Frank Gallacher, Julie Nihill** & **Suzanne Shubart**.

Remember the pleasure of being read to as a child? The magic that was created? Over 4 evenings, some of Australia's finest actors will give us dramatic readings from popular Australian and international literature, followed by a sublime three-course meal at **Bottega Restaurant**. The reading is for an hour before dinner.

For the full menu please go to [www.mwf.com.au](http://www.mwf.com.au)  
The cost is \$130pp which includes wine.  
The evening starts at 5:15PM for 5:30PM.

### No Country for Old PMs – An Evening with Max Gillies

GROSSI FLORENTINO RESTAURANT

EVENT 2596 | MON, AUG 25 AT 7:00PM

EVENT 2897 | THU, AUG 28 AT 7:00PM

Australia's foremost political satirist **Max Gillies** in a wicked evening of reminiscence of the statesmen, the roosters, and the feather dusters he has portrayed. In a tribute to the writers Don Watson and Guy Rundle who have provided much of his material, Max brings Menzies, Fraser, Whitlam, Hawke, Keating and Howard back to life from their political graveyards in a hilarious dinner show.

Max revisits some of his razor-sharp scripts and totally unmasked, injects a fresh perspective to create a performance that cuts to the funny bone of the body politic. *No Country for Old PMs* is a must-see for those in need of a laugh!

More than an evening with Max Gillies you will also dine at Grossi Fiorentino, a Melbourne icon that inspires, exhilarates and seduces with a 3 course set menu, 3 glasses of wine and coffee.

Tickets: \$185pp

### Modern Greek

EVENT 2595 | MON AUG 25, 7:15PM

Dinner at **The Press Club** with Greek gastronomic maestro and author **George Calombaris**, wine writer **Max Allen** and award-winning author and television presenter **Will Studd**. The Press Club was named the 2008 Best New Restaurant in *The Age Good Food Guide Awards*.

Tickets: \$155pp 4 course set-menu including wine.  
Bookings: 03 9677 9677

### MoVida

#### Lunch at MoVida Bar de Tapas y Vino

EVENT 2692 | TUE, AUG 26. FROM 12:00 NOON.

A Spanish culinary adventure. With his award-winning cookbook based on the menu at **MoVida** recently

released, **Frank Camorra** shares his passion for Spanish food and its history over a set-menu lunch.

Tickets: \$45pp which includes 2 glasses of wine.

### Fragrant Rice at Seamstress

EVENT 2693 | TUE, AUG 26. FROM 12:00 NOON.

Visiting chef and author **Janet de Neefe** gives an overview of Balinese food and takes you through the menu, plate by plate, explaining the provenance of each dish. A set-menu based on Janet's acclaimed *Fragrant Rice*. **Seamstress** is Melbourne's hottest Asian restaurant which 'melds the DIY sensibility of a laneway bar with serious culinary intent.' *The Age*

Tickets: \$70 which does not include wine.

### An afternoon of Big Reds

EVENT 2891 | THU, AUG 28, 4:00PM - 5:00PM.

Join award winning wine writer **Campbell Mattinson** for an afternoon of red wine at **Beer Deluxe**, Federation Square. Campbell, the author of *The Big Red Wine Book*, will offer a taste of his expert wine knowledge along with some of Australia's finest red wine.

Tickets: \$20/\$18

You must be 18+ years old to participate

## FILM

### ACMI Cinemas, Australian Centre for the Moving Image

FEDERATION SQUARE, FLINDERS STREET,

ACMI's First Look is a series of exclusive screenings of superb new films and restored classics. These three films have been chosen to work with the Melbourne Writers Festival program.

Bookings should be made directly with  
ACMI: 03 8663 2583.

### Obscene unclassified 18+

*Neil Ortenberg & Daniel O' Connor, 97 mins, USA, 2007, digital betacam. Courtesy: Madman*

THU 21 AUG 7PM, FRI 22 AUG 7PM,

SAT 23 AUG 7.30PM, SUN 24 AUG 6PM

Denounced by presidents and bankrupted by his passions, the irrepressible Grove Press publisher **Barney Rosset** was an infamous crusader for free expression who challenged America. From Burroughs to Beckett and Mailer to Malcolm X, Rosset (now in his 80s) fought obscenity bans to print the confronting works of the time (or otherwise, as when dabbling in the distribution of the risqué 1967 Swedish film *I am Curious Yellow!*). This entertaining documentary is both



a cultural and personal history awash with the music of Dylan, Patti Smith and The Doors and is a fascinating thrill ride through America's post-war literary landscape. Australian premiere!

### Starting Out in the Evening

unclassified 18+ Andrew Wagner, 111 mins, USA, 2007, 35mm. Courtesy: Madman

MON 25 AUG 7PM, TUE 26 AUG 7PM,  
WED 27 AUG 9PM, THU 28 AUG 7.30PM

Delicate and subtle, this adaptation of **Brian Morton's** novel about an aging writer's encounter with youth and ambition, upholds the notion that literature is worth a lifetime of passion. Leonard Schiller (Frank Langella in a masterful performance) is an insular author struggling to complete his fifth – and possibly last – novel, whose world is invaded by Heather Wolfe (Lauren Ambrose of *Six Feet Under* fame), a driven, attractive doctoral graduate hell bent on 'canonizing' Schiller's work and making a name for herself in the process. Australian premiere!

### The Grapes of Wrath PG

John Ford, 128 mins, USA, 1940, 35mm, B&W. Source: Twentieth Century Fox. Courtesy: Hollywood Classics

FRI 29 AUG 7:30PM, SAT 30 AUG 7:30PM,  
SUN 31 AUG 6PM

Novelist John Steinbeck gave his own stamp of approval to this bravura film adaptation of his Pulitzer Prize winning novel. This confronting saga of a Depression-era family traveling across a decimated rural America still blazes with incendiary social drama even whilst enveloping politics in a more humanist spirit of hope. While John Ford won a Best Director Oscar, it is the riveting performances of Henry Fonda and Jane Darwell (who also garnered an Oscar for her performance), that never, ever leave you. Imported 35mm restored print.



# SPECIAL EVENTS

## SPEED BOOK CLUB DATING

**EVENT 2892 | THU, AUG 28 6:00PM - 8:00PM, BEER DELUXE**

Relax, the festival isn't going into the dating business, however, we do want to match up more book clubs. We know that there are a lot of Melbournians who want to join a book club but don't know where to start. So, start here with us.

Come along on Thursday evening, register, and fill out your preferences for when and where you want to meet. And then, over a glass of wine or two, we'll introduce you, in a structured way, to a wide-range of other people also wanting to join a book club. At the end of the evening, return your list of those with whom you wouldn't mind talking books and we feed all the data into the MWF computer and hope it doesn't say 'no'. The festival match-makes all the new clubs into being and oversees the first meeting to make sure everything is hunky dory. It couldn't be easier.

**Tickets: \$10 (includes a drink)**

## WALKS

What better on a chilly day than striding out to discover something new about the city in which you live? All walks should be booked through the MWF box-office (see P22) except the five Arcade History of Literary Melbourne walks which should be booked directly. Remember to wear flat shoes.

### An Arcade History of Literary Melbourne

**EVENT 2392 | SAT 23 AUG: 1:30PM - 3:30PM**  
**EVENT 2592 | MON 25 AUG: 10:00AM - 12:00NOON**  
**EVENT 2593 | MON 25 AUG: 1:30PM - 3:30PM**  
**EVENT 2694 | TUE 26 AUG: 1:30PM - 3:30PM**  
**EVENT 2991 | FRI 29 AUG: 1:30PM - 3:30PM**

Discover a new layer of the city with **Fiona Sweetman** as she tours significant sites in the city's publishing, bookselling and literary history, taking in some of Melbourne's best-loved bookstores, scenes from famous novels and publishers young and old. Finish the walk with afternoon tea at Mr Tulk and a list of resources to inspire you to further explore Melbourne's unique literary pedigree.

**Tickets: \$50pp (max 10 people per tour)**  
**Bookings: 9329 9665, or online**  
**www.hiddensecretstours.com**

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

**EVENT 2491 | SUN, AUG 24 1:30PM - 3:30PM**  
**EVENT 3192 | SUN, AUG 31 1:30PM - 3:30PM**

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**

### A taste of Melbourne

**EVENT 2594 | MON, AUG 25 2:00PM - 4:00PM**

Work up an appetite on this walking tour of Melbourne's culinary history. Join **Charmaine O'Brien** as she retells anecdotes and brings characters to life from the city's fragrant and mouth-watering past. Along the way you will encounter the spirit and legacy of entrepreneurs, statesmen, confectioners, restaurateurs, chefs, cooks, politicians, butchers, bakers, bohemians, fishmongers, journalists, immigrants and everyday folk. And, after all the talk of food and drink, real refreshment - accompanied by a little more story telling - awaits you at the end of our journey at Von House in Crossley Lane.

**Tickets: \$40.**

### Collins: The Story of Australia's Premier Street

**EVENT 2792 | WED, AUG 27 1:30PM - 3:30PM**

**Judith Buckrich's** Collins Street walk will include some of the key aspects covered in her book *Collins: The Story of Australia's Premier Street*. Starting at the Gothic buildings around the Rialto at King Street, it will follow the street's key commercial, architectural and cultural features. The talk will include the story of the street's clubs, theatres, shops, cafes and give a glimpse of what was, as well as what is. Afternoon tea at the Sofitel will be the conclusion of a great outing.

**Tickets: \$40**

## WRITING TOMORROW

### trope-writers and their works in a virtual space

**THU, AUG 28 7:00PM - 9:00PM**

**ACMI 1 FREE | EVENT 2837**

*trope* is a new space in Second Life promoting creative writing in virtual environments. The panel features *trope's* creators alongside the Melbourne based writers selected for the first iteration, discussing the dynamics of this intersection between literature and new media, and the poetic possibilities of virtual spaces.

*-trope* is supported by the Literature Board of the Australia Council for the Arts, through *Write in Your Face*.

Participants: **Cristyn Davies, Elena Knox, Sarah Waterson, Matt Hetherington, Alicia Sometimes** and **Bel Schenk**.

### Beyond Read/Write:

#### A Literature Remix Masterclass

**FRI, AUG 29 10:00AM - 12:00 NOON**

**IMMIGRATION MUSEUM | FREE EVENT 2993**

Places are limited and, although it is a free event bookings are essential on 1300 7222 11

Read/Write has always been a dichotomy in literature. But is there a more collaborative space for literature? Can your pages be Read&Write?

*Remix My Lit* in conjunction with Creative Commons Australia invite you to cut, paste, tweak, twist, shuffle, add and republish as part of this remixable literature masterclass. This masterclass is in preparation for the live remix on Saturday on the big screen in Federation Square.

Speakers: **Amy Barker**, Project Manager, Remix My Lit; **Elliott Bledsoe**, Project Officer, Creative Commons Australia

### Live Literary Remixing in Federation Square

**SAT, AUG 30 3.30PM -5.00PM,**

**FEDERATION SQUARE - THE BIG SCREEN, IN THE PLAZA.**

Bring your laptop computer or mobile phone and be part of a live multimedia remix event at Federation Square, where you can freely remix brand new stories by Australian authors such as **Cate Kennedy, James Phelan, Kim Wilkins** and **Danielle Wood**.

Thanks to "Remix My Lit" (www.remixmylit.com), a Story of the Future Initiative, writers and the public at the festival now have unprecedented freedom to create new relationships to a collection of short stories, licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution ShareAlike licence.

**See [www.mwf.com.au](http://www.mwf.com.au) for lots more information**

These projects have been assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council, it's arts funding and advisory body.

## MWF SCHOOLS' PROGRAM

**MON AUG 25 - WED AUG 27**

Our Schools' Program engages young readers with the best Australian and international authors in a series of forty-five events across three days.

Guests this year include:

**Alexandra Adornetto, Mark Carthew, Rachel Cohn, Joseph Delaney, Elizabeth Fensham, John Flanagan, Adam Ford, Jackie French, Simone Howell, Danny Katz, Margo Lanagan, Melina Marchetta, John Marsden, David Metzenthen, Tracie Morris, Robert Muchamore, Bruce Pascoe, Tim Pegler, John Pilger, Richard Plunkett, Alice Pung, Sally Rippin, Emily Rodda, Penni Russon.**

### VCE Events

In an exciting new development, there will be a range of VCE events some dealing directly with key VCE curriculum texts. With representatives from the Victorian Association for the Teaching of English chairing the 'context' sessions, student will have a chance to hear and question the writers they are studying, including **Robert Drewe** (*Shark Net*), **Joanna Murray-Smith** (*Bombshells*), **Larissa Behrendt** (*Home*), **Waleed Aly** (*People Like Us*), **John Armstrong** (*The Secret Power of Beauty*), **Susie May** (NGV), **Diana Sandars** (University of Melbourne), and **William McInnes** and **Sarah Watt** (*Look Both Ways*).

Full details of our Schools' Program are available from our website: [www.mwf.com.au](http://www.mwf.com.au). Enquiries can be emailed to [steve@mwf.com.au](mailto:steve@mwf.com.au)

Adults are very welcome, as well as young people not part of a school group.

-Sponsored by Deakin University

-Rachel Cohn's visit is supported

by the US Consulate-General Melbourne

## WRITERS AT DEAKIN

**FREE EVENT 2894 | THU, AUG 28 6:00PM -8:00PM**

Authors **Chloe Hooper** and **Charlotte Wood** discuss their work followed by audience Q & A. Moderated by **Judith Rodriguez**.

**Deakin University Library,**  
**221 Burwood Highway, Burwood 3125.**

**More information: [www.deakin.edu.au/arts-ed/creative/writing/](http://www.deakin.edu.au/arts-ed/creative/writing/)**

**Bookings: [robin@deakin.edu.au](mailto:robin@deakin.edu.au) or 03 9244 3954**