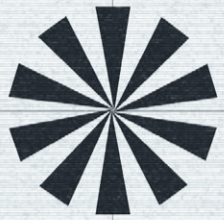


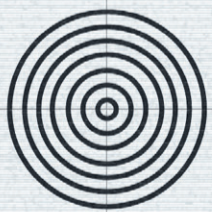
# ALMOST MIDNIGHT



SYDNEY WRITERS' FESTIVAL

# ALMOST MIDNIGHT

27 APRIL - 3 MAY



SYDNEY  
WRITERS  
FESTIVAL

# ALMOST MIDNIGHT

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Find more information about supporting the Festival at [swf.org.au/support-us](http://swf.org.au/support-us).

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# A Message from the Artistic Director

If you knew the world was ending, what books would you reach for? Which authors would you take into the bunker with you? Welcome to 2020, when the question has never been less theoretical.

At the beginning of every year, the Independent Bulletin of Atomic Scientists considers humanity's chances of wiping itself out, using the metaphor of a Doomsday Clock striking midnight. When the Cold War ended in 1991, the scientists positioned the clock's hands at 17 minutes to, the farthest away from midnight that they've ever been. Nuclear weapons were disarmed, unilateral agreements were made, walls were torn down. Yet since then, we have crept ever nearer to midnight. This January, the clock lurched closer to the symbolic apocalypse than ever before: just 100 seconds to catastrophe.

According to the scientists, the two simultaneous existential threats of nuclear weapons and the climate crisis have been compounded by a third: "cyber-enabled disinformation campaigns" that prevent the public from galvanising and demanding change.

It's **Almost Midnight** and the 2020 Sydney Writers' Festival hopes to serve as a wake-up call.

We invite you to join more than 400 of the world's most exhilarating, honest, clever, ambitious, joyful and disquieting writers and thinkers, who are writing and fighting to halt the clock's movement.

Across the program, we'll hear from journalists who are distilling and dissenting the careless rhetoric, reckless defiance of scientific fact and political paralysis; leading scientists, health experts, policymakers and commentators who are lighting the way; and some of the world's most electrifying, boundary-pushing novelists who are reflecting and redefining the world around us.

We won't wilfully remain in the dark.

To open the Festival, **Bernardine Evaristo** and **Alison Whittaker** will each deliver an address on the theme **Almost Midnight**. **Bernardine Evaristo** won the 2019 Booker Prize for *Girl, Woman, Other*, a joyfully polyphonic, gloriously original work that has become an irresistible novel for our times.

**Alison Whittaker** is a Gomeri poet, essayist, legal researcher, and author of the virtuosic, genre-defying and award-winning *Blakwork*.

One of America's most influential writers **Siri Hustvedt** (*The Blazing World* and *Memories of the Future*) joins author and Academy Award-winning co-writer of *Birdman* **Nicolás Jacobone** (*The Crossed-Out Notebook*) to consider the role and responsibilities of creators in times of crisis, with Arts Editor at *The Australian* **Ashleigh Wilson**.

A giant of creative non-fiction, **Leslie Jamison** discusses her acclaimed body of work (*The Empathy Exams*, *The Recovering* and *Make It Scream, Make It Burn*) with writer and critic, **Rebecca Harkins-Cross**.

Nobel Prize-nominated founder of the Umbrella Movement **Joshua Wong** (appearing via video link) and *City on Fire* author **Antony Dapiran** consider the precarious future of Hong Kong with the *Financial Times*' South China correspondent **Sue-Lin Wong**.

In the past decade of climate and energy warfare in Australian federal politics, **Malcolm Turnbull** – the nation's 29th prime minister – is the only leader to have lost his job over the issue twice. He joins **Annabel Crabb** to reflect upon the state of political reform and his new memoir, *A Bigger Picture*.

Former Greens leader **Bob Brown** joins **Scott**

**Ludlam** to discuss campaigning on conservation issues, Bob's life's work and his new book *Planet Earth*.

A master renderer of planetary devastation, **Jeff VanderMeer** (*Borne* and *Annihilation*) talks about his new novel *Dead Astronauts*, and why he remains an optimist.

Leading teen activists and School Strike 4 Climate organisers **Jean Hinchliffe**, **Daisy Jeffrey**, **Varsha Yajman** and **Sherice Jackson** speak with **Jack Manning Bancroft** about how they are taking climate action into their own hands.

One year after the shocking terrorist attacks in Christchurch, some of our greatest writers discuss the role that literature plays in defeating the rise of white supremacy, Islamophobia and xenophobia within modern Western societies. **Osman Faruqi** speaks with New Zealand Greens MP **Golriz Ghahraman** (*Know Your Place*), **Layla F. Saad** (*Me and White Supremacy*), **Ruby Hamad** (*White Tears/Brown Scars*) and **Michael Mohammed Ahmad** (*The Lebs*).

**Lisa Taddeo** (*Three Women*), **Eimear McBride** (*Strange Hotel*) and **Nichole Perkins** (co-host of Slate podcast *Thirst Aid Kit*) join **Yumi Stynes** to examine the writing of female desire.

**Kevin Wilson** discusses *Nothing to See Here*, his darkly comic and surprisingly sweet exploration of what it means to be a family, with **Michael Williams**.

**Julia Phillips'** powerful debut thriller *Disappearing Earth* draws readers into an astonishing cast of characters connected by an unfathomable crime that takes place on a remote Russian peninsula.

Iranian author **Amir Ahmadi Arian** (*Then the Fish Swallowed Him*), Iranian-born New Zealand politician **Golriz Ghahraman** and *The Atlantic* war and terrorism reporter **Mike Giglio** (*Shatter the Nations: ISIS and the War for the Caliphate*) discuss the current realities of life for Iranians both at home and abroad.

**Bruce Pascoe** speaks about his award-winning and paradigm-shifting works *Dark Emu* and *Salt* in conversation with **Sally Warhaft**. Bruce also joins **Alice Bishop** (*A Constant Hum*) and Indigenous fire practitioner **Victor Steffensen** (*Fire Country*) to consider Australia's response to last summer's bushfires with ABC's **Hamish Macdonald**.

Irish writer **Colum McCann** and ABC Radio's **Philip Clark** discuss *Apeirogon*, Colum's epic novel about an unexpected friendship between two men – an Israeli and a Palestinian – divided by conflict but united in grief.

Pulitzer Prize-winning *Washington Post* reporter **Carol Leonnig** and White House Bureau Chief **Philip Rucker** discuss *A Very Stable Genius*, their behind-the-scenes account of Donald Trump's first term, in conversation with ABC Radio National's **Fran Kelly**.

Celebrated British writers **Bernardine Evaristo**, **Johnny Pitts** (*Afropean*) and **Nesrine Malik** (*We Need New Stories*), and journalist and playwright **Bim Adewunmi** explore the history, future and post-Brexit present of black Britain and Europe.

*Uncanny Valley* is **Anna Wiener's** prescient, page-turning account of our digital age. Set against the backdrop of our generation's very own gold rush, Anna retells her days in San Francisco's 2010s Silicon Valley culture, which Rebecca Solnit describes as "like Joan Didion at a startup".

Soviet-born journalist **Peter Pomerantsev** (*This is Not Propaganda*) and *The New Yorker's* Moscow

correspondent **Joshua Yaffa** (*Between Two Fires*) explore how a culture of mistruth emerged in Russia, and what it says about the future of the West.

A master of popular criticism, *The New York Times* christened **Daniel Mendelsohn** "our most irresistible literary critic". Picking up on a conversation that began at Sydney Writers' Festival five years ago, Daniel sits down once more with **David Malouf** to discuss their deep appreciation of the classics.

The voice of modern vegetarian cuisine, award-winning cook **Anna Jones** (*The Modern Cook's Year*) discusses her life-friendly food, her latest book and making a positive impact on the planet with food, with **Lee Tran Lam**.

Some of the Festival's most distinguished guests – **Nicole Dennis-Benn** (*Patsy*), **Tomasz Jedrowski** (*Swimming in the Dark*), **Daniel Lavery** (formerly Daniel Mallory Ortberg, *Something That May Shock and Discredit You*), **Daniel Mendelsohn** (*The Bad Boy of Athens*), **Claire G. Coleman** (*The Old Lie*) and **Ronnie Scott** (*The Adversary*) – sit down with **Krissy Kneen** and reveal the queer texts that shaped them.

Clive James died in November 2019, leaving behind an unrivalled legacy of books, poetry, prose, essays and memoirs. Join a panel of Clive's friends and fellow writers – **Richard Glover**, **Peter Goldsworthy**, **Kathy Lette**, **Paul Muldoon** and host **Kerry O'Brien** – as they read a selection of his work, share stories and celebrate his life.

At Riverside Theatres in Parramatta, former Socceroos captain **Craig Foster** discusses his campaign to free young footballer and Bahraini refugee **Hakeem al-Araibi**, who was detained in a Thai prison for 76 days. Craig and Hakeem join ABC's **Tracey Holmes** in conversation about *Fighting for Hakeem*.

At The Concourse in Chatswood, comedian and writer **Shaun Micallef** sits down with **Chris Taylor** to chat about comedy, satire and the best loved sketches of Shaun's TV career.

Families will descend on City Recital Hall and Riverside Theatres to see the world-famous creator of Dog Man and Captain Underpants, **Dav Pilkey**, and to the Seymour Centre to see comics legend **Raina Telgemeier** (*Guts*). Family Day returns to Carriageworks with a program to captivate and delight young readers featuring rapper **Briggs**, historian **Christopher Lloyd** and Irish author **Catherine Doyle**.

For the first time, All-Day YA is taking place at Carriageworks and will feature UK guest **Alice Oseman** (*Heartstopper*) and showcase many of this generation's exceptional Australian YA voices. In a special evening event, YA fantasy author **Leigh Bardugo** joins **Piéra Forde** to discuss the Grishaverse.

Acclaimed author of *Doxology*, *Mislaid* and *The Wallcreeper* **Nell Zink** will deliver an unmissable closing night address. Nell will talk about how – as midnight draws nearer on the Doomsday Clock – writers might look to the intrinsic tragedy and renewal of nature for inspiration.

We hope you'll join us.

**Michaela McGuire**  
Artistic Director

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**WEBSITE** Our website is your essential guide to the 2020 Festival. It has up-to-the-minute information on the program, our authors and other events, and important details about the Festival Hub, venues, facilities and accessibility – everything you need to plan a perfect Festival experience. [swf.org.au](http://swf.org.au)



**SOCIAL CHANNELS** Join the conversation using **#SydneyWritersFestival** and follow us at **@SydWritersFest**



**E-NEWSLETTER** Sign up to receive our e-newsletter at [swf.org.au/subscribe](http://swf.org.au/subscribe) and get the latest Festival news, first access to limited release tickets and special offers from our friends and partners.



**PODCASTS** Listen to our podcast via our website and on all major podcast platforms. We have highlights from past Festivals and selected 2020 Festival events will be released from June onwards.



All details were correct at the time of publication on Wednesday 11 March 2020.

## STATE LIBRARY OF NSW PRESENTS



### NSW Premier's Literary Awards 2020

Join us for a gala event to announce this year's award winners.

**Monday 27 April, 6.30 pm**

State Library of NSW  
Cost: \$60/\$55 (conc)

**Bookings: [sl.nsw.gov.au/pla2020](http://sl.nsw.gov.au/pla2020)**

Corner Macquarie St and Shakespeare Place Sydney  
(02) 9273 1414  
[www.sl.nsw.gov.au](http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au)

#NSWPremiersLitAwards

### And the Award Goes To ...

Join select winners of the NSW Premier's Literary Awards in conversation with Senior Judge Jane McCredie.

**Wednesday 29 April, 1 pm–2 pm**

Metcalfe Auditorium  
State Library of NSW  
Free, no bookings required

The NSW Premier's Literary Awards are presented by the NSW Government and administered by the State Library of NSW in association with Create NSW.



MONDAY APRIL 27

1 NSW PREMIER'S LITERARY AWARDS

April 27, 6.30–9.30pm

State Library of NSW Mitchell Building

The NSW Premier's Literary Awards recognise excellence in Australian writing and the contribution of writers to our cultural life. Join us to celebrate the 2020 Awards. Presented with the State Library of NSW.

\$60/\$55 (Concession and State Library Friends)

Bookings [sl.nsw.gov.au/pla2020](https://sl.nsw.gov.au/pla2020)

2 MICROLIT CHOCOLATE WHEEL

April 27, 7-10pm

Knox Street Bar

Join MC Jane Watt, actors from Bang Bang Rodeo and musical comedian Sarah Gaul in this night of creative mayhem where microliterature from publisher Spineless Wonders meets improv.

\$25 | Bookings [shortaustralianstories.com.au/little-fictions](https://shortaustralianstories.com.au/little-fictions)

TUESDAY APRIL 28

3 OPENING NIGHT ADDRESS: BERNARDINE EVARISTO AND ALISON WHITTAKER

April 28, 6.30–7.30pm

Carriageworks, Bay 17

In a headline event, Booker Prize-winning author Bernardine Evaristo and Gomerioi poet Alison Whittaker address the 2020 Sydney Writers' Festival theme 'Almost Midnight'.

\$40/\$30

Bookings [02 9256 4200, swf.org.au](https://02.9256.4200.swf.org.au)

4 PATRICK WHITE PLAYWRIGHTS AWARD AND FELLOWSHIP

April 28, 6.30–8pm

Roslyn Packer Theatre Richard Wherrett Studio

Join Sydney Theatre Company's Artistic Director Kip Williams as he announces the winners of the 2019 Patrick White Playwrights Award and Fellowship. A reading of the award-winning play will follow.

Free, bookings essential

[02 9250 1777, sydneytheatre.com.au](https://02.9250.1777.sydneytheatre.com.au)

WEDNESDAY APRIL 29

5 AND THE AWARD GOES TO...

April 29, 1-2pm

State Library of NSW Metcalfe Auditorium

Be the first to hear from some of the 2020 winners of the prestigious NSW Premier's Literary Awards, in conversation with journalist, writer and senior judge Jane McCredie.

Presented with the State Library of NSW.

Free, no bookings

Guest Curators

Alison Whittaker, Christos Tsiolkas and Rebecca Giggs bring their own unique visions to the program. Each of these highly acclaimed writers has designed sessions that light up the dark, magical and unexpected spaces of this year's theme, 'Almost Midnight'.

Gomerioi poet Alison (*Fire Front* and *Blakwork*) wonders what it means to be 'after midnight' – for the climate and for each other. In these sessions, the voices of some of our most accomplished Indigenous writers help illuminate ways through the dark.

Christos' (*Damascus*, *The Slap* and *Barracuda*) events are anchored in the power of transgression. He asks leading thinkers about the limits of liberty and complexities of parenthood in the modern age and gathers midnight's children – those transgressive writers and thinkers who dare to venture into the erotic and obscene.

Rebecca (*Fathoms: the world in the whale*) dives into those mysterious and troubling in-betweens: the spaces between animals and humans, our bodies and the world, the online and the real.



Alison Whittaker

81 APOCALYPSE THEN  
98 LEFT ON READ  
189 HOPE LESS



Christos Tsiolkas

24 JOURNEY TO THE END OF SPEECH  
117 MIDNIGHT'S CHILDREN  
147 THE ETHICS OF PARENTHOOD



Rebecca Giggs

71 CREATURE COMFORTS  
138 CRITICAL CARE  
187 FLOCKS AND FAKES

6 TRANSFORMATIONAL HISTORIES

April 29, 2.30–4pm

State Library of NSW Metcalfe Auditorium

Winners of the 2019 NSW Premier's History Awards reveal how and why they wrote their transformational histories, and the impact they hope their work will have. Presented with the History Council of NSW.

Free, bookings essential

[historycouncilnsw.org.au](https://historycouncilnsw.org.au)

7 SHADOW CATCHERS: POETIC REFLECTIONS

April 29, 6-7pm

Art Gallery of NSW

The Art Gallery of NSW and Red Room Poetry present live poetic reflections on the mirrored realms and split selves of *Shadow catchers*, the Gallery's current photography exhibition.

Free, no bookings

8 AMINATA CONTEH-BIGER: RISING HEART

April 29, 6-7pm

State Library of NSW Metcalfe Auditorium

Hear the inspiring story of Aminata Conteh-Biger – refugee, mother, performer, founder of The Aminata Maternal Foundation and author of *Rising Heart* – in conversation with Nicole Abadee.

\$15

Bookings [02 9273 1770](https://02.9273.1770)

Email: [bookings@sl.nsw.gov.au](mailto:bookings@sl.nsw.gov.au)

9 SIRI HUSTVEDT: I'M WRITING FOR MY LIFE

April 29, 6.30–7.30pm

City Recital Hall

One of the most celebrated writers working today, Siri Hustvedt (*The Blazing World*, *The Summer Without Men* and *Memories of the Future*) joins ABC Radio's Sarah Kanowski for an illuminating and wide-ranging discussion about Siri's life and work. Siri Hustvedt is supported by Rosie Williams and John Grill AO.

\$45/\$35/\$25

Bookings [02 9256 4200, swf.org.au](https://02.9256.4200.swf.org.au)

10 BERNARDINE EVARISTO: GIRL, WOMAN, OTHER

April 29, 8.30–9.30pm

City Recital Hall

Bernardine Evaristo discusses her joyfully polyphonic 2019 Booker Prize-winning novel *Girl, Woman, Other* with journalist and playwright Bim Adewunmi. Hear how this gloriously original work has become an utterly irresistible novel for our times. Presented by ARA.

Bernardine Evaristo is supported by David Paradise and the British Council.

\$45/\$35/\$25

Bookings [02 9256 4200, swf.org.au](https://02.9256.4200.swf.org.au)

THURSDAY APRIL 30

11 SHADOW CATCHERS: POETIC TOUR

April 30, 9-10am

Art Gallery of NSW

Enjoy an intimate before-hours tour of *Shadow catchers* with curator Isobel Parker Philip, including performances by six poets as they respond creatively to the Art Gallery of NSW's current photography exhibition.

\$30/\$25 | Bookings [02 9225 1700 artgallery.nsw.gov.au](https://02.9225.1700.artgallery.nsw.gov.au)

12 RICHARD COOKE: ON ROBYN DAVIDSON

April 30, 10-11am

Carriageworks, Elston Room

The *Monthly's* Richard Cooke talks with ABC Radio's Michaela Kalowski about *On Robyn Davidson*, his Writers on Writers essay focusing on the remarkable life and nomadic travels of *Tracks* author Robyn Davidson.

Free, no bookings

13 REMEMBERING CLIVE JAMES

April 30, 10-11am

Carriageworks, Bay 17

A panel of Clive James' friends and fellow writers read a selection of his work, share stories and celebrate his life. Featuring Richard Glover, Peter Goldsworthy, Kathy Lette, Paul Muldoon and host Kerry O'Brien. Supported by the Copyright Agency's Cultural Fund.

\$35/\$25

Bookings [02 9256 4200, swf.org.au](https://02.9256.4200.swf.org.au)

14 JOHNNY PITTS: AFROPEAN

April 30, 10-11am

Carriageworks, Bay 20

Award-winning British writer Johnny Pitts sits down with journalist Sana Qadar to discuss *Afropean*, Johnny's acclaimed exploration of black identity in Europe that spans Lisbon, Stockholm, Moscow and Paris.

\$25/\$20

Bookings [02 9256 4200, swf.org.au](https://02.9256.4200.swf.org.au)

15 JOURNALISM: A VOICE FOR THE VULNERABLE

April 30, 10-11am

Carriageworks, Curiosity Stage

Quality journalism ensures we hear the voices of society's most vulnerable. Walkley Award-winning journalists Anne Connolly, Nina Funnell and Chris Reason discuss the ethical considerations they face every day and the impact great reporting can have, in conversation with Hugh Riminton.

Free, no bookings

16 TOM KENEALLY: THE DICKENS BOY

April 30, 10-11am

Carriageworks, Track 12

Australian literary legend Tom Keneally speaks with journalist Helen Dalley about his latest novel, *The Dickens Boy*, which tells the story of Charles Dickens' tenth child, who was sent to outback NSW at age 16.

\$20/\$15

Bookings [02 9256 4200, swf.org.au](https://02.9256.4200.swf.org.au)

17 JULIA PHILLIPS: DISAPPEARING EARTH

April 30, 10-11am

Carriageworks, Track 8

Julia Phillips talks with Amelia Lush about *Disappearing Earth*, Julia's powerful, cleverly constructed thriller and a *New York Times* Best Book of 2019.

Julia Phillips is supported by Sam Meers AO.

\$20/\$15

Bookings [02 9256 4200, swf.org.au](https://02.9256.4200.swf.org.au)

18 A MILLION LITTLE TRUTHS

April 30, 10-11am

Seymour Centre, Everest Theatre

Bestselling memoirists *Inheritance* author Dani Shapiro and *New York Review of Books* Editor-at-Large Daniel Mendelsohn consider the sometimes slippery notion of truth in memoir writing, with *The Age* and *Sydney Morning Herald* Literary Editor Jason Steger.

Presented by ARA.

Authors supported by Rowena Danziger AM and Ken Coles AM, and Kathy and Greg Shand.

\$25/\$20

Bookings [02 9256 4200, swf.org.au](https://02.9256.4200.swf.org.au)

19 CHRIS HAMMER: SILVER

April 30, 10-11am

Seymour Centre, Reginald Theatre

Bestselling *Scrublands* author Chris Hammer has been called "a leader in Australian noir" by renowned crime writer Michael Connelly. Chris discusses his newest novel, *Silver*, with *Guardian Australia's* Paul Daley.

\$15

Bookings [02 9256 4200, swf.org.au](https://02.9256.4200.swf.org.au)

20 THE LIMITLESS SELF

April 30, 10-11am

Seymour Centre, Sound Lounge

Award-winning author Ceridwen Dovey (*Inner Worlds Outer Spaces*) and debut memoirist Nicola Redhouse (*Unlike the Heart*) consider the personal essay in conversation with ABC Radio's Sarah Macdonald.

Free, no bookings

22 MICHELLE DE KRETZER: ON SHIRLEY HAZZARD

April 30, 11.30am-12.30pm

Carriageworks, Curiosity Stage

Miles Franklin Award-winning author Michelle de Kretser talks with Susan Wyndham about *On Shirley Hazzard*, Michelle's celebration of the humour, humanity and revelatory impact of the revered Australian-American novelist.

Free, no bookings

23 PETINA GAPPAH: OUT OF DARKNESS, SHINING LIGHT

April 30, 11.30am-12.30pm

Carriageworks, Elston Room

Petina Gappah brings a new perspective to the colonial exploration of Africa in her widely lauded novel *Out of Darkness, Shining Light*. In conversation with ABC Radio National's Kate Evans.

Free, no bookings

24 JOURNEY TO THE END OF SPEECH

April 30, 11.30am-12.30pm

Carriageworks, Bay 17

Guest curator Christos Tsiolkas speaks with leading journalists Claire Lehmann, Nesrine Malik and David Marr about the role of writers in defending free speech and how to determine when it becomes harmful.

\$35/\$25

Bookings [02 9256 4200, swf.org.au](https://02.9256.4200.swf.org.au)



3 Opening Night Address

3 OPENING NIGHT ADDRESS: BERNARDINE EVARISTO AND ALISON WHITTAKER

Tuesday April 28, 6.30–7.30pm

Carriageworks, Bay 17

In a headline event, Booker Prize-winning author Bernardine Evaristo and Gomerioi poet Alison Whittaker address the 2020 Sydney Writers' Festival theme 'Almost Midnight'.

\$40/\$30 | Bookings [02 9256 4200, swf.org.au](https://02.9256.4200.swf.org.au)

**25 JOSHUA YAFFA: BETWEEN TWO FIRES**  
**April 30, 11.30am-12.30pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 20**  
*The New Yorker's* Moscow correspondent Joshua Yaffa speaks with former Russia correspondent Monica Attard about *Between Two Fires*, Joshua's compelling portrait of modern Russia and those who sustain Vladimir Putin's rule.  
**\$25/\$20**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**26 THE SAVAGE DETECTIVES**  
**April 30, 11.30am-12.30pm**  
**Carriageworks, Track 12**  
Novelists Jeff VanderMeer, Jesse Ball and Liam Pieper join Wilamina Russo to discuss how stories that push readers to the limits of their empathy help us examine the best and worst of humanity.  
**\$20/\$15**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**27 FIGHTING WORDS: THE LITERATURE OF CANCER**  
**April 30, 11.30am-12.30pm**  
**Carriageworks, Track 8**  
Three acclaimed writers who have lived with cancer discuss how literature about the illness can be a source of comfort, insight and reckoning. Featuring Anne Boyer, Jo Lennan and Tracy Sorensen, with Elizabeth McCarthy.  
**\$20/\$15**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**28 SHARKS: AN AUSTRALIAN OBSESSION**  
**April 30, 11.30am-12.30pm**  
**Seymour Centre, Everest Theatre**  
Journalist and author Callum Denness (*Sharks*) and shark advocate and conservationist Valerie Taylor (*An Adventurous Life*) speak with Tom Tilley about Australia's outsized fascination with sharks.  
**\$25/\$20**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**29 ANTONY LOEWENSTEIN: PILLS, POWDER, AND SMOKE**  
**April 30, 11.30am-12.30pm**  
**Seymour Centre, Reginald Theatre**  
Antony Loewenstein joins George Dertadian to talk about *Pills, Powder, and Smoke*, Antony's superbly researched exposé of the multibillion-dollar war on drugs and who really profits from it.  
**\$15**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**30 TARA JUNE WINCH: THE YIELD**  
**April 30, 11.30am-12.30pm**  
**Seymour Centre, Sound Lounge**  
Award-winning Wiradjuri author Tara June Winch joins Catherine Keenan to discuss Tara's mesmerising second novel *The Yield*, a powerful reclamation of Indigenous language, storytelling and identity.  
**Free, no bookings**

**31 THE BIG READ**  
**April 30, 11.30am-12.30pm**  
**Seymour Centre, York Theatre**  
One of the Festival's best loved events is back, with Siri Hustvedt, Eimear McBride, Mirandi Riwoe, J.P. Pomare and Stephanie Convery reading from their latest works. Hosted by Suzanne Leal.  
Siri Hustvedt is supported by Rosie Williams and John Grill AO.  
**\$25/\$20**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**32 YUMNA KASSAB: THE HOUSE OF YOUSSEF**  
**April 30, 1.30-2.30pm**  
**Carriageworks, Elston Room**  
Acclaimed debut author Yumna Kassab talks with Sheila Ngoc Pham about *The House of Youssef*, Yumna's tapestry of short stories centred around a Lebanese-Australian family in Western Sydney.  
**Free, no bookings**



## Festival Highlight

**9 SIRI HUSTVEDT: I'M WRITING FOR MY LIFE**  
**Wednesday April 29, 6.30-7.30pm**  
**City Recital Hall**  
One of the most celebrated writers working today, Siri Hustvedt joins ABC Radio's Sarah Kanowski for an illuminating and wide-ranging discussion about Siri's life and work. Siri Hustvedt is supported by Rosie Williams and John Grill AO.  
**\$45/\$35/\$25 ~~£9~~**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**33 AUSTRALIA'S LEADERSHIP PROBLEM**  
**April 30, 1.30-2.30pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 17**  
Former speechwriter for Paul Keating and the award-winning author of *Recollections of a Bleeding Heart*, Don Watson, and six-time Walkley Award winner and the bestselling author of *Keating*, Kerry O'Brien, ask: has Australia become unable to elect good leaders?  
**\$35/\$25 **  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**34 MIKE GIGLIO: SHATTER THE NATIONS**  
**April 30, 1.30-2.30pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 20**  
US journalist Mike Giglio discusses *Shatter the Nations*, his account of the years he spent as a foreign correspondent covering the rise and fall of the ISIS 'caliphate', with ABC's Matt Brown.  
**\$25/\$20**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**35 FIRE FRONT**  
**April 30, 1.30-2.30pm**  
**Carriageworks, Curiosity Stage**  
Leading First Nations poets and writers read their powerful works from the new anthology *Fire Front*. Featuring Alison Whittaker, Evelyn Araluen, Tony Birch, Claire G. Coleman, Ellen van Neerven, Lorna Munro, Lizzie Jarrett and more.  
**Free, no bookings**

**36 JESS HILL: SEE WHAT YOU MADE ME DO**  
**April 30, 1.30-2.30pm**  
**Carriageworks, Track 12**  
Walkley Award-winning investigative reporter Jess Hill discusses *See What You Made Me Do*, her searing exposé of domestic abuse in Australia, in conversation with journalist Georgie Dent.  
**\$20/\$15**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**37 KEVIN WILSON: NOTHING TO SEE HERE**  
**April 30, 1.30-2.30pm**  
**Carriageworks, Track 8**  
*Nothing to See Here* author Kevin Wilson discusses his deadpan, hilarious and surprising novel about what it means to be a family, with Michael Williams.  
**\$20/\$15**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**38 SECRECY, SURVEILLANCE AND STATE POWER**  
**April 30, 1.30-2.30pm**  
**Seymour Centre, Everest Theatre**  
From phone taps to 'disappeared' persons, there's a creeping culture of secrecy lurking within Australia. ABC News Executive Director John Lyons and barrister Julian Burnside QC join Chris Taylor to discuss media raids and courtroom control in our society.  
**\$25/\$20**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**39 ELLIOT PERLMAN: MAYBE THE HORSE WILL TALK**  
**April 30, 1.30-2.30pm**  
**Seymour Centre, Reginald Theatre**  
Elliot Perlman speaks with Nicole Abadee about his darkly comic corporate satire *Maybe the Horse Will Talk*, the long-awaited follow-up to his Miles Franklin Award-nominated bestseller, *The Street Sweeper*.  
**\$15**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**40 CHRIS FLEMING: ON DRUGS**  
**April 30, 1.30-2.30pm**  
**Seymour Centre, Sound Lounge**  
Chris Fleming talks with *Guardian Australia's* Brigid Delaney about his searing memoir *On Drugs*, in which Chris uses his training as a philosopher to scrutinise his experiences with addiction.  
**Free, no bookings**

**41 KATHY LETTE GETS CANDID**  
**April 30, 1.30-2.30pm**  
**Seymour Centre, York Theatre**  
The always entertaining *Puberty Blues* novelist Kathy Lette chats about her storied life, prolific career and renown as a trailblazer for popular feminist fiction with ABC Radio Sydney's Wendy Harmer.  
**\$25/\$20**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**42 THE POETRY OF MEDICINE**  
**April 30, 3-4pm**  
**Carriageworks, Elston Room**  
Medical experience has been inspiring poetry since ancient times. Geoffrey Lehmann, Stephen Edgar, Peter Goldsworthy and Sydney doctor and poet Andrew Dimitri read their own works alongside medical poems from throughout time.  
**Free, no bookings**

**43 DISINFORMATION SPREADS LIKE WILDFIRE**  
**April 30, 3-4pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 17**  
Nick Feik, Tim Flannery and Tony Koch discuss the confluence of media, fossil fuel and political interest that has stymied action on climate change in Australia, with Sophie Black.  
**\$35/\$25 **  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**44 ANTONY DAPIRAN: CITY ON FIRE**  
**April 30, 3-4pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 20**  
Author and lawyer Antony Dapiran speaks with Hugh Riminton about *City on Fire*, Antony's detailed account of the leaderless, technology-driven protest movement that engulfed his adopted city of Hong Kong.  
**\$25/\$20**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

THURSDAY APRIL 30

## 9 Siri Hustvedt: I'm Writing For My Life

**45 A PRIZE OF ONE'S OWN**  
**April 30, 3-4pm**  
**Carriageworks, Curiosity Stage**  
Stella Prize winner Vicki Laveau-Harvie, Strega Prize winner Helena Janeczek and Stella Prize longlisted author Yumna Kassab join Executive Director of the Stella Prize Jaclyn Booton to discuss the importance of prizes for women's writing.  
**Free, no bookings**

**46 SECRETS AND LIES: DONOR-CONCEIVED RIGHTS**  
**April 30, 3-4pm**  
**Carriageworks, Track 12**  
Drawing from both their published work and personal experience, author Dani Shapiro (*Inheritance*) and ABC investigative reporter Sarah Dingle join Bri Lee to explore the complex ethics of donor-conceived rights. Dani Shapiro is supported by Kathy and Greg Shand.  
**\$20/\$15**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**47 THE EMPIRE WRITES BACK**  
**April 30, 3-4pm**  
**Carriageworks, Track 8**  
Petina Gappah, Nicole Dennis-Benn, Mirandi Riwoe and Phoebe Grainer discuss how writers work to decolonise the world of fiction, in conversation with Winnie Dunn.  
**\$20/\$15**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**48 SOPHIE MCNEILL: WE CAN'T SAY WE DIDN'T KNOW**  
**April 30, 3-4pm**  
**Seymour Centre, Everest Theatre**  
Walkley Award-winning foreign correspondent Sophie McNeill has reported on some of the world's most war-torn places, including Syria, Gaza and Iraq. She discusses her memoir, *We Can't Say We Didn't Know* with Australia Director at Human Rights Watch Elaine Pearson.  
**\$25/\$20**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**49 JEFF SPARROW: FASCISTS AMONG US**  
**April 30, 3-4pm**  
**Seymour Centre, Reginald Theatre**  
Walkley Award-winner Jeff Sparrow speaks with Antony Loewenstein about *Fascists Among Us*, Jeff's study of the Christchurch massacre and call for a new response to the menace of right-wing extremism.  
**\$15**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**50 CASSANDRA PYBUS: TRUGANINI**  
**April 30, 3-4pm**  
**Seymour Centre, Sound Lounge**  
Join Cassandra Pybus as she discusses *Truganini*, her haunting portrait of the extraordinary woman behind the myth of 'the last Aboriginal Tasmanian'. In conversation with Jakelin Troy.  
**Free, no bookings**

**51 BOB BROWN: PLANET EARTH**  
**April 30, 3-4pm**  
**Seymour Centre, York Theatre**  
Former Greens leader Bob Brown joins Scott Ludlam to discuss campaigning on conservation issues, Bob's life's work and his new book *Planet Earth*. Don't miss this discussion between two of Australia's greatest environmental advocates.  
**\$30/\$25**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**52 THE NEW VANGUARD OF CLIMATE FICTION**  
**April 30, 4.30-5.30pm**  
**Carriageworks, Elston Room**  
James Bradley (*Ghost Species*), Meg Mundell (*The Trespassers*) and Madeleine Watts (*The Inland Sea*) talk with Andrew Pople about how climate fiction can help make sense of global warming and inspire action.  
**Free, no bookings**

**53 LIBERALISM AT LARGE**  
**April 30, 4.30-5.30pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 17**  
Historian Alexander Zevin joins author and journalist George Megalogenis in conversation with ABC's Emma Alberici to discuss what exactly liberalism is, its impact on local and global affairs, and how it has shaped the world we now inhabit.  
**\$35/\$25 **  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**54 ARTISTIC FREEDOMS: CREATIVITY AND INCARCERATION**  
**April 30, 4.30-5.30pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 20**  
Artistic expression has long been a source of dignity and escape for the incarcerated. Featuring criminal and refugee lawyer and novelist Suzanne Leal, author and defence lawyer Stuart Tipple, and *No Friend But the Mountains* translator Omid Tofighian, in conversation with Nicole Abadee.  
**\$25/\$20**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**55 CRITICAL CONDITION**  
**April 30, 4.30-5.30pm**  
**Carriageworks, Curiosity Stage**  
Catriona Menzies-Pike reviews the state of modern literary criticism with *New York Review of Books* Editor-at-Large Daniel Mendelsohn, literary critic Bernadette Brennan and *Kill Your Darlings* New Critic Award-winner Michael Sun.  
Supported by the Copyright Agency's Cultural Fund. Daniel Mendelsohn is supported by Rowena Danziger AM and Ken Coles AM.  
**Free, no bookings**

**56 CHRISTOS TSIOLKAS: DAMASCUS**  
**April 30, 4.30-5.30pm**  
**Carriageworks, Track 12**  
Booker Prize-nominated, internationally bestselling author Christos Tsiolkas speaks with ABC Radio's Richard Fidler about Christos' newest masterpiece *Damascus*, which wrestles with the mythology of Paul the Apostle.  
**\$20/\$15**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**


**57 GRIFFITH REVIEW 68: GETTING ON**  
**April 30, 4.30-5.30pm**  
**Carriageworks, Track 8**  
Join Tony Birch, Charlotte Wood, Andrew Stafford and Jane R. Goodall with editor Ashley Hay to celebrate *Griffith Review 68: Getting On* - stories of mortality and maturity, power and politics, loss and love.  
**\$20/\$15**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**58 PAUL MULDOON:  
FROLIC AND DETOUR**  
**April 30, 4.30-5.30pm**  
**Seymour Centre, Everest Theatre**  
Pulitzer Prize winner and former poetry  
editor at *The New Yorker* Paul Muldoon  
sits down with ABC Radio National's  
Claire Nichols to discuss his latest  
collection, *Frolic and Detour*.  
Supported by Culture Ireland and the  
Consulate General of Ireland, Sydney.  
**\$25/\$20**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**59 CLAIRE G. COLEMAN:**  
**THE OLD LIE**  
**April 30, 4.30-5.30pm**  
**Seymour Centre, Reginald Theatre**  
Stella Prize-shortlisted author Claire G. Coleman speaks with Evelyn Araluen about how Claire's novel *The Old Lie* uses science fiction to confront the legacy of Australia's colonial past.  
**\$15**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**60 FAVEL PARRETT:**  
**THERE WAS STILL LOVE**  
**April 30, 4.30-5.30pm**  
**Seymour Centre, Sound Lounge**  
Miles Franklin Award-shortlisted author Favel Parrett reflects on her profoundly moving new novel *There Was Still Love*, the story of twin sisters separated by the Nazi invasion of Czechoslovakia, with Elizabeth McCarthy.  
**Free, no bookings**

**61 LITTLE WOMEN  
THROUGH THE AGES**  
**April 30, 4.30-5.30pm**  
**Seymour Centre, York Theatre**  
What is it about *Little Women*, now more than 150 years old, that has such enduring power? Join Daniel Lavery (formerly Daniel Mallory Ortberg), Julia Phillips, Heather Rose and Tara June Winch to consider what insights it can (and can't) offer in a contemporary context, with Michael Williams. Julia Phillips is supported by Sam Meers AO.  
**\$25/\$20**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, [swf.org.au](http://swf.org.au)**

**62 A VERY STABLE GENIUS:  
DONALD J. TRUMP'S TESTING  
OF AMERICA**  
**April 30, 6-7pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 17**  
Pulitzer Prize-winning *Washington Post* reporter Carol Leonnig and White House Bureau Chief Philip Rucker discuss *A Very Stable Genius*, their behind-the-scenes account of Donald Trump's first term, in conversation with ABC Radio National's Fran Kelly.  
Presented by ARA.  
Supported by the University of Sydney.  
**\$35/\$25**   
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**63 ABC RADIO NATIONAL LIVE:  
STOP EVERYTHING!**  
**April 30, 6-7pm**  
**Carriageworks, Track 8**  
Join us for a recording of *Stop Everything!* from ABC Radio National. Hosts Beverley Wang and Benjamin Law ask international Festival stars about their 'problematic faves' - the pop culture icons, books and films they can't help but love, against their better judgment.  
**Free, no bookings**

**64 INSIDERS LIVE AT SYDNEY WRITERS' FESTIVAL**  
**April 30, 8-9pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 17**  
 ABC's *Insiders* host David Speers leads Niki Savva, Katharine Murphy, Peter van Onselen, Annabel Crabb, Mike Bowers, Fiona Katauskas and Jack the Insider through the political highs and lows of the year to date.  
 Supported by the University of Sydney.  
**\$35/\$25**   
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, [swf.org.au](http://swf.org.au)**



# 119 Clare Bowditch: Your Own Kind of Girl

# Festival Highlight

**119 CLARE BOWDITCH: YOUR OWN KIND OF GIRL**  
**Friday May 1, 8-9pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 17**  
 Clare Bowditch and ABC's Leigh Sales discuss Clare's heartbreaking  
 and redemptive memoir *Your Own Kind of Girl*, and perform some songs together.  
 Supported by the University of Sydney.  
**\$35/\$25**   
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**65 ASTROLOGY IN UNCERTAIN TIMES**  
**April 30, 8-9pm**  
**Carriageworks, Track 8**  
 In our stressful, data-driven world, people are increasingly looking to astrology for insight. Join Leslie Jamison, Nichole Perkins, Tabitha Prado-Richardson and Ally Garrett as they discuss finding comfort in the cosmic.  
 Supported by the University of Sydney.  
**\$20/\$15**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, [swf.org.au](http://swf.org.au)**

**66 EROTIC FAN FICTION**  
**April 30, 9-10pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 20**  
 This crowd favourite returns for one  
 seedy night only, with brand-new filth.  
 Eddie Sharp hosts Alex Lee, Gareth  
 Davies, Annaliese Constable, Lewis  
 Hobba and more.  
 Supported by the University of Sydney.  
**\$20**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**70 FAIR GAME:  
ACTIVISM AND ETHICS IN SPORT**  
**May 1, 10-11am**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 17**  
Olympic swimmer turned lawyer Nikki Dryden, human rights advocate and former Socceroos captain Craig Foster (*Fighting for Hakeem*), and Olympic gold medalist and former Labor senator Nova Peris examine the debate around activism in sport with ABC's Tracey Holmes.  
**\$35/\$25**   
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, [swf.org.au](http://swf.org.au)**

**71 CREATURE COMFORTS**  
**May 1, 10-11am**  
**Carriageworks, Track 12**  
 Celebrated writers Leslie Jamison, Laura Jean McKay and guest curator Rebecca Giggs explore human and animal communication, in conversation with Elizabeth McCarthy.  
**\$20/\$15**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, [swf.org.au](http://swf.org.au)**

**72 VICKI HASTRICH AND  
CHARLOTTE WOOD:  
A WRITER'S FRIENDSHIP**  
May 1, 10-11am  
**Carriageworks, Track 8**  
Friends for more than 20 years, Vicki  
Hastrich (*Night Fishing*) and Charlotte  
Wood (*The Weekend*) reflect on the  
merits, rigours and demands of a  
writing friendship, in conversation with  
Ailsa Piper.  
**\$20/\$15**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**73 JULIA BAIRD:**  
**PHOSPHORESCENCE**  
May 1, 10-11am  
**Seymour Centre, Everest Theatre**  
Acclaimed author of *Victoria* Julia Baird joins *Guardian Australia's* Bridie Jabour to discuss *Phosphorescence*, Julia's investigation into how we can nurture internal happiness, even through the darkest times.  
**\$25/\$20**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**FRIDAY MAY 1**

**67 COFFEE AND HEADLINES  
WITH THE MONTHLY:  
PETER POMERANTSEV**  
May 1, 9–9.45am  
**Carriageworks, Curiosity Stage**  
Editor of *The Monthly* Nick Feik unravels today's headlines with disinformation expert Peter Pomerantsev (*This is Not Propaganda*), award-winning writer Richard Cooke and six-time Walkley winner Pamela Williams.  
Presented with *The Monthly*.  
**Free, no bookings**

**CUR68 SALAH SUKKARIEH:  
ON THE RISE OF ROBO-CROPS**  
May 1, 10-10.40am  
Carriageworks, Curiosity Stage  
SEE THE CURIOSITY LECTURES, PAGE 15

**69 LIAM PIEPER:  
SWEETNESS AND LIGHT**  
May 1, 10-11am  
Carriageworks, Elston Room  
Award-winning author Liam Pieper  
talks with Roanna Gonsalves about his  
intoxicating new novel *Sweetness and  
Light*, the story of a duo who discover  
something deeply wrong inside a  
utopian Indian ashram.  
**Free, no bookings**

# Festival Highlight

**116 LISA TADDEO:**  
**THREE WOMEN**  
**Friday May 1, 6-7pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 17**  
*New York Times* bestselling author Lisa Taddeo speaks about *Three Women*, her groundbreaking masterpiece on the private lives of three ordinary American women, in conversation with Sophie Blackall. Supported by the University of Sydney.  
**\$35/\$25 CC**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

THURSDAY APRIL 30-FRIDAY MAY 1

**74 DATA INSECURITY**  
**May 1, 10-11am**  
**Seymour Centre, Reginald Theatre**  
 Leading technology writers and thinkers Adam Fish (*Hacker States*) and Sacha Molitorisz (*Net Privacy*) join *Pedestrian's* Matt Hopkins to discuss how legal and ethical norms should be rethought as privacy is eroded in the digital age.  
**\$15**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**75 HEATHER ROSE: BRUNY**  
**May 1, 10-11am**  
**Seymour Centre, Sound Lounge**  
 Stella Prize-winning author Heather Rose joins Suzanne Leal to discuss *Bruny*, Heather's subversive political thriller, family saga and love letter to Tasmania.  
**Free, no bookings**


**76 ANNABEL CRABB, SAMANTHA MAIDEN AND DAVID MARR: A YEAR IN REVIEW**  
**May 1, 10-11am**  
**Seymour Centre, York Theatre**  
 Festival favourites Annabel Crabb, Samantha Maiden and David Marr take an irreverent look at the thrills and spills of the past year in Australian politics.  
**\$30/\$25**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**77 ABC RADIO LIVE:  
CONVERSATIONS**  
**May 1, 11am-12pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 20**  
Sarah Kanowski, presenter of ABC  
Radio's *Conversations*, hosts a live  
broadcast that draws you into the  
world of Dani Shapiro (*Inheritance*).  
Dani Shapiro is supported by  
Kathy and Greg Shand.  
**Free, no bookings**

**CUR78 ELIZABETH FARRELLY:  
ON CONGESTION**  
May 1, 11.30am-12.10pm  
Carriageworks, Curiosity Stage  
SEE THE CURIOSITY LECTURES, PAGE 15

**79 KAWAI STRONG WASHBURN:  
SHARKS IN THE TIME OF  
SAVIOURS**  
**May 1, 11.30am-12.30pm**  
**Carriageworks, Elston Room**  
Kawai Strong Washburn discusses his powerful debut novel *Sharks in the Time of Saviours*, a lush, virtuosic portrait of Hawaiian identity, mythology and diaspora, in conversation with Winnie Dunn.  
**Free, no bookings**

**80 PANDEMIC**  
**May 1, 11.30am-12.30pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 17**  
 Join global health security expert Adam Kamradt-Scott; the *Financial Times*' South China correspondent Sue-Lin Wong, who has been reporting on the ground; and Head of the Indo-Pacific Centre for Health Security Robin Davies as they discuss the processes and politics of pandemics, including the current COVID-19 outbreak, with *Guardian Australia*'s Ben Doherty.

**\$35/\$25**   
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, [swf.org.au](http://swf.org.au)**

**81 APOCALYPSE THEN**  
**May 1, 11.30am-12.30pm**  
**Carriageworks, Track 12**  
 Leading blak speakers consider what it means to be truly post-apocalyptic as a First Nations person whose culture has survived colonisation. Guest curator Alison Whittaker speaks with Tony Birch, Callum Clayton-Dixon and Jacinta Koolmatrice.  
**\$20/\$15**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**82 VICKI LAVEAU-HARVIE:**  
**THE ERRATICS**  
**May 1, 11.30am-12.30pm**  
**Carriageworks, Track 8**  
Vicki Laveau-Harvie shares the story behind her Stella Prize-winning memoir *The Erratics*, a darkly comic and savagely honest account of living with a manipulative parent, in conversation with ABC's Ange Lavoipierre.  
**\$20/\$15**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**83 PETER POMERANTSEV:  
THIS IS NOT PROPAGANDA**  
May 1, 11.30am-12.30pm  
Seymour Centre, Everest Theatre  
Soviet-born British journalist Peter Pomerantsev speaks with ABC's Paul Barry about *This is Not Propaganda*, Peter's fascinating investigation into disinformation, the new Kremlin, hacks, dark ads and soft facts.  
**\$25/\$20**  
Bookings 02 9256 4200. [swf.org.au](http://swf.org.au)

**84 AMIR AHMADI ARIAN:**  
**THEN THE FISH SWALLOWED HIM**  
May 1, 11.30am-12.30pm  
Seymour Centre, Reginald Theatre  
Iranian author Amir Ahmadi Arian  
speaks with Omid Tofighian about *Then  
the Fish Swallowed Him*, Amir's powerful  
and harrowing psychological portrait  
of living through the despotism of  
modern-day Iran.  
**\$15**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**85 ANNA KRIEN: ACT OF GRACE**  
**May 1, 11.30am-12.30pm**  
**Seymour Centre, Sound Lounge**  
 One of Australia's most lauded journalists and non-fiction writers, Anna Krien discusses her propulsive debut novel *Act of Grace*, which tackles the aftermath of the Iraq War. In conversation with Catherine Keenan.  
**Free, no bookings**

**86 BOB HAWKE**  
**May 1, 11.30am-12.30pm**  
**Seymour Centre, York Theatre**  
 Bob Hawke's wife Blanche d'Alpuget and elder daughter Sue Pieters-Hawke speak with ABC's Laura Tingle about their significant new books on the former prime minister's life and legacy.  
**\$25/\$20**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**87 ABC RADIO NATIONAL LIVE:  
THE BOOKSHELF**  
**May 1, 12-1pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 20**  
Festival guests Nicole Dennis-Benn and An Yu join hosts Kate Evans and Cassie McCullagh from ABC Radio National's *The Bookshelf* to discuss the books they're enjoying and being challenged by.  
**Free, no bookings**

**CUR88 MIKE GIGLIO:**  
**ON ISTANBUL**  
May 1, 1.30-2.10pm  
Carriageworks, Curiosity Stage  
SEE THE CURIOSITY LECTURES, PAGE 15

**89 THE NEXT CHAPTER:  
WRITING BLAK**  
**May 1, 1.30-2.30pm**  
**Carriageworks, Elston Room**  
Emerging First Nations writers from  
The Next Chapter scheme discuss the  
creative process, writing for blak and  
settler readerships, and writing back  
against expectations.  
Presented with the Wheeler Centre.  
**Free, no bookings**

**116**  
**Lisa**  
**Taddeo:**  
**Three**  
**Women**



# Nights at Carriageworks

The sun goes down and the stars come out for nights of danger, desire and sessions that inspire.

Unravel the chaos of Donald Trump's first term with Pulitzer Prize winners **Carol Leonnig** and **Philip Rucker**, co-authors of *A Very Stable Genius*. Discover a portrait of sex and love with bestselling writer **Lisa Taddeo** (*Three Women*). Hear the stories and songs of **Clare Bowditch** (*Your Own Kind of Girl*), one of Australia's most beloved musicians. Get an on-the-ground account of the Hong Kong uprising with Nobel Prize-nominated founder of the Umbrella Movement, **Joshua Wong** (*Unfree Speech*) and *City on Fire* author **Antony Dapiran** speaking with the *Financial Times*' South China correspondent **Sue-Lin Wong**. Settle in for a prescient journey into Silicon Valley with outsider turned startup insider **Anna Wiener** (*Uncanny Valley*). And hear **Miranda Tapsell** (*Top End Girl*) discuss her stellar career and taking charge of what she saw on screen. Feeling thirsty? Slate podcast hosts **Bim Adewunmi** and **Nichole Perkins** have a fix for that.

Nights at Carriageworks is supported by the **University of Sydney**.

**62 A VERY STABLE GENIUS: DONALD J. TRUMP'S TESTING OF AMERICA**  
**April 30, 6-7pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 17**  
Pulitzer Prize-winning *Washington Post* reporter Carol Leonnig and White House Bureau Chief Philip Rucker discuss *A Very Stable Genius*, their behind-the-scenes account of Donald Trump's first term, in conversation with ABC Radio National's Fran Kelly. Presented by ARA.  
**\$35/\$25 [CC]**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**63 ABC RADIO NATIONAL LIVE: STOP EVERYTHING!**  
**April 30, 6-7pm**  
**Carriageworks, Track 8**  
Join us for a recording of *Stop Everything!* from ABC Radio National. Hosts Beverley Wang and Benjamin Law ask international Festival stars about their 'problematic faves' - the pop culture icons, books and films they can't help but love, against their better judgment.  
**Free, no bookings**

**64 INSIDERS LIVE AT SYDNEY WRITERS' FESTIVAL**  
**April 30, 8-9pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 17**  
ABC's *Insiders* host David Speers leads Niki Savva, Katharine Murphy, Peter van Onselen, Annabel Crabb, Mike Bowers, Fiona Katauskas and Jack the Insider through the political highs and lows of the year to date.  
**\$35/\$25 [CC]**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**65 ASTROLOGY IN UNCERTAIN TIMES**  
**April 30, 8-9pm**  
**Carriageworks, Track 8**  
In our stressful, data-driven world, people are increasingly looking to astrology for insight. Join writers Leslie Jamison, Nichole Perkins, Tabitha

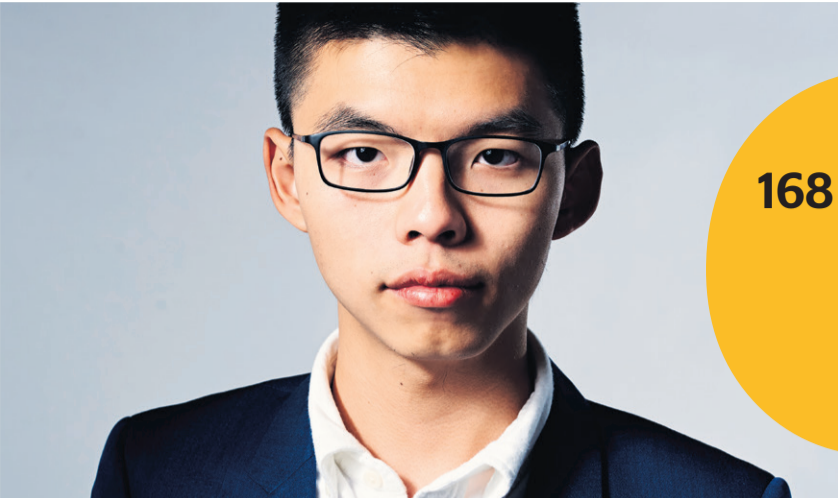
Prado-Richardson and Ally Garrett as they discuss finding comfort in the cosmic.  
**\$20/\$15**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**66 EROTIC FAN FICTION**  
**April 30, 9-10pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 20**  
This crowd favourite returns for one seedy night only, with brand-new filth. Eddie Sharp hosts Alex Lee, Gareth Davies, Annaliese Constable, Lewis Hobba and more.  
**\$20**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**116 LISA TADDEO: THREE WOMEN**  
**May 1, 6-7pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 17**  
*New York Times* bestselling author Lisa Taddeo speaks about *Three Women*, her groundbreaking masterpiece about the private lives of three ordinary American women, in conversation with Sophie Black.  
**\$35/\$25 [CC]**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**117 MIDNIGHT'S CHILDREN**  
**May 1, 6-7pm**  
**Carriageworks, Track 8**  
Fiona McGregor talks with guest curator Christos Tsiolkas (*Damascus*), Krissy Kneen (*Triptych* and *Affection*) and Peter Polites (*The Pillars*) about the role of transgressive fiction in challenging sexual mores in culture today.  
**\$20/\$15**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**118 SLATE THIRST AID KIT LIVE**  
**May 1, 7-8pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 20**  
Slate podcast *Thirst Aid Kit* is recorded live from Carriageworks. Join hosts Bim Adewunmi and Nichole Perkins as they dig deep into the various ways women express their thirst in an illuminating and hilarious conversation.  
**\$20**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**



## Festival Highlight

**168 WHAT NEXT FOR HONG KONG?**  
**Saturday May 2, 6-7pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 17**  
Nobel Prize-nominated founder of the Umbrella Movement Joshua Wong (via live video link) and *City on Fire* author Antony Dapiran consider the precarious future of Hong Kong with the *Financial Times*' South China correspondent Sue-Lin Wong. Supported by the University of Sydney.  
**\$35/\$25 [CC]**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**119 CLARE BOWDITCH: YOUR OWN KIND OF GIRL**  
**May 1, 8-9pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 17**  
Clare Bowditch and ABC's Leigh Sales discuss Clare's heartbreaking and redemptive memoir *Your Own Kind of Girl*, and perform some songs together.  
**\$35/\$25 [CC]**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**120 ANNA WIENER: UNCANNY VALLEY**  
**May 1, 8-9pm**  
**Carriageworks, Track 8**  
*New Yorker* writer Anna Wiener and NITV's Rae Johnston discuss Anna's prescient, page-turning memoir *Uncanny Valley*, the story of her days in San Francisco's weird and wealthy 2010s startup culture.  
**\$20/\$15**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**121 GAY FOR PAGE**  
**May 1, 9-10pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 20**  
Some of the Festival's most distinguished guests - Nicole Dennis-Benn, Tomasz Jedrowski, Daniel Lavery (formerly Daniel Mallory Ortberg), Daniel Mendelsohn, Claire G. Coleman and Ronnie Scott - talk to Krissy Kneen about the queer texts that shaped them. Daniel Mendelsohn is supported by Rowena Danziger AM and Ken Coles AM.  
**\$20**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**169 MIRANDA TAPSELL: TOP END GIRL**  
**May 2, 6-7pm**  
**Carriageworks, Track 8**  
Actor, activist and writer Miranda Tapsell sits down with ABC Radio National's Daniel Browning to discuss Miranda's rollicking and thought-provoking memoir *Top End Girl*, spanning Kakadu to Cannes.  
**\$20/\$15**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**171 STORY CLUB**  
**May 2, 7-8pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 20**  
Story Club is a live storytelling show in which guests share their funniest stories, darkest moments and most shameful secrets. Featuring Ben Jenkins, Zoe Norton Lodge, Clare Bowditch, Rick Morton and Ollie Wards.  
**\$20**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**172 ALMOST MIDNIGHT: AN EVENING OF STORYTELLING AND SONG**  
**May 2, 8-9pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 17**  
Special guests address this year's theme 'Almost Midnight' in an evening of story and song. Featuring Archie Roach, Yael Stone, Julian Burnside QC, Kawai Strong Washburn and Tara June Winch, with host Patrick Abboud.  
**\$35/\$25 [CC]**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**173 THE ART OF THE TV FINALE**  
**May 2, 8-9pm**  
**Carriageworks, Track 8**  
Festival favourites pay homage to the best TV finales in history. With *Birdman* co-writer Nicolás Jacobone, critic Daniel Mendelsohn, pop culture writer Nichole Perkins, crime novelist Michael Robotham, writer and actor Nakkiah Lui and host Benjamin Law. Daniel Mendelsohn is supported by Rowena Danziger AM and Ken Coles AM.  
**\$20/\$15**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**175 QUEERSTORIES**  
**May 2, 9-10pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 20**  
An evening of surprising, heartwarming and wildly funny LGBTQ+ storytelling. Host Maeve Marsden welcomes guests Daniel Lavery (formerly Daniel Mallory Ortberg), Peter Polites, Claire G. Coleman, Ellen van Neerven and Krissy Kneen.  
**\$20 [CC]**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

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<div><div>8</div><div>Festival Precinct &amp; City</div></div> <div><div><div>91 HUGH MACKAY: THE INNER SELF</div><div>May 1, 1.30-2.30pm</div><div>Carriageworks, Track 12</div><div>Drawing on a lifetime of social research, <i>The Inner Self</i> author Hugh Mackay discusses the freedom that can be gained by encountering our authentic selves, in conversation with Jan Fran.</div><div>\$20/\$15</div><div>Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au</div></div><div><div><div>92 GOLRIZ GHAHRAMAN: KNOW YOUR PLACE</div><div>May 1, 1.30-2.30pm</div><div>Carriageworks, Track 8</div><div>Golriz Ghahraman's memoir <i>Know Your Place</i> tells her powerful story of becoming the first refugee elected to New Zealand's parliament. Golriz shares her story and reflects on the free speech debate with Roanna Gonsalves.</div><div>\$20/\$15</div><div>Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au</div></div><div><div><div>93 ANNE BOYER: THE UNDYING</div><div>May 1, 1.30-2.30pm</div><div>Seymour Centre, Everest Theatre</div><div>Award-winning poet and essayist Anne Boyer meets Sally Warhaft to discuss <i>The Undying</i>, Anne's genre-bending memoir about living with breast cancer that traverses personal experience, social commentary and literary history.</div><div>\$25/\$20</div><div>Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au</div></div><div><div><div>94 JESSE BALL: THE DIVERS' GAME</div><div>May 1, 1.30-2.30pm</div><div>Seymour Centre, Reginald Theatre</div><div>Jesse Ball, one of <i>Granta's</i> Best Young American Novelists, speaks with Justin Wolfers about <i>The Divers' Game</i>, Jesse's dystopian vision of an unsettlingly familiar world where empathy is eroded at every level.</div><div>\$15</div><div>Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au</div></div><div><div><div>95 JOSEPHINE ROWE: HERE UNTIL AUGUST</div><div>May 1, 1.30-2.30pm</div><div>Seymour Centre, Sound Lounge</div><div>Josephine Rowe's <i>Here Until August</i>, is a masterful collection of short stories following characters who travel beyond the boundaries of their known worlds. Josephine discusses her collection with Stephanie Bishop.</div><div>Free, no bookings</div></div><div><div><div>96 HOW DEMOCRACY CAN SURVIVE SOCIAL MEDIA</div><div>May 1, 1.30-2.30pm</div><div>Seymour Centre, York Theatre</div><div>Leading commentators Julia Baird, Antony Dapiran and Carol Leonnig examine how social media is both enriching and damaging the political sphere, in conversation with <i>Guardian Australia's</i> Bridie Jabour.</div><div>\$25/\$20</div><div>Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au</div></div><div><div><div>CUR97 JOHNNY PITTS: ON MEDIOCRITY</div><div>May 1, 3-3.40pm</div><div>Carriageworks, Curiosity Stage</div><div>SEE THE CURIOSITY LECTURES, PAGE 15</div></div><div><div><div>98 LEFT ON READ</div><div>May 1, 3-4pm</div><div>Carriageworks, Elston Room</div><div>Some of the country's most accomplished Indigenous writers deliver a series of bite-sized yarns and performances. Featuring guest curator Alison Whittaker with Heidi Norman, Claire G. Coleman, Lorna Munro, Miranda Tapsell and Tara June Winch.</div><div>Free, no bookings</div></div></div></div><div><div><div><div>SYDNEY WRITERS FESTIVAL</div><div></div></div></div></div><div><div><div>90 Daniel Mendelsohn: The Bad Boy of Athens</div></div></div></div><div><div><div>Festival Highlight</div><div>90 DANIEL MENDELSON: THE BAD BOY OF ATHENS</div><div>Friday May 1, 1.30-2.30pm</div><div>Carriageworks, Bay 17</div><div>Master of popular criticism and classicist Daniel Mendelsohn joins acclaimed author David Malouf to discuss <i>The Bad Boy of Athens</i>, Daniel's collection of essays traversing Sappho, <i>Game of Thrones</i>, Homer and robots. Daniel Mendelsohn is supported by Rowena Danziger AM and Ken Coles AM.</div><div>\$35/\$25 </div><div>Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au</div></div></div><div><div><div>99 CORRUPTION IN THE CHURCH</div><div>May 1, 3-4pm</div><div>Carriageworks, Bay 17</div><div>Whistleblower and former detective chief inspector Peter Fox and journalist and commentator David Marr speak with Walkey-winning journalist Joanne McCarthy about cover-ups and corruption in the Catholic Church.</div><div>\$35/\$25 </div><div>Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au</div></div><div><div><div>100 DANI SHAPIRO: INHERITANCE</div><div>May 1, 3-4pm</div><div>Carriageworks, Track 12</div><div>Bestselling author Dani Shapiro and ABC Radio's Sarah Macdonald discuss <i>Inheritance</i> - Dani's memoir about the staggering family secret she uncovered through a genealogy test and her ensuing enquiry into paternity, her Jewish identity and love. Dani Shapiro is supported by Kathy and Greg Shand.</div><div>\$20/\$15</div><div>Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au</div></div><div><div><div>101 SYDNEY PEN: KEEPING AUSTRALIANS QUIET</div><div>May 1, 3-4pm</div><div>Carriageworks, Track 8</div><div>In the latest instalment of Sydney PEN's Free Voices series, Tim Costello (<i>A Lot with a Little</i>) speaks with Tasneem Chopra about the ongoing threats to the freedom of Australian civil society. This event is a fundraiser for Sydney PEN. A share of each ticket price goes directly to PEN.</div><div>\$20/\$15</div><div>Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au</div></div><div><div><div>102 SUSANNA MOORE: IN THE CUT</div><div>May 1, 3-4pm</div><div>Seymour Centre, Everest Theatre</div><div>Susanna Moore's 1995 cult erotic thriller <i>In the Cut</i> explores sex, death and male violence. Susanna speaks with Krissy Kneen about why - 25 years later - the book continues to resonate with today's readers.</div><div>\$25/\$20</div><div>Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au</div></div><div><div><div>103 REBECCA GIGGS: FATHOMS</div><div>May 1, 3-4pm</div><div>Seymour Centre, Reginald Theatre</div><div>Rebecca Giggs discusses <i>Fathoms</i>, her stunning meditation on the lives of whales and what they reveal about us, our planet and our relationship to other species, in conversation with Angus Dalton.</div><div>\$15</div><div>Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au</div></div><div><div><div>104 JAMES BRADLEY: GHOST SPECIES</div><div>May 1, 3-4pm</div><div>Seymour Centre, Sound Lounge</div><div>James Bradley talks to ABC Radio's Cassie McCullagh about <i>Ghost Species</i>, James' exquisitely beautiful and deeply affecting exploration of connection and loss in an age of planetary trauma.</div><div>Free, no bookings</div></div></div><div><div><div>105 INSIGHTS FROM THE AMERICAN CAMPAIGN TRAIL</div><div>May 1, 3-4pm</div><div>Seymour Centre, York Theatre</div><div>Hear insights and predictions about the upcoming US presidential election with White House Bureau Chief at <i>The Washington Post</i> Philip Rucker and United States Studies Centre scholar Charles Edel, in conversation with Gorana Grgic.</div><div>\$25/\$20</div><div>Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au</div></div><div><div><div>CUR106 AMIR AHMADI ARIAN: ON STUPIDITY</div><div>May 1, 4.30-5.10pm</div><div>Carriageworks, Curiosity Stage</div><div>SEE THE CURIOSITY LECTURES, PAGE 15</div></div><div><div><div>107 ANIMALS LIKE US</div><div>May 1, 4.30-5.30pm</div><div>Carriageworks, Elston Room</div><div>Jo Lennan (<i>In the Time of Foxes</i>) and Laura Jean McKay (<i>The Animals in That Country</i>) talk about their brilliant, wholly original books that examine humanity and animality, in conversation with Veronica Sullivan.</div><div>Free, no bookings</div></div><div><div><div>108 SIMPLE PLEASURES</div><div>May 1, 4.30-5.30pm</div><div>Carriageworks, Bay 17</div><div>ABC's <i>The Drum</i> host Julia Baird, SBS presenter Anton Enus and British cookbook author Anna Jones talk with Ailsa Piper about savouring life's simple pleasures.</div><div>\$35/\$25 </div><div>Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au</div></div><div><div><div>109 EIMEAR MCBRIDE: STRANGE HOTEL</div><div>May 1, 4.30-5.30pm</div><div>Carriageworks, Track 12</div><div>One of the greatest and most daring contemporary writers, Ireland's Eimear McBride speaks about her blistering, masterful new novel <i>Strange Hotel</i> with Heather Rose. Supported by Culture Ireland and the Consulate General of Ireland, Sydney.</div><div>\$20/\$15</div><div>Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au</div></div><div><div><div>110 DROUGHTS AND FLOODING RAINS</div><div>May 1, 4.30-5.30pm</div><div>Carriageworks, Track 8</div><div>A panel of water experts - Anne Davies, Margaret Simons and Maryanne Slattery - examine how the Murray-Darling Basin has become a flashpoint of politics, corruption, drought and climate change, in conversation with editor of <i>The Monthly</i> Nick Feik.</div><div>\$20/\$15</div><div>Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au</div></div><div><div><div>111 TERROR AUSTRALIS</div><div>May 1, 4.30-5.30pm</div><div>Seymour Centre, Everest Theatre</div><div>A panel of bestselling crime writers - Chris Hammer, Peter Goldsworthy and J.P. Pomare - join Tim Ayliffe to consider the unique appeal of Australian crime fiction.</div><div>\$25/\$20</div><div>Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au</div></div></div><div><div><div>112 THE ANSWERS ARE NOT IMPORTANT</div><div>May 1, 4.30-5.30pm</div><div>Seymour Centre, Reginald Theatre</div><div>Acclaimed novelists Catherine Lacey (<i>Nobody is Ever Missing</i> and <i>Pew</i>) and An Yu (<i>Braised Pork</i>) talk with ABC's Ange Lavoipierre about the importance and power of mystery, ambiguity and irresolution in fiction.</div><div>\$15</div><div>Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au</div></div><div><div><div>113 INTAN PARAMADITHA: THE WANDERING</div><div>May 1, 4.30-5.30pm</div><div>Seymour Centre, Sound Lounge</div><div>Intan Paramaditha speaks with Shirley Le about <i>The Wandering</i>, Intan's choose-your-own-adventure novel that explores global nomadism and the politics and privileges of travel and desire.</div><div>Free, no bookings</div></div><div><div><div>114 UNDERSTANDING EXTREMISM</div><div>May 1, 4.30-5.30pm</div><div>Seymour Centre, York Theatre</div><div>Four experts discuss what really goes on inside the worlds of extremists and those tasked with countering them. With Julia Ebner, Nesrine Malik, Peter Pomerantsev, Jeff Sparrow and host ABC Radio's Philip Clark.</div><div>\$25/\$20</div><div>Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au</div></div><div><div><div>115 ABC RADIO SYDNEY DRIVE WITH RICHARD GLOVER, FEATURING THANK GOD IT'S FRIDAY!</div><div>May 1, 5-6.30pm</div><div>Carriageworks, Bay 20</div><div>Join ABC Radio Sydney's Richard Glover for a special Festival edition of <i>Thank God It's Friday!</i>, plus after-the-show interviews with three of the Festival's literary stars.</div><div>Free, no bookings</div></div><div><div><div>116 LISA TADDEO: THREE WOMEN</div><div>May 1, 6-7pm</div><div>Carriageworks, Bay 17</div><div><i>New York Times</i> bestselling author Lisa Taddeo speaks about <i>Three Women</i>, her groundbreaking masterpiece on the private lives of three ordinary American women, in conversation with Sophie Black.</div><div>Supported by the University of Sydney.</div><div>\$35/\$25 </div><div>Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au</div></div><div><div><div>117 MIDNIGHT'S CHILDREN</div><div>May 1, 6-7pm</div><div>Carriageworks, Track 8</div><div>Fiona McGregor talks with guest curator Christos Tsiolkas, Krissy Kneen (<i>Triptych</i> and <i>Affection</i>) and Peter Polites (<i>The Pillars</i>) about the role of transgressive fiction in challenging the sexual mores in culture today. Supported by the University of Sydney.</div><div>\$20/\$15</div><div>Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au</div></div></div><div><div><div>118 SLATE THIRST AID KIT LIVE</div><div>May 1, 7-8pm</div><div>Carriageworks, Bay 20</div><div>Slate podcast <i>Thirst Aid Kit</i> is recorded live from Carriageworks. Join hosts Bim Adewunmi and Nichole Perkins as they dig deep into the various ways women express their thirst in an illuminating and hilarious conversation. Supported by the University of Sydney.</div><div>\$20</div><div>Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au</div></div><div><div><div>119 CLARE BOWDITCH: YOUR OWN KIND OF GIRL</div><div>May 1, 8-9pm</div><div>Carriageworks, Bay 17</div><div>Clare Bowditch and ABC's Leigh Sales discuss Clare's heartbreaking and redemptive memoir <i>Your Own Kind of Girl</i>, and perform some songs together. Supported by the University of Sydney.</div><div>\$35/\$25 </div><div>Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au</div></div><div><div><div>120 ANNA WIENER: UNCANNY VALLEY</div><div>May 1, 8-9pm</div><div>Carriageworks, Track 8</div><div><i>New Yorker</i> writer Anna Wiener and NITV's Rae Johnston discuss Anna's prescient, page-turning memoir <i>Uncanny Valley</i>, the story of her days in San Francisco's weird and wealthy 2010s startup culture. Supported by the University of Sydney.</div><div>\$20/\$15</div><div>Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au</div></div><div><div><div>121 GAY FOR PAGE</div><div>May 1, 9-10pm</div><div>Carriageworks, Bay 20</div><div>Some of the Festival's most distinguished guests - Nicole Dennis-Benn, Tomasz Jedrowski, Daniel Lavery (formerly Daniel Mallory Ortberg), Daniel Mendelsohn, Claire G. Coleman and Ronnie Scott - talk to Krissy Kneen about the queer texts that shaped them. Supported by the University of Sydney. Daniel Mendelsohn is supported by Rowena Danziger AM and Ken Coles AM.</div><div>\$20</div><div>Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au</div></div></div><div><div><div>SATURDAY MAY 2</div></div><div><div><div>122 COFFEE AND HEADLINES WITH THE SATURDAY PAPER: CAROL LEONNIG</div><div>May 2, 9-9.45am</div><div>Carriageworks, Curiosity Stage</div><div>Join editor of <i>The Saturday Paper</i> Maddison Connaughton to discuss the latest news with award-winning writer Bri Lee, senior reporter Rick Morton and <i>Washington Post</i> national investigative reporter Carol Leonnig (<i>A Very Stable Genius</i>). Presented with <i>The Saturday Paper</i>.</div><div>Free, no bookings</div></div><div><div><div>123 TOMASZ JEDROWSKI: SWIMMING IN THE DARK</div><div>May 2, 10-11am</div><div>Carriageworks, Elston Room</div><div>Tomasz Jedrowski joins reviewer Patrick Carey to talk about Tomasz's lauded debut novel, <i>Swimming in the Dark</i>, which has been described as <i>Call Me By Your Name</i> set in communist Poland.</div><div>Free, no bookings</div></div><div><div><div>124 HOPE IN THE FACE OF CLIMATE CHANGE</div><div>May 2, 10-11am</div><div>Carriageworks, Bay 17</div><div>A distinguished panel examines positive responses to climate change and the role of literature in building hope. Featuring Golriz Ghahraman, Bruce Pascoe, Jeff VanderMeer and Kawai Strong Washburn, with Ashley Hay. All proceeds will be donated to Mallacoota and Districts Recovery Association. Supported by the City of Sydney.</div><div>\$25 </div><div>Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au</div></div></div></div></div></div></div></div></div></div></div></div></div></div></div></div></div></div></div></div></div></div></div></div></div></div></div></div></div></div>
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**125 ARCHIE ROACH: TELL ME WHY**  
May 2, 10-11am  
Carriageworks, Bay 20  
Archie Roach performs songs and speaks with NITV's Rachael Hocking about his moving memoir *Tell Me Why*, which chronicles Archie's life as a stolen child, teenage alcoholic, leader, father and national musical treasure. Supported by the City of Sydney.  
**\$25/\$20**  
Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au

**126 LAYLA F. SAAD: ME AND WHITE SUPREMACY**  
May 2, 10-11am  
Carriageworks, Curiosity Stage  
Renowned writer, speaker and podcast host Layla F. Saad discusses her essential new book *Me and White Supremacy* with Sarah Ayoub.  
**Free, no bookings**

**127 DANIEL MALLORY ORTBERG: SOMETHING THAT MAY SHOCK AND DISCREDIT YOU**  
May 2, 10-11am  
Carriageworks, Track 8  
Slate's *Dear Prudence* columnist and bestselling author Daniel Lavery (formerly Daniel Mallory Ortberg) joins Benjamin Law to discuss Daniel's hilarious and searingly honest essay collection, *Something That May Shock and Discredit You*.  
**\$20/\$15**  
Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au

**128 THANT MYINT-U: THE HIDDEN HISTORY OF BURMA**  
May 2, 10-11am  
Seymour Centre, Everest Theatre  
Acclaimed author and former UN diplomat Thant Myint-U discusses *The Hidden History of Burma*, his clear-eyed analysis of the country's troubled past and present, in conversation with Melissa Crouch.  
**\$25/\$20**  
Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au

**129 NICOLE DENNIS-BENN: PATSY**  
May 2, 10-11am  
Seymour Centre, Reginald Theatre  
Award-winning novelist Nicole Dennis-Benn joins Santilla Chingaipe to discuss *Patsy*, Nicole's stirring saga of a Jamaican woman who upends her life for a new start in America, leaving her young child behind.  
**\$15**  
Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au

**130 VIVIAN PHAM: THE COCONUT CHILDREN**  
May 2, 10-11am  
Seymour Centre, Sound Lounge  
Australian novelist Vivian Pham has been hailed by Dave Eggers as "one of the indispensable voices of her generation". Sheila Ngoc Pham talks with Vivian about her powerful novel *The Coconut Children*.  
**Free, no bookings**

**131 MERVYN KING: RADICAL UNCERTAINTY**  
May 2, 10-11am  
Seymour Centre, York Theatre  
How much do we really know about how economies work? Find out with leading economist, former Bank of England governor and *Radical Uncertainty* co-author, Mervyn King, in conversation with ABC's Emma Alberici.  
**\$25/\$20**  
Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au

**132 LUCIA OSBORNE-CROWLEY: I CHOOSE ELENA**  
May 2, 11.30am-12.30pm  
Carriageworks, Elston Room  
Lucia Osborne-Crowley talks with Lex Hirst about *I Choose Elena*, Lucia's powerful memoir of trauma, recovery and the true cost of sexual violence.  
**Free, no bookings**

**133 VIOLENT SYDNEY**  
May 2, 11.30am-12.30pm  
Carriageworks, Bay 17  
Walkley-winning crime reporter Kate McClymont and former NSW director of public prosecutions Nicholas Cowdery QC discuss their new accounts of some of Sydney's most notorious crimes, in conversation with David Marr.  
**\$35/\$25 [CC]**  
Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au

**134 NELL ZINK: DOXOLOGY**  
May 2, 11.30am-12.30pm  
Carriageworks, Bay 20  
One of today's sharpest novelists, Nell Zink joins Michael Williams to discuss *Doxology*, Nell's wryly comic evocation of an American family's story from the 1980s to Trump, by way of 9/11.  
**\$25/\$20**  
Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au

**135 RETURN OF THE SWEATSHOP WOMAN**  
May 2, 11.30am-12.30pm  
Carriageworks, Curiosity Stage  
Sweatshop: Western Sydney Literacy Movement launches the second issue of its acclaimed journal *Sweatshop Women*, Australia's first anthology of short stories, essays and poems produced entirely by women of colour.  
**Free, no bookings**

**136 TANYA TALAGA: ALL OUR RELATIONS**  
May 2, 11.30am-12.30pm  
Carriageworks, Track 8  
Anishinaabe Canadian journalist Tanya Talaga joins Indigenous Affairs reporter Ella Archibald-Binge to speak about *All Our Relations*, Tanya's bestselling call for action and justice for the world's Indigenous peoples. Supported by the Judith Neilson Institute for Journalism and Ideas.  
**\$20/\$15**  
Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au

**137 NESRINE MALIK: WE NEED NEW STORIES**  
May 2, 11.30am-12.30pm  
Seymour Centre, Everest Theatre  
*Guardian UK* writer Nesrine Malik shares insights from *We Need New Stories*, her nuanced unpicking of the toxic myths feeding our fractured culture, in conversation with *Guardian Australia's* Bridie Jabour. Supported by the University of Sydney.  
**\$25/\$20**  
Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au

**138 CRITICAL CARE**  
May 2, 11.30am-12.30pm  
Seymour Centre, Reginald Theatre  
Guest curator Rebecca Giggs explores the moral complexities and everyday treatment of pain and illness in the medical world and culture at large, with Anne Boyer, Gabrielle Jackson and Karen Hitchcock.  
**\$15**  
Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au

**139 TONY BIRCH: THE WHITE GIRL**  
May 2, 11.30am-12.30pm  
Seymour Centre, Sound Lounge  
Miles Franklin Award-shortlisted author Tony Birch discusses *The White Girl*, his novel exploring the Stolen Generations against the backdrop of a 1960s country town, in conversation with Evelyn Araluen.  
**Free, no bookings**

**140 PHILIPPE SANDS: THE RATLINE**  
May 2, 11.30am-12.30pm  
Seymour Centre, York Theatre  
Human rights lawyer and author of *East West Street*, Philippe Sands discusses his new book, *The Ratline*, the incredible account of what happened to Nazi fugitive Otto von Wächter, with Martin Krygier.  
**\$25/\$20**  
Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au

**141 CLIFF KUANG: USER FRIENDLY**  
May 2, 1.30-2.30pm  
Carriageworks, Elston Room  
Google design strategist and award-winning journalist Cliff Kuang chats with tech journalist Ben Grubb about *User Friendly*, Cliff's fascinating history of design - and its power - from the machine age to the iPhone era.  
**Free, no bookings**

**142 REMEMBERING CHRISTCHURCH**  
May 2, 1.30-2.30pm  
Carriageworks, Bay 17  
One year on from the shocking terrorist attacks in Christchurch, New Zealand, Golriz Ghahraman, Layla F. Saad, Ruby Hamad, Michael Mohammed Ahmad and Osman Faruqi discuss the role literature plays in combating white supremacy and Islamophobia. Presented with Sweatshop: Western Sydney Literacy Movement.  
**\$35/\$25 [CC]**  
Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au

**143 VIRGINIA TRIOLI: GENERATION F**  
May 2, 1.30-2.30pm  
Carriageworks, Bay 20  
Broadcaster and journalist Virginia Trioli joins Annabel Crabb to discuss the updated edition of *Generation F*, Virginia's celebrated - and unnervingly relevant - response to Helen Garner's polarising *The First Stone*.  
**\$25/\$20**  
Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au



# 2020 SEASON

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**144 ELLEN VAN NEERVEN: THROAT**  
**May 2, 1.30–2.30pm**  
**Carriageworks, Curiosity Stage**  
Award-winning Mununjali Yugambeh writer Ellen van Neerven talks about their explosive poetry collection *Throat*, which casts a light on Australia's unreconciled past and precarious present, with Tessa Rose.  
**Free, no bookings**

**145 THE ANATOMY OF FEMALE DESIRE**  
**May 2, 1.30–2.30pm**  
**Carriageworks, Track 8**  
Eimear McBride (*Strange Hotel*), Nichole Perkins (co-host of *Thirst Aid Kit*) and Lisa Taddeo (*Three Women*) join Yumi Stynes to examine writing about female desire – sex, love, power, gender and who women are allowed to be.  
**\$20/\$15**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**146 JULIA EBNER: GOING DARK**  
**May 2, 1.30–2.30pm**  
**Seymour Centre, Everest Theatre**  
Julia Ebner joins Fiona Martin to discuss *Going Dark*, Julia's compulsive account of her terrifying undercover journey into the darkest recesses of modern extremism.  
**\$25/\$20**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**


**147 THE ETHICS OF PARENTHOOD**  
**May 2, 1.30–2.30pm**  
**Seymour Centre, Reginald Theatre**  
Guest curator Christos Tsiolkas speaks with Hawaiian author and climate policy advocate Kawai Strong Washburn, musician and writer Clare Bowditch, and journalist Elfy Scott about the ethics and moral complexities of parenting amid social, technological and environmental change.  
**\$15**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**148 VICKI HASTRICH: NIGHT FISHING**  
**May 2, 1.30–2.30pm**  
**Seymour Centre, Sound Lounge**  
Vicki Hastrich talks with Rebecca Johnke about *Night Fishing*, Vicki's luminous memoir of a singular life in art and nature, set on the private byways of Brisbane Water, north of Sydney.  
**Free, no bookings**


**149 AFTER THE FLAMES**  
**May 2, 1.30–2.30pm**  
**Seymour Centre, York Theatre**  
Alice Bishop (*A Constant Hum*), volunteer firefighter Bruce Pascoe (*Salt* and *Dark Emu*) and Indigenous fire practitioner Victor Steffensen (*Fire Country*) consider Australia's response to bushfires with ABC's Hamish Macdonald.  
**\$25/\$20**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**



## Festival Highlight

**160 BRUCE PASCOE: WRITING AUSTRALIA**  
**Saturday May 2, 4.30–5.30pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 17**  
Award-winning *Dark Emu* author Bruce Pascoe joins Sally Warhaft to discuss *Salt*, a collection that showcases Bruce's enduring fascination with Australia's culture, history and land. Presented by ARA.  
**\$35/\$25 **  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**150 MEET THE SMH BEST YOUNG AUSTRALIAN NOVELISTS**  
**May 2, 3–4pm**  
**Carriageworks, Elston Room**  
Each year, *The Sydney Morning Herald* names the authors it considers the best young fiction writers in Australia. A panel of the 2020 winners join Jason Steger to discuss and read their work.  
**Free, no bookings**

**151 POLITICS IN FICTION**  
**May 2, 3–4pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 17**  
Four distinguished authors discuss how their novels deal with points of political upheaval. Featuring Amir Ahmadi Arian, Anna Krien, Colum McCann and Nell Zink with SBS presenter Anton Enus.  
**\$35/\$25 **  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**152 LESLIE JAMISON: UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL**  
**May 2, 3–4pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 20**  
A giant of creative non-fiction, Leslie Jamison discusses her acclaimed body of work (*The Empathy Exams*, *The Recovering* and *Make It Scream, Make It Burn*) with writer and critic Rebecca Harkins-Cross.  
**\$25/\$20**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**153 ICONIC DUOS: THE NEXT CHAPTER WRITERS AND MENTORS**  
**May 2, 3–4pm**  
**Carriageworks, Curiosity Stage**  
Three emerging writers from The Next Chapter scheme, together with their mentors, discuss collaboration, constructive criticism and the unique qualities of writing mentorships. Presented with the Wheeler Centre.  
**Free, no bookings**

**154 NIKI SAVVA: PLOTS AND PRAYERS**  
**May 2, 3–4pm**  
**Carriageworks, Track 8**  
Niki Savva talks with David Marr about *Plots and Prayers*, her gripping account of the bungled coup that overthrew former prime minister Malcolm Turnbull, and its surprise victor Scott Morrison.  
**\$20/\$15**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**155 TIM FLANNERY: LIFE**  
**May 2, 3–4pm**  
**Seymour Centre, Everest Theatre**  
Leading environmental scientist Tim Flannery discusses *Life*, his anthology of essays, speeches and musings covering everything from palaeontology to climate change, in conversation with William Figueira.  
**\$25/\$20**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**156 DISTANT CONCERNS**  
**May 2, 3–4pm**  
**Seymour Centre, Reginald Theatre**  
Authors of haunting novels set in far-flung places, Sophie Hardcastle (*Below Deck*) and Julia Phillips (*Disappearing Earth*) talk with Lex Hirst about using remote settings to create mood, mystery and menace. Julia Phillips is supported by Sam Meers AO.  
**\$15**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**157 HELENA JANECZEK: THE GIRL WITH THE LEICA**  
**May 2, 3–4pm**  
**Seymour Centre, Sound Lounge**  
Helena Janeczek, author of *The Girl with the Leica*, is regarded alongside her countrywoman Elena Ferrante as one of the finest renderers of historical fiction centred on women's lives. Helena speaks with ABC Radio National's Kate Evans. Supported by the Istituto Italiano di Cultura – Sydney.  
**Free, no bookings**

**158 CLASSIFIED DISINFORMATION: LIVING IN RUSSIA**  
**May 2, 3–4pm**  
**Seymour Centre, York Theatre**  
Soviet-born journalist Peter Pomerantsev and *The New Yorker's* Moscow correspondent Joshua Yaffa explore how a culture of mistruth emerged in Russia, and what it says about the future of the West, with ABC Radio National's Linda Mottram.  
**\$25/\$20**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**159 LEAH PURCELL: THE DROVER'S WIFE**  
**May 2, 4.30–5.30pm**  
**Carriageworks, Elston Room**  
Actor and writer Leah Purcell chats with *Guardian Australia's* Paul Daley about Leah's novel *The Drover's Wife*, a thrilling tale of race, gender, violence and inheritance that reworks a Henry Lawson classic.  
**Free, no bookings**

**160 BRUCE PASCOE: WRITING AUSTRALIA**  
**May 2, 4.30–5.30pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 17**  
SEE HIGHLIGHT ON THIS PAGE

**161 THE FULL CATASTROPHE**  
**May 2, 4.30–5.30pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 20**  
The Full Catastrophe is a live show about when life was so bad it was funny. With guests Osman Faruqi, Matt Okine, Rita Therese and Jan Fran. Hosted by Rebecca Huntley and ABC Radio's Sarah Macdonald.  
**\$25/\$20**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**162 ANONYMOUS BANKSTOWN POETRY SLAM**  
**May 2, 4.30–5.30pm**  
**Carriageworks, Curiosity Stage**  
Bankstown Poetry Slam presents a first-of-its-kind event, where experienced poets and first-timers submit their poetry to be performed on stage by a stranger.  
**Free, no bookings**

**163 ANDREW BOE: THE TRUTH HURTS**  
**May 2, 4.30–5.30pm**  
**Carriageworks, Track 8**  
Andrew Boe reflects on his first literary work, *The Truth Hurts*, which documents his evolution from a child of Burmese migrants to a leading criminal barrister, in conversation with Rachel Perkins.  
**\$20/\$15**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**164 BREAKING THE BANKS**  
**May 2, 4.30–5.30pm**  
**Seymour Centre, Everest Theatre**  
Whistleblower Jeff Morris, Adele Ferguson (*Banking Bad*) and Daniel Ziffer (*A Wunch of Bankers*) ask if the finance sector really learned its lesson from the 2018 royal commission, with ABC's Emma Alberici. Supported by BDO.  
**\$25/\$20**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**165 CATHERINE LACEY: AN INDELIBLE VOICE**  
**May 2, 4.30–5.30pm**  
**Seymour Centre, Reginald Theatre**  
One of America's most acclaimed young novelists, Catherine Lacey talks about her boundary-pushing novels and the faulty tools we use to categorise human complexity, with Stephanie Bishop.  
**\$15**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**166 MADELEINE WATTS: THE INLAND SEA**  
**May 2, 4.30–5.30pm**  
**Seymour Centre, Sound Lounge**  
Madeleine Watts talks with Léa Antigny about *The Inland Sea*, Madeleine's unforgettable and acclaimed debut novel – an ethereal story of a world and a woman coming undone.  
**Free, no bookings**

## All-Day YA

In our eleventh hour, young people's voices are demanding to be heard. With sessions specially programmed by the Sydney Writers' Festival Youth Curators (supported by Creative Partnerships Australia), All-Day YA is an explosion of stories that explore love, grief, magic, family and the reality of being young.

Finding a new home at Carriageworks, our 2020 YA program returns on Saturday May 2. Don't miss a special evening event on Thursday April 30 with *New York Times* bestselling author Leigh Bardugo.

**Purchase a five-ticket pass for \$40 to see everything on Saturday. Single tickets for Saturday are \$10.**

Our YA program is supported by **UNSW Arts & Social Sciences**.

**YA2 QUEERLY BELOVED**  
**May 2, 10–11am**  
**Carriageworks, Track 12**  
Alice Oseman (*Heartstopper*), Sophie Gonzales (*Only Mostly Devastated*) and Anna Whateley (*Peta Lyre's Rating Normal*) share what it takes to write a nuanced queer love story, with Erin Gough.  
**\$10**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**YA3 WRITING ON A KNIFE'S EDGE**  
**May 2, 11.30am–12.30pm**  
**Carriageworks, Track 12**  
Leigh Bardugo (*King of Scars*), Sarah Epstein (*Deep Water*) and Astrid Scholte (*The Vanishing Deep*) share how and why they excel at tormenting both their characters and their readers, with ABC Radio's Rhianna Patrick.  
**\$10**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**YA4 I GUESS THIS IS GROWING UP**  
**May 2, 1.30–2.30pm**  
**Carriageworks, Track 12**  
Debut #LoveOzYA authors Alex Dyson, Lisa Fuller and Kay Kerr join UNSW's Rebecca Hamilton to discuss interrupted plans, resilient families, and the trials and tribulations of growing up when the worst thing that can happen to you ... happens.  
**\$10**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**YA5 DRAWN FROM LIFE: ALICE OSEMAN IN CONVERSATION**  
**May 2, 3–4pm**  
**Carriageworks, Track 12**  
First published when she was a teenager, UK author Alice Oseman (*Heartstopper* and *I Was Born For This*) has grown up alongside her readers. She speaks with Jes Layton about her heartfelt stories of fandom, friendship and love.  
**\$10**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**YA6 TEENCON 2020**  
**May 2, 4.30–6pm**  
**Carriageworks, Track 12**  
Get the inside scoop on the most exciting YA releases direct from the publishers at TeenCon 2020, hosted by Will Kostakis and Gabrielle Tozer. Enjoy book giveaways, impromptu competitions and interactive games.  
**\$10**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

## Festival Highlight

**YA1 AN EVENING WITH LEIGH BARDUGO**  
**Thursday April 30, 6–7pm,**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 20**  
Leigh Bardugo (*King of Scars* and *Ninth House*) joins Piéra Forde to discuss the Grishaverse, Leigh's upcoming Netflix series, and her extraordinary and indirect road to success. Supported by UNSW Arts & Social Sciences.  
**\$15**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**



YA1 An Evening with Leigh Bardugo

**167 ART IN CATASTROPHIC TIMES**  
**May 2, 4.30-5.30pm**  
**Seymour Centre, York Theatre**  
Author and Academy Award-winning co-writer of *Birdman* Nicolás Jacobone and one of America's most influential and beloved writers Siri Hustvedt consider the role and responsibilities of creators in times of crisis, speaking with Arts Editor at *The Australian* Ashleigh Wilson. Siri Hustvedt is supported by Rosie Williams and John Grill AO.  
**\$25/\$20**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**168 WHAT NEXT FOR HONG KONG?**  
**May 2, 6-7pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 17**  
Nobel Prize-nominated founder of the Umbrella Movement Joshua Wong (*Unfree Speech*) and *City on Fire* author Antony Dapiran consider the precarious future of Hong Kong with the *Financial Times*' South China correspondent Sue-Lin Wong. Supported by the University of Sydney.  
**\$35/\$25 [CC]**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**169 MIRANDA TAPSELL: TOP END GIRL**  
**May 2, 6-7pm**  
**Carriageworks, Track 8**  
Actor, activist and writer Miranda Tapsell sits down with ABC Radio National's Daniel Browning to discuss Miranda's rollicking and thought-provoking memoir *Top End Girl*, spanning Kakadu to Cannes. Supported by the University of Sydney.  
**\$20/\$15**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**170 TRUTH 2, LIES 1: CRABB AND SALES ON LYING ABOUT BOOKS**  
**May 2, 6.30-7.30pm**  
**City Recital Hall**  
Annabel Crabb hosts a bookish reworking of the game 'Two Truths and a Lie' with ABC's Leigh Sales, investigative journalist Kate McClymont, and writer and performer Chris Taylor. Supported by PlayfairTan.  
**\$45/\$35/\$30 [CC]**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**171 STORY CLUB**  
**May 2, 7-8pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 20**  
Story Club is a live storytelling show in which guests share their funniest stories, darkest moments and most shameful secrets. Hosts Ben Jenkins and Zoe Norton Lodge are joined by Clare Bowditch, Rick Morton and Ollie Wards. Supported by the University of Sydney.  
**\$20**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**173 THE ART OF THE TV FINALE**  
**May 2, 8-9pm**  
**Carriageworks, Track 8**  
Festival favourites pay homage to the best TV finales in history. With *Birdman* co-writer Nicolás Jacobone, critic Daniel Mendelsohn, pop culture writer Nichole Perkins, crime novelist Michael Robotham, writer and actor Nakkiah Lui and host Benjamin Law. Supported by the University of Sydney. Daniel Mendelsohn is supported by Rowena Danziger AM and Ken Coles AM.  
**\$20/\$15**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**175 QUEERSTORIES**  
**May 2, 9-10pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 20**  
An evening of surprising, heartwarming and wildly funny LGBTQI+ storytelling. Host Maeve Marsden welcomes guests Daniel Lavery (formerly Daniel Mallory Ortberg), Peter Polites, Claire G. Coleman, Ellen van Neerven and Krissy Kneen. Supported by the University of Sydney.  
**\$20 [CC]**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

SUNDAY MAY 3

**176 COFFEE AND HEADLINES WITH 7AM: JOSHUA YAFFA**  
**May 3, 9-9.45am**  
**Carriageworks, Curiosity Stage**  
Osman Faruqi, editor of Schwartz Media's *7am* podcast, discusses today's news with seven-time Walkley winner Kate McClymont; *The New Yorker's* Moscow correspondent Joshua Yaffa (*Between Two Fires*); and *The Saturday Paper's* national correspondent Mike Seccombe. Presented with *7am*.  
**Free, no bookings**



Festival Highlight

**172 ALMOST MIDNIGHT: AN EVENING OF STORYTELLING AND SONG**  
**Saturday May 2, 8-9pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 17**  
Festival favourites address this year's theme 'Almost Midnight' in an evening of story and song. Featuring Archie Roach, Yael Stone, Julian Burnside QC, Kawai Strong Washburn and Tara June Winch, with host Patrick Abboud. Supported by the University of Sydney.  
**\$35/\$25 [CC]** **Bookings 02 9256 4200 swf.org.au**

**CUR177 KAREN HITCHCOCK: ON GROWING YOUR OWN FOOD**  
**May 3, 10-10.40am**  
**Carriageworks, Curiosity Stage**  
SEE THE CURIOSITY LECTURES, PAGE 15

**178 RONNIE SCOTT: THE ADVERSARY**  
**May 3, 10-11am**  
**Carriageworks, Elston Room**  
Ronnie Scott discusses his keenly anticipated debut *The Adversary*, an exhilarating story about sexuality and the ache of friendship and love during a sticky Melbourne summer, with Peter Polites.  
**Free, no bookings**

**179 COLUM MCCANN: APEIROGON**  
**May 3, 10-11am**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 17**  
Irish writer Colum McCann and ABC Radio's Philip Clark discuss *Apeirogon*, Colum's epic novel about an unexpected friendship between two men - an Israeli and a Palestinian - divided by conflict but united in grief. Supported by Culture Ireland and the Consulate General of Ireland, Sydney.  
**\$35/\$25 [CC]**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**180 NICOLÁS GIACOBONE: THE CROSSED-OUT NOTEBOOK**  
**May 3, 10-11am**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 20**  
Academy Award-winning co-writer of *Birdman* Nicolás Jacobone meets ABC Radio National's Jason Di Rosso to discuss *The Crossed-Out Notebook*, Nicolás' darkly funny novel about the creative process that is full of intrigue and surprise.  
**\$25/\$20**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**181 CHARLOTTE WOOD: THE WEEKEND**  
**May 3, 10-11am**  
**Seymour Centre, Reginald Theatre**  
Charlotte Wood, author of the Stella Prize-winning *The Natural Way of Things*, joins Lucinda Holdforth to discuss Charlotte's new novel *The Weekend*, a masterful celebration of tenderness and friendship.  
**\$15**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**  
**182 FIRST ON THE GROUND**  
**May 3, 10-11am**  
**Seymour Centre, Sound Lounge**  
Leading Indigenous journalists look at the success stories and much-needed reform in promoting First Nations voices in the media. Featuring Rachael Hocking, Rae Johnston and Tanya Talaga, with Marlee Silva.  
**Free, no bookings**

**183 MCA ZINE FAIR 2020**  
**May 3, 10.30am-4.30pm**  
**Museum of Contemporary Art**  
Mark your calendar for the annual MCA Zine Fair, where you can swap, make and buy zines. Showcasing more than 100 zines, small press, prints and comics from across the country. Presented with the Museum of Contemporary Art.  
**Free, no bookings**

**CUR184 THOM VAN DOOREN AND MATTHEW KEARNES: ON EXTRATERRESTRIAL ETHICS**  
**May 3, 11.30am-12.10pm**  
**Carriageworks, Curiosity Stage**  
SEE THE CURIOSITY LECTURES, PAGE 15

**185 AN YU: BRAISED PORK**  
**May 3, 11.30am-12.30pm**  
**Carriageworks, Elston Room**  
Debut novelist An Yu and Fiona Lee discuss *Braised Pork*, An's folkloric work of domestic noir winding from the high-rises of modern Beijing to the high plains of Tibet.  
**Free, no bookings**

**186 IRAN: AT HOME AND ABROAD**  
**May 3, 11.30am-12.30pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 17**  
Iranian author Amir Ahmadi Arian, Iranian-born New Zealand politician Golriz Ghahraman and *The Atlantic* reporter Mike Giglio discuss the realities of life in Iran and for Iranians in the West, with *Guardian Australia's* Ben Doherty.  
**\$35/\$25 [CC]**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

Coffee & Headlines

Some things are worth getting up early for, especially when coffee and great conversation are involved. Join editors and journalists from *The Monthly*, *The Saturday Paper* and *7am*, and special Festival guests, at the Festival's first session of the day to catch up on the news making headlines.  
**Coffee and Headlines takes place at the Curiosity Stage at 9am on Friday May 1, Saturday May 2 and Sunday May 3.**  
**All talks are free, no bookings required.**  
Coffee and Headlines is proudly presented with *The Monthly*, *The Saturday Paper* and *7am*.

**67 COFFEE AND HEADLINES WITH THE MONTHLY: PETER POMERANTSEV**  
**May 1, 9-9.45am**  
**Carriageworks, Curiosity Stage**  
Editor of *The Monthly* Nick Feik unravels today's headlines with disinformation expert Peter Pomerantsev (*This is Not Propaganda*); award-winning writer Richard Cooke; and six-time Walkley winner Pamela Williams. Presented with *The Monthly*.

**122 COFFEE AND HEADLINES WITH THE SATURDAY PAPER: CAROL LEONNIG**  
**May 2, 9-9.45am**  
**Carriageworks, Curiosity Stage**  
Join editor of *The Saturday Paper* Maddison Connaughton to discuss the latest news with award-winning writer Bri Lee, senior reporter Rick Morton and *Washington Post* national investigative reporter Carol Leonnig (*A Very Stable Genius*). Presented with *The Saturday Paper*.

**176 COFFEE AND HEADLINES WITH 7AM: JOSHUA YAFFA**  
**May 3, 9-9.45am**  
**Carriageworks, Curiosity Stage**  
Osman Faruqi, editor of Schwartz Media's *7am* podcast, discusses today's news with seven-time Walkley winner Kate McClymont; *The New Yorker's* Moscow correspondent Joshua Yaffa (*Between Two Fires*); and *The Saturday Paper's* national correspondent Mike Seccombe. Presented with *7am*.








WAKE UP TO 7AM.

A daily news podcast from The Saturday Paper and The Monthly








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7am

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	CARRIAGEWORKS						SEYMOUR CENTRE				
	BAY 17	BAY 20	TRACK 8	TRACK 12	CURIOSITY STAGE	ELSTON ROOM	YORK THEATRE	EVEREST THEATRE	REGINALD THEATRE	SOUND LOUNGE	
9am											9am
9.30am											9.30am
10am	13 Remembering Clive James 	14 Johnny Pitts: Afropean	17 Julia Phillips: Disappearing Earth	16 Tom Keneally: The Dickens Boy	15 Journalism: A Voice for the Vulnerable	12 Richard Cooke: On Robyn Davidson		18 A Million Little Truths	19 Chris Hammer: Silver	20 The Limitless Self	10am
10.30am											10.30am
11am											11am
11.30am	24 Journey to the End of Speech 	25 Joshua Yaffa: Between Two Fires	27 Fighting Words: The Literature of Cancer	26 The Savage Detectives	22 Michelle de Kretser: On Shirley Hazzard	23 Petina Gappah: Out of Darkness, Shining Light	31 The Big Read	28 Sharks: An Australian Obsession	29 Antony Loewenstein: Pills, Powder, & Smoke	30 Tara June Winch: The Yield	11.30am
12pm											12pm
12.30pm											12.30pm
1pm											1pm
1.30pm	33 Australia's Leadership Problem 	34 Mike Giglio: Shatter the Nations	37 Kevin Wilson: Nothing to See Here	36 Jess Hill: See What You Made Me Do	35 Fire Front	32 Yumna Kassab: The House of Youssef	41 Kathy Lette Gets Candid	38 Secrecy, Surveillance & State Power	39 Elliot Perlman: Maybe the Horse Will Talk	40 Chris Fleming: On Drugs	1.30pm
2pm											2pm
2.30pm											2.30pm
3pm	43 Disinformation Spreads Like Wildfire 	44 Antony Dapiran: City on Fire	47 The Empire Writes Back	46 Secrets & Lies: Donor-Conceived Rights	45 A Prize of One's Own	42 The Poetry of Medicine	51 Bob Brown: Planet Earth	48 Sophie McNeill: We Can't Say We Didn't Know	49 Jeff Sparrow: Fascists Among Us	50 Cassandra Pybus: Truganini	3pm
3.30pm											3.30pm
4pm											4pm
4.30pm	53 Liberalism at Large 	54 Artistic Freedoms: Creativity & Incarceration	57 Griffith Review 68: Getting On	56 Christos Tsiolkas: Damascus	55 Critical Condition	52 The New Vanguard of Climate Fiction	61 Little Women Through the Ages	58 Paul Muldoon: Frolic & Detour	59 Claire G. Coleman: The Old Lie	60 Favel Parrett: There Was Still Love	4.30pm
5pm											5pm
5.30pm											5.30pm
6pm	62 A Very Stable Genius: Donald J. Trump's Testing of America 	YA1 An Evening with Leigh Bardugo	63 ABC Radio National Live: Stop Everything!								6pm
6.30pm											6.30pm
7pm											7pm
7.30pm											7.30pm
8pm	64 Insiders Live at Sydney Writers' Festival 		65 Astrology in Uncertain Times								8pm
8.30pm											8.30pm
9pm		66 Erotic Fan Fiction									9pm
9.30pm											9.30pm
10pm											10pm

## FRIDAY MAY 1

	CARRIAGEWORKS						SEYMOUR CENTRE					
	BAY 17	BAY 20	TRACK 8	TRACK 12	CURIOSITY STAGE	ELSTON ROOM	YORK THEATRE	EVEREST THEATRE	REGINALD THEATRE	SOUND LOUNGE		
9am					67 Coffee & Headlines with The Monthly: Peter Pomerantsev							9am
9.30am												9.30am
10am	70 Fair Game: Activism & Ethics in Sport 		72 Vicki Hastrich & Charlotte Wood: A Writer's Friendship	71 Creature Comforts	CUR68 Salah Sukkariyh: On the Rise of Robo-Crops	69 Liam Pieper: Sweetness & Light	76 Annabel Crabb, Samantha Maiden & David Marr: A Year in Review	73 Julia Baird: Phosphorescence	74 Data Insecurity	75 Heather Rose: Bruny	10am	
10.30am												10.30am
11am		77 ABC Radio Live: Conversations									11am	
11.30am	80 Pandemic 			82 Vicki Laveau-Harvie: The Erratics	81 Apocalypse Then	CUR78 Elizabeth Farrelly: On Congestion	79 Kawai Strong Washburn: Sharks in the Time of Saviours	86 Bob Hawke	83 Peter Pomerantsev: This is Not Propaganda	84 Amir Ahmadi Arian: Then the Fish Swallowed Him	85 Anna Krien: Act of Grace	11.30am
12pm												
12.30pm		87 ABC Radio National Live: The Bookshelf									12.30pm	
1pm											1pm	
1.30pm	90 Daniel Mendelsohn: The Bad Boy of Athens 		92 Golriz Ghahraman: Know Your Place	91 Hugh Mackay: The Inner Self	CUR88 Mike Giglio: On Istanbul	89 The Next Chapter: Writing Blak	96 How Democracy Can Survive Social Media	93 Anne Boyer: The Undying	94 Jesse Ball: The Divers' Game	95 Josephine Rowe: Here Until August	1.30pm	
2pm												
2.30pm											2.30pm	
3pm	99 Corruption in the Church 		101 Sydney PEN: Keeping Australians Quiet	100 Dani Shapiro: Inheritance	CUR97 Johnny Pitts: On Mediocrity	98 Left on Read	105 Insights from the American Campaign Trail	102 Susanna Moore: In the Cut	103 Rebecca Giggis: Fathoms	104 James Bradley: Ghost Species	3pm	
3.30pm												
4pm											4pm	
4.30pm	108 Simple Pleasures 		110 Droughts & Flooding Rains	109 Eimear McBride: Strange Hotel	CUR106 Amir Ahmadi Arian: On Stupidity	107 Animals Like Us	114 Understanding Extremism	111 Terror Australis	112 The Answers Are Not Important	113 Intan Paramaditha: The Wandering	4.30pm	
5pm												
5.30pm												5.30pm
6pm	116 Lisa Taddeo: Three Women 		117 Midnight's Children									6pm
6.30pm												
7pm												7pm
7.30pm												7.30pm
8pm	119 Clare Bowditch: Your Own Kind of Girl 		120 Anna Wiener: Uncanny Valley									8pm
8.30pm												
9pm			121 Gay For Page									9pm
9.30pm												9.30pm
10pm											10pm	



**187 FLOCKS AND FAKES**  
**May 3, 11.30am-12.30pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 20**  
Guest curator Rebecca Giggs explores the gamut of deceptions from love scammers to disinformation campaigns, with memoirist Stephanie Wood (*Fake*) and Soviet-born British journalist Peter Pomerantsev (*This is Not Propaganda*).  
**\$25/\$20**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**189 HOPE LESS**  
**May 3, 11.30am-12.30pm**  
**Seymour Centre, Reginald Theatre**  
Four Indigenous writers and thinkers consider what it means to be 'after midnight' in relation to colonisation, blak pessimism and reckoning with loss. Featuring Evelyn Araluen, Chelsea Bond and Leah Purcell, with guest curator Alison Whittaker.  
**\$15**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**190 RECKONING AND RETRIBUTION**  
**May 3, 11.30am-12.30pm**  
**Seymour Centre, Sound Lounge**  
Lucia Osborne-Crowley (*I Choose Elena*) and Ellena Savage (*Blueberries*) discuss their acclaimed work with Maeve Marsden, and interrogate what it means to make one's way through the world as a woman, negotiating structures of power and oppression.  
**Free, no bookings**

**CUR191 PETER POLITES: ON GAY PRIDE AND PREJUDICE**  
**May 3, 1.30-2.10pm**  
**Carriageworks, Curiosity Stage**  
SEE THE CURIOSITY LECTURES, PAGE 15

**192 REBEKAH ROBERTSON AND GEORGIE STONE: ABOUT A GIRL**  
**May 3, 1.30-2.30pm**  
**Carriageworks, Elston Room**  
*About a Girl* is Rebekah Robertson's extraordinary memoir of raising her transgender child, Georgie Stone of *Neighbours*. They appear together with Liz Duck-Chong to share their story.  
**Free, no bookings**

**193 LAW AND THE WORLD: ON THE EDGE**  
**May 3, 1.30-2.30pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 17**  
From environmental challenges to nationalism, what is the future of international law? Three of our brightest legal minds, Philippe Sands QC, Judith Levine and Julian Burnside QC, discuss climate change, genocide in Myanmar, colonialism in Chagos Islands, refugees, and the future of world trade and investment, with ABC Radio's Eleanor Hall.  
**\$35/\$25 [CC]**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**194 ANNA JONES: A MODERN COOK**  
**May 3, 1.30-2.30pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 20**  
The voice of modern vegetarian cuisine, award-winning cook Anna Jones (*The Modern Cook's Year*) discusses her life-friendly food, her books and making a positive impact on the planet with what we eat, with food writer Lee Tran Lam.  
**\$25/\$20**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**195 JEFF VANDERMEER: FUTURE SHOCKS**  
**May 3, 1.30-2.30pm**  
**Seymour Centre, Everest Theatre**  
A master renderer of planetary devastation, Jeff VanderMeer's work has been described as "a thorough marvel" by Colson Whitehead. The author of *Borne* and *Annihilation* discusses his new novel *Dead Astronauts* and why he remains such an optimist, with James Bradley.  
**\$25/\$20**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**196 THIRD CULTURE KIDS: IDENTITY IN A CROSS-CULTURAL WORLD**  
**May 3, 1.30-2.30pm**  
**Seymour Centre, Reginald Theatre**  
Tomasz Jedrowski (*Swimming in the Dark*) and Layla F. Saad (*Me And White Supremacy*) reflect on identity and belonging as a 'third culture kid', in conversation with Santilla Chingaipe.  
**\$15**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**197 SUSANNA MOORE: MISS ALUMINUM**  
**May 3, 1.30-2.30pm**  
**Seymour Centre, Sound Lounge**  
*In the Cut* novelist Susanna Moore joins Nicole Abadee to discuss Susanna's new memoir *Miss Aluminum*, a captivating portrait of 1970s Hollywood, her friendships with Jack Nicholson and Joan Didion, and Susanna's hard-won arrival at selfhood.  
**Free, no bookings**

**198 BEYOND IMAGINING: A HOLOCAUST JOURNAL**  
**May 3, 2.30-3.45pm**  
**Sydney Jewish Museum**  
*Beyond Imagining* is the journal of Hungarian Holocaust survivor Dr Andor Kämpfner, recently translated into English by Susan Kadar. Hear dramatic readings and memories shared by Andor's wife, Avril Symon.  
**\$20 | Bookings 02 9360 7999**  
**sydneyjewishmuseum.com.au**

**CUR199 COLUM MCCANN: ON BADMINTON**  
**May 3, 3-3.40pm**  
**Carriageworks, Curiosity Stage**  
SEE THE CURIOSITY LECTURES, PAGE 15

**200 TEXT ON THE BEACH**  
**May 3, 3-4pm**  
**Carriageworks, Elston Room**  
Ronnie Scott (*The Adversary*) and Madeleine Watts (*The Inland Sea*) speak to Rebecca Harkins-Cross about using summer as a backdrop for their new novels, and its place in literature at large.  
**Free, no bookings**

**201 THE FUTURE OF BLACK BRITAIN AND EUROPE**  
**May 3, 3-4pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 17**  
Explore the history, future and post-Brexit present of black Britain and Europe with celebrated British writers Bernadine Evaristo, Johnny Pitts, Bim Adewunmi and Nesrine Malik. Supported by the British Council. Bernadine Evaristo is supported by David Paradise.  
**\$35/\$25 [CC]**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**  
**202 IT'S TIME!**  
**May 3, 3-4pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 20**  
Leading teen activists and School Strike 4 Climate organisers Jean Hinchliffe, Daisy Jeffrey, Varsha Yajman and Sherice Jackson speak with Jack Manning Bancroft about how they are taking climate action into their own hands.  
**\$25/\$20**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**203 ALGORITHMIC TIME**  
**May 3, 3-4pm**  
**Seymour Centre, Everest Theatre**  
User-experience designer at Google Cliff Kuang and tech author Anna Wiener examine how technology and algorithms reshape our view of the world and our sense of linear time, with ABC's Ariel Bogle.  
**\$25/\$20**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**



**211 Malcolm Turnbull in Conversation with Annabel Crabb**

## Festival Highlight

**211 MALCOLM TURNBULL IN CONVERSATION WITH ANNABEL CRABB**  
**Monday May 4, 6.30-7.30pm**  
**Sydney Town Hall**

Malcolm Turnbull reflects upon the state of political reform and his new memoir, *A Bigger Picture*, a candid account of his time in politics and the action-packed career that preceded it, with Annabel Crabb.

**\$45/\$35/\$25 ~~£9~~**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org**

**204 PROS AND CONS: WHY SCAMMERS FASCINATE US**  
**May 3, 3-4pm**  
**Seymour Centre, Reginald Theatre**  
ABC's *Unravel True Crime: Snowball* podcaster Ollie Wards and journalist and author of *Fake* Stephanie Wood unpack the complicated truth about con artists and why they fascinate us, in conversation with Tom Tilley.  
**\$15**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**  
**205 SOPHIE HARDCASTLE: BELOW DECK**  
**May 3, 3-4pm**  
**Seymour Centre, Sound Lounge**  
Australia's newest literary sensation Sophie Hardcastle joins Georgie Dent to discuss *Below Deck*, Sophie's breakout novel that explores the vagaries of consent and asks who has the space to speak.  
**Free, no bookings**

**CUR206 TOMASZ JEDROWSKI: ON TROYE SIVAN**  
**May 3, 4.30-5.10pm**  
**Carriageworks, Curiosity Stage**  
SEE THE CURIOSITY LECTURES, PAGE 15

**207 THE JOURNEY OF THE ULURU STATEMENT**  
**May 3, 4.30-5.30pm**  
**Carriageworks, Elston Room**  
In 2017, the Uluru Statement from the Heart proposed a vision of voice, treaty and truth. Three years on, two key figures in the fight for Indigenous rights, Thomas Mayor (*Finding the Heart of the Nation*) and Teela Reid (*Griffith Review 67: Matters of Trust*), discuss where to from here.  
**Free, no bookings**

**208 PAUL KELLY: LOVE IS STRONG AS DEATH**  
**May 3, 4.30-5.30pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 17**  
Join singer, songwriter and national treasure Paul Kelly and musician Alice Keath for an afternoon of poetry and music from Paul's new anthology, *Love Is Strong as Death*. Presented by ARA.  
**\$35/\$25 [CC]**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**209 WOMEN AND THEIR BODIES**  
**May 3, 4.30-5.30pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 20**  
An all-star line-up of women come together for readings and performances about the body in all its complexities and intricacies. Featuring Siri Hustvedt, Gabrielle Jackson, Leslie Jamison, Gayle Kennedy, Rita Therese and Liz Duck-Chong, with host Jan Fran. Siri Hustvedt is supported by Rosie Williams and John Grill AO.  
**\$25/\$20**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**MONDAY MAY 4**  
**211 MALCOLM TURNBULL IN CONVERSATION WITH ANNABEL CRABB**  
**May 4, 6.30-7.30pm**  
**Sydney Town Hall**  
SEE HIGHLIGHT ON THIS PAGE



**210 Closing Night Address: Nell Zink**

## Festival Highlight

**210 CLOSING NIGHT ADDRESS: NELL ZINK**  
**Sunday May 3, 6-7pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 17**

One of today's sharpest novelists, Nell Zink delivers a stirring address on how writers can look to the tragedy and renewal of nature for inspiration as storytellers.

**\$35/\$25 [CC]**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

Find out what keeps some of the Festival's most brilliant minds burning the midnight oil. From Istanbul to outer space, Sydney's traffic problem to the modern coordinates of stupidity, it gets curiousest and curiousest at these lectures. Discover a world of gardening, robotics, queer icons, badminton and gay politics. Think everyone's out there living their best life? Think again. There's beauty in the mediocre.

All Curiosity Lectures take place at the Curiosity Stage on Friday May 1 and Sunday May 3.  
All talks are free, no bookings required.

**CUR68 SALAH SUKKARIEH:  
ON THE RISE OF ROBO-CROPS**  
May 1, 10-10.40am  
Carriageworks, Curiosity Stage  
Robotics and intelligent systems professor Salah Sukkariah delivers a timely talk on the promise of robotics in farming in the face of the climate crisis.

**CUR78 ELIZABETH FARRELLY:  
ON CONGESTION**  
May 1, 11.30am-12.10pm  
Carriageworks, Curiosity Stage  
Hear from award-winning columnist, author and former Sydney City councillor Elizabeth Farrelly (*Killing Sydney*) on why connected communities are the best antidote to Sydney's congestion.

**CUR88 MIKE GIGLIO:  
ON ISTANBUL**  
May 1, 1.30-2.10pm  
Carriageworks, Curiosity Stage  
Formerly an Istanbul-based war correspondent, *Shatter the Nations* author Mike Giglio reflects on what makes the Turkish metropolis so enchanting, why it has long inspired writers and how it has rebuffed autocracy.

Festival  
Highlight



**CUR106 AMIR AHMADI ARIAN:  
ON STUPIDITY**  
May 1, 4.30-5.10pm  
Carriageworks, Curiosity Stage  
Critically acclaimed Iranian author Amir Ahmadi Arian (*Then the Fish Swallowed Him*) delivers a stirring lecture on the history and modern coordinates of stupidity and its political consequences.

**CUR177 KAREN HITCHCOCK:  
ON GROWING YOUR OWN FOOD**  
May 3, 10-10.40am  
Carriageworks, Curiosity Stage  
Join physician and author of *The Medicine* Karen Hitchcock as she delivers an ode to the joy of gardening and growing your own food.

**CUR184 THOM VAN DOOREN  
AND MATTHEW KEARNES:  
ON EXTRATERRESTRIAL ETHICS**  
May 3, 11.30am-12.10pm  
Carriageworks, Curiosity Stage  
Prominent environmental thinkers Thom van Dooren and Matthew Kearnes explore the ethics of space tourism, off-Earth mining and settling other planets.

**CUR191 PETER POLITES:  
ON GAY PRIDE AND PREJUDICE**  
May 3, 1.30-2.10pm  
Carriageworks, Curiosity Stage  
Acclaimed author of *The Pillars* Peter Polites discusses how gay politics has embraced individual rather than collective rights, and the rise of gay conservatives who have aligned with right-wing politics.

**CUR199 COLUM MCCANN:  
ON BADMINTON**  
May 3, 3-3.40pm  
Carriageworks, Curiosity Stage  
Irish writer Colum McCann (*Apeirogon* and *Let the Great World Spin*) delivers a humorous talk on his history as a badminton player and his memories of the sport.

**CUR206 TOMASZ JEDROWSKI:  
ON TROYE SIVAN**  
May 3, 4.30-5.10pm  
Carriageworks, Curiosity Stage  
Join *Swimming in the Dark* novelist Tomasz Jedrowski as he waxes analytical about why Australia's globally chart-topping singer Troye Sivan is the queer icon the world needs right now.



CUR97  
Johny  
Pitts:  
On  
Mediocrity

Festival  
Highlight

**CUR97 JOHNY PITTS:  
ON MEDIOCRITY**  
May 1, 3-3.40pm  
Carriageworks, Curiosity Stage  
*Afropean* author Johny Pitts delivers a talk on the virtue of mediocrity in the face of pressure to live our 'best' and most productive lives in a society obsessed with self-help.



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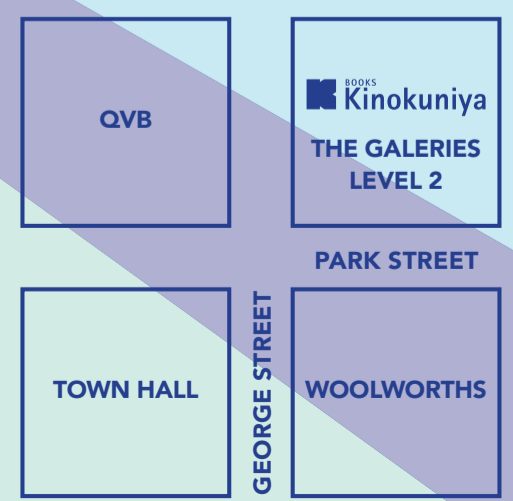
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Our Family Program kicks off on Saturday May 2 with one of the biggest names in children's literature – **Dav Pilkey!** Dav brings his Do Good Tour event to both Riverside Theatres and City Recital Hall.

On Sunday May 3, get lost in the magic of Family Day. Hosted by children's book authors Oliver Phommavanh and Nat Amooore. Laugh out loud, sing along, learn some facts and have fun at events sure to entertain kids of all ages.

Eisner Award-winning comics hero **Raina Telgemeier** inspires in an Australian exclusive event. UK's **Christopher Lloyd** flies through the history of the world and Ireland's **Catherine Doyle** weaves spellbinding tales of the high seas. The fun continues with musical favourites **Justine Clarke**, **Josh Pyke** and **Adam Briggs**, science legend **Professor Tim Flannery**, Real Pigeons detectives **Andrew McDonald** and **Ben Wood**, and many more.

The Big Backyard returns with free activities that will whisk kids away into a world of wonder. With giant colouring in to do, little workshops for little people, dress-ups, joke stations and more, it's storytime any time at The Big Backyard.

## CARRIAGEWORKS TRACK 8 & TRACK 12

**Sunday May 3, 10am-3pm**  
**All tickets are \$5, unless otherwise stated.**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

**CHI2 SINGALONG STORYTIME**  
**May 3, 10-10.45am**  
**Carriageworks, Track 12**  
Join performers and authors Justine Clarke and Josh Pyke in a musical storytime session featuring their wonderfully silly picture book *A Banana is a Banana*. Rec. 3+

**CHI3 PRANKS, PARKS AND PEEKING DUCKS**  
**May 3, 10-10.45am**  
**Carriageworks, Track 8**  
Matt Stanton gives the inside scoop on Max Walburt, hero of his bestselling Funny Kid series, and shares his best tips for creating hilarious stories and illustrations. Rec. 7+

**CHI5 STORY CLUB JUNIOR: IT WAS A DARK AND STORMY NIGHT...**  
**May 3, 11.15am-12pm**  
**Carriageworks, Track 12**  
Story Club hosts Zoe Norton Lodge and Ben Jenkins are joined by three incredible children's authors for a special 'junior' version of their much-loved live storytelling show. Rec. 8+

**CHI6 OUR HOME, OUR HEARTBEAT**  
**May 3, 11.15am-12pm**  
**Carriageworks, Track 8**  
Yorta Yorta writer, rapper and actor Adam Briggs introduces you to his debut picture book, *Our Home, Our Heartbeat*, featuring Indigenous legends from Adam Goodes to Thelma Plum. Rec. 3+

**CHI7 THE REAL PIGEONS LIVE MYSTERY HOUR**  
**May 3, 1-1.45pm**  
**Carriageworks, Track 12**  
Celebrate the release of *Real Pigeons Peck Punches* in a hilarious storytelling event, and help Andrew McDonald and Ben Wood, the minds behind the pigeons, solve a mystery! Rec. 6+

**CHI8 A HISTORY OF EVERYTHING IN 15 OBJECTS**  
**May 3, 1-1.45pm**  
**Carriageworks, Track 8**  
SEE HIGHLIGHT ON THIS PAGE

**CHI9 TAKE HEART, TAKE ACTION**  
**May 3, 2.15-3pm**  
**Carriageworks, Track 12**  
From saving water and composting to being kind and having hope, Beci Orpin, author of *Take Heart, Take Action*, shares daily tips for making the world a better place. Rec. 4+

**CHI10 OF MYTHS AND MAGIC**  
**May 3, 2.15-3pm**  
**Carriageworks, Track 8**  
Discover the spellbinding realm of Ireland's myths and legends with Irish author Catherine Doyle, and be whisked away to a world of adventure, bravery and the high seas. Rec. 8+  
Supported by Culture Ireland and the Consulate General of Ireland, Sydney.

## SEYMOUR CENTRE



## CHI4 Raina Telgemeier

## Festival Highlight

**CHI4 RAINA TELGEMEIER: ALL GUTS, ALL GLORY**  
**May 3, 10-11am**  
**Seymour Centre, Everest Theatre**  
Facing your fears can be scary, so let award-winning graphic novelist Raina Telgemeier give you a hand! Raina's bestselling comics (*Guts* and *Smile*) are all about growing up, fitting in and building courage. Hosted by Mick Elliot. Rec. 8+  
**\$15**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**



SATURDAY MAY 2 & SUNDAY MAY 3



## CHI1 Dav Pilkey

## Festival Highlight

**CHI1 DAV PILKEY: THE DO GOOD TOUR**  
Dav Pilkey, the world-famous creator of Dog Man and Captain Underpants, brings his global Do Good Tour to Sydney Writers' Festival. See Dav draw his beloved characters live, hear his inspiring life story, enjoy a special performance from *Dog Man: The Musical*, and get a photograph with Dav and his canine superhero. Don't miss this fun, interactive, activity-filled event on changing the world one good deed at a time. Hosted by Oliver Phommavanh. Rec. 7+  
Presented by ARA.

## RIVERSIDE THEATRES

**Saturday May 2, 10.30-11.30am**  
**\$20**  
**Bookings 02 8839 3399**  
**riversideparramatta.com.au**  
Supported by the City of Parramatta.

## CITY RECITAL HALL

**Saturday May 2, 3.30-4.30pm**  
**\$20**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200**  
**swf.org.au**

**CHI11 THE WEIRD, WILD AND AMAZING WORLD WITH TIM FLANNERY**  
**May 3, 3.30-4.15pm**  
**Carriageworks, Track 12**  
Are zombie jellyfish real? Do frogs like opera? Find out as you dive into the natural world with one of the world's greatest scientists, Professor Tim Flannery. Rec. 6+

**CHI12 ILLUSTRATOR BATTLE ROUNDS**  
**May 3, 3.30-4.15pm**  
**Carriageworks, Track 8**  
The ultimate live drawing battle is back! Top children's book illustrators take pencils to paper as they push each other to their drawing limits. Rec. 5+



**CHI8 A HISTORY OF EVERYTHING IN 15 OBJECTS**  
**May 3, 1-1.45pm**  
**Carriageworks, Track 8**  
Join award-winning scientist and educator Christopher Lloyd for a rollicking ride through 13.8 billion years of history, using everyday objects you pick out from his magician's coat pockets. Rec. 7+  
**\$5**  
**Bookings 02 9256 4200, swf.org.au**

## CARRIAGEWORKS THE BIG BACKYARD BAY 25

**Sunday May 3, 10am-4pm**  
**All events are free, no bookings required. Drop in at any time.**

**BBY1 THE ILLUSTRATION SPACE**  
**May 3, 10am-4pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 25**  
Prepare to be inspired and delighted as five of Australia's most talented picture book artists take turns creating an illustration live on The Big Backyard stage. Rec. 4+

**BBY2 STORYTIME CLUBHOUSE**  
**May 3, 10am-4pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 25**  
Settle in to hear your favourite children's authors and illustrators read their stories in the Festival Clubhouse. With a different storyteller dropping by every half-hour, you never know who you might meet. Rec. 3+

**BBY3 BLUEY'S BIG BOOK ADVENTURE!**  
**May 3, 10am-4pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 25**  
Make your own Bluey book in this fun, creative space inspired by the hit ABC Kids show. Let your imagination soar with blank Bluey books, drawing materials and props. Rec. 4+

**BBY4 THE GIANT SWASHBUCKLING COLOURING IN!**  
**May 3, 10am-4pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 25**  
Batten down the hatches and get colouring in with this giant pirate ship drawn by *Atticus Van Tasticus* illustrator Stephen Michael King. All ages.

**BBY5 RUSS THE STORY BUS**  
**May 3, 10am-4pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 25**  
Hop aboard our magical library-on-wheels, Russ the Story Bus. Choose from the hundreds of available books and settle down on a beanbag to read. All ages.

**BBY6 RAINBOW STORYTIME**  
**May 3, 10am-4pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 25**  
Dress up, strike a pose and settle in for storytime with exciting performers from Sydney's LGBTQI+ community, including Betty Grumble and Sarah Moany. Rec. 3+  
Supported by The Aurora Group.

**BBY7 THE FUNNY KID JOKE STATION**  
**May 3, 10am-4pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 25**  
Head over to the Funny Kid Joke Station and learn how to write entertaining and side-splitting jokes with tips from Funny Kid author Matt Stanton. You could even win a prize! Rec. 6+

**BBY8 BADGE MAKING WITH CHERYL ORSINI**  
**May 3, 10am-4pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 25**  
Create a magical memento of your time at Family Day with Cheryl Orsini, the much-loved author and illustrator of picture books such as *The Magic Bookshop* and *Caravan Fran*. Rec. 4+

**BBY9 LITTLE WORKSHOPS FOR LITTLE PEOPLE**  
**May 3, 10am-4pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 25**  
Pop into our Workshop Corner and take part in mini craft workshops led by some of your favourite authors and illustrators. Rec. 4+

**BBY10 SQUIDGE'S SPEEDY PORTRAITS**  
**May 3, 12-4pm**  
**Carriageworks, Bay 25**  
Get drawn as a cartoon in just 60 seconds by writer and illustrator, Mick Elliott (*Squidge Dibley Destroys the School*). But be warned! Your cartoon portrait might be a work of art or a work of ... fart! Rec. 4+

Our talented line-up of award-winning Australian and international writers share their pragmatic tips on writing and secrets to success. Whether you want to learn how to take your ideas from the page to the screen, craft your biggest ever plot twist or overcome writerly self-doubt, we have a workshop for you. Finish that book. Get published. Become the writer you always wanted to be.

Places are limited to 16 participants. **Workshops run from Tuesday April 28 to Saturday May 2. All workshops are at Green Square Library.**

**Bookings via 02 9256 4200 or swf.org.au.**

Sydney Writers' Festival is sponsoring one place per workshop for writers who may not otherwise be able to participate. See our website to apply for one of the 20 positions open across the 2020 Festival. Applications close April 9 2020. Those selected will be notified by email from April 14 2020.

**W1 MATT OKINE: TYPING FOR TV**  
**April 28, 10am-1pm**  
**Green Square Library**  
Join Matt Okine – comedian, actor, showrunner and co-writer of *The Other Guy*, and author of *Being Black 'n Chicken, and Chips* – for a pragmatic workshop on writing for TV, from conception to editing.  
**\$100/\$80**

**W2 MELINA MARCHETTA: THE WRITER'S TOOLBOX**  
**April 28, 10am-1pm**  
**Green Square Library**  
In this workshop with highly acclaimed author Melina Marchetta (*The Place on Dalhousie* and *Looking for Alibrandi*), experiment with voice and word choice to enhance themes and tone in your writing.  
**\$100/\$80**

**W3 RICHARD COOKE: CREATING NON-FICTION UNDER PRESSURE**  
**April 28, 10am-5pm**  
**Green Square Library**  
Non-fiction writers face increasing pressure, and limited time, money and assistance. Award-winning author and journalist Richard Cooke (*On Robyn Davidson* and *Tired of Winning*) shows you how to make every moment count.  
**\$185/\$160**

**W4 RONNIE SCOTT: GETTING A GRIP ON YOUR MANUSCRIPT**  
**April 28, 2-5pm**  
**Green Square Library**  
In this workshop with Ronnie Scott, author of *The Adversary*, learn weird but effective strategies to break writer's block, restructure projects, change your routine and broaden your creative methods.  
**\$100/\$80**

**W5 MEG MUNDELL: MOMENTUM FOR NOVELISTS**  
**April 29, 10am-1pm**  
**Green Square Library**  
Join author Meg Mundell (*The Trespassers* and *Black Glass*) for a workshop on sustaining momentum in your novel – for your readers and yourself.  
**\$100/\$80**

**W6 JOHNY PITTS: MAKING THE WRITTEN VISUAL, AND THE VISUAL NARRATIVE**  
**April 29, 10am-5pm**  
**Green Square Library**  
Join international author Johny Pitts (*Afropean*) to examine how writer and photographer collaborations synergise the written and the visual, then walk Sydney's streets to find your own unique voice.  
**\$185/\$160**

**W7 HEATHER ROSE: HARNESSING THE POWER OF IMAGINATION**  
**April 29, 10am-5pm**  
**Green Square Library**  
Harness the extraordinary gifts of your imagination with award-winning author Heather Rose (*Bruny* and *The Museum of Modern Love*) and learn to be more adventurous and disciplined in your writing practice.  
**\$185/\$160**

**W8 DANIEL MALLORY ORTBERG: HOLDING SOMETHING BACK**  
**April 29, 2-5pm**  
**Green Square Library**  
Join international author of *Something That May Shock and Discredit You* and *Texts from Jane Eyre* Daniel Lavery (formerly Daniel Mallory Ortberg) for a workshop on writing memoir that blends cultural criticism, personal narrative and humour.  
**\$100/\$80**

**W9 OSMAN FARUQI: WHEN THE WRITER BECOMES THE STORY**  
**April 30, 10am-1pm**  
**Green Square Library**  
Join journalist, writer and editor Osman Faruqi (editor of the *7am* podcast) for a workshop on how to integrate personal narrative with non-fiction writing and journalism.  
**\$100/\$80**

**W10 JEFF SPARROW: HOW TO WRITE OPINION**  
**April 30, 10am-1pm**  
**Green Square Library**  
How do you write an op-ed that others want to read? Join *Guardian Australia* columnist Jeff Sparrow to discuss the craft and business of opinion writing.  
**\$100/\$80**



W16 Paul Muldoon: The End of the Line

Festival Highlight

**W16 PAUL MULDOON: THE END OF THE LINE**  
**Friday May 1, 2-5pm**  
**Green Square Library**

When should a line of verse come to an end? It's a concept central to making any kind of verse, yet it remains a mystery – sometimes a source of terror – to even seasoned poets. Join Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Paul Muldoon (*Frolic and Detour* and *Moy Sand and Gravel*) for a half-day workshop on conquering line endings.  
**\$100/\$80**

**W11 ANNA KRIEN: THE FUNDAMENTALS OF LONG-FORM JOURNALISM**  
**April 30, 10am-5pm**  
**Green Square Library**  
Join award-winning non-fiction writer Anna Krien (*Act of Grace* and *Night Games*) to learn the essentials of long-form journalism and explore its many guises, such as reportage, profile writing and memoir.  
**\$185/\$160**

**W12 JOSEPHINE ROWE: COMING UNSTUCK**  
**April 30, 2-5pm**  
**Green Square Library**  
Consider what makes a story spark with internationally acclaimed author Josephine Rowe (*Here Until August* and *A Loving, Faithful Animal*). This workshop provides practical tips on how to focus and go deeper in your creative practice.  
**\$100/\$80**

**W13 J.P. POMARE: HOW TO WRITE A BOOK READERS WON'T PUT DOWN**  
**May 1, 10am-1pm**  
**Green Square Library**  
Join bestselling author J.P. Pomare (*In the Clearing* and *Call Me Evie*) for a workshop on how to write and edit a suspenseful crime novel that will keep readers turning the pages.  
**\$100/\$80**

**W14 NICOLA REDHOUSE: TAKING YOUR MEMOIR BEYOND PLOT**  
**May 1, 10am-1pm**  
**Green Square Library**  
Join author Nicola Redhouse (*Unlike the Heart: A Memoir of Brain and Mind*) and learn techniques that will elevate your narrative beyond the surface details into something that moves readers.  
**\$100/\$80**

**W15 TOMASZ JEDROWSKI: WRITING WITHOUT FEAR**  
**May 1, 2-5pm**  
**Green Square Library**  
Join international author Tomasz Jedrowski (*Swimming in the Dark*) for a workshop that will help you acquire useful techniques and confidence on the journey to becoming a writer.  
**\$100/\$80**

**W16 PAUL MULDOON: THE END OF THE LINE**  
**May 1, 2-5pm**  
**Green Square Library**  
SEE HIGHLIGHT ON THIS PAGE

**W17 COLUM MCCANN: NARRATIVE 4**  
**May 2, 10am-1pm**  
**Green Square Library**  
Join award-winning international author Colum McCann (*Apeirogon* and *Let the Great World Spin*) to experience the power of story exchange in this narrative workshop. Colum provides practical exercises to help participants develop their stories.  
**\$100/\$80**

**W18 ELLENA SAVAGE: WRITING ARTFUL ESSAYS**  
**May 2, 10am-5pm**  
**Green Square Library**  
Join author Ellena Savage (*Blueberries*) for a workshop on writing elegant essays. Harness the infinite possibilities the form offers and embark on some artful essaying of your own.  
**\$185/\$160**

**W19 OLLIE WARDS: THE ART OF AUDIO STORYTELLING**  
**May 2, 2-5pm**  
**Green Square Library**  
Learn to listen for good writing and tune your writing for speaking in this workshop led by podcaster and radio coach Ollie Wards (ABC's *Unravel True Crime: Snowball*).  
**\$100/\$80**

Liane Moriarty

MACQUARIE GRADUATE  
AND *BIG LITTLE LIES* AUTHOR

Studying our Master of Creative Writing put Liane on track to top the *New York Times* bestseller list – three times.

*Big Little Lies* is a hit series on HBO, where it has won multiple Emmy and Golden Globe awards. Screen adaptations of two other books – *The Husband's Secret* and *Truly Madly Guilty* – are currently underway.

WHERE WILL MACQUARIE TAKE YOU?  
[mq.edu.au/creative-writing](http://mq.edu.au/creative-writing)



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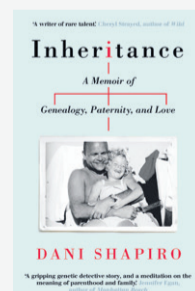
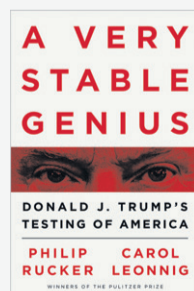
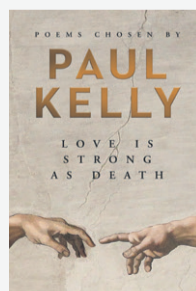
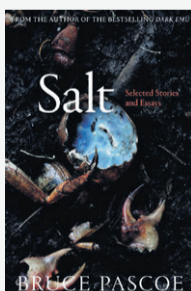
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The Festival takes over Sydney and beyond with events from Hornsby to Wollongong, Penrith to Sutherland. Don't miss sessions with world-renowned writers in your neighbourhood.

ASHFIELD

**SR1 VIRGINIA TRIOLI: GENERATION F**  
**May 1, 7-8pm**  
**Ashfield Town Hall**  
Broadcaster and journalist Virginia Trioli joins Bri Lee to discuss the updated edition of *Generation F*, Virginia's celebrated – and unnervingly relevant – response to Helen Garner's polarising *The First Stone*.  
**Free, bookings essential**  
**02 9392 5588, eventbrite.com.au**

AUBURN

**SR2 2020: ON THE HUMAN EXPERIMENT**  
**April 28, 7-8.30pm**  
**Auburn Centre for Community**  
Auburn Poets and Writers Group presents portraits of humanity, from our origins to our future on this increasingly precarious home – Earth. The performance includes verse, story, sketch and song.  
**Free, bookings essential**  
**cumberland.nsw.gov.au/arts**

BANKSTOWN

**SR3 BANKSTOWN POETRY SLAM**  
**April 28, 6.45-9pm**  
**Bankstown Arts Centre**  
Bankstown Poetry Slam hosts its monthly slam at the Bankstown Arts Centre. Don't miss out on Australia's best spoken-word poetry night, in the heart of Western Sydney.  
**\$5 for adults, gold-coin donation for 16 and under. Pay at entry, no bookings required.**

BLACKTOWN

**SR4 ELLIOT PERLMAN: MAYBE THE HORSE WILL TALK**  
**April 30, 6-7pm**  
**Max Webber Library**  
Join Elliot Perlman in conversation about his darkly comic corporate satire *Maybe the Horse Will Talk*, the long-awaited follow-up to his Miles Franklin Award-nominated bestseller, *The Street Sweeper*.  
**Free, bookings essential**  
**02 9839 6620, eventbrite.com.au**

CAMPBELLTOWN

**SR5 PETER FOX: WALKING TOWARDS THUNDER**  
**April 30, 6-7pm**  
**HJ Daley Library**  
Former detective chief inspector Peter Fox discusses his memoir *Walking Towards Thunder*, which details his work exposing child sexual abuse in the Catholic Church and the cost of speaking out.  
**Free, bookings essential 02 4645 4444**  
**campbelltown.nsw.gov.au/library**

PARRAMATTA

**SR18 WORDS/SOUNDS BLOCK PARTY**  
**April 30, 6.30-8.30pm**  
**Parramatta Artists' Studios**  
Five writers. Five electronica artists. Five different spaces. Be transported by the power of storytelling in all its forms, moving through the alleyways, galleries and garages of Parramatta Artists' Studios. Supported by the City of Parramatta.  
**Free, bookings essential**  
**eventbrite.com.au**

CAMPERDOWN

**SR6 NESRINE MALIK IN CONVERSATION WITH TIM SOUTPHOMMASANE**  
**April 30, 6.30-7.30pm**  
**Charles Perkins Centre**  
**University of Sydney**  
Two incisive minds, *The Guardian UK's* Nesrine Malik and former race discrimination commissioner Professor Tim Soutphommasane, pick apart fact from fiction in this bracing Sydney Ideas event.  
Presented by Sydney Ideas.  
**Free, no bookings**

CASTLE HILL

**SR7 TIM COSTELLO: A LOT WITH A LITTLE**  
**April 30, 6.30-7.30pm**  
**Castle Hill Library**  
Join Reverend Tim Costello, one of Australia's most respected social justice activists, as he discusses his long-awaited memoir, *A Lot with a Little*.  
**\$10 | Bookings**  
**thehills.nsw.gov.au/library**

CASULA

**SR8 GRITTY SYDNEY WITH TANYA BRETHERTON**  
**May 2, 2-3pm**  
**Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre**  
Enter the gritty world of Sydney at the turn of the 20th century. Explore hidden true crime tales with author Tanya Bretherton in conversation with writer and broadcaster Bianca Nogrady.  
Presented with Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre.  
**\$20 | Bookings 02 8711 7123**  
**casulapowerhouse.com/whats-on**

CHATSWOOD

**SR9 HEATHER ROSE: BRUNY**  
**April 30, 12.30-1.30pm**  
**Chatswood Library on The Concourse**  
Join Stella Prize-winning author Heather Rose in conversation with Lex Hirst about *Bruny*, Heather's subversive political thriller, family saga and love letter to Tasmania.  
Supported by Willoughby City Council.  
**Free, bookings essential 02 9777 7900**  
**willoughby.nsw.gov.au/library**

**SR10 TIM FLANNERY: LIFE**  
**May 1, 6.30-7.30pm**  
**Chatswood Library on The Concourse**  
Leading environmental scientist Tim Flannery discusses *Life*, his anthology of essays, speeches and musings covering everything from palaeontology to climate change, in conversation with Scott Whitmont.  
Supported by Willoughby City Council.  
**Free, bookings essential 02 9777 7900**  
**willoughby.nsw.gov.au/library**

**SR11 SHAUN MICALLEF: MAD AS HELL AND BACK**  
**May 6, 6.30-7.30pm**  
**The Concourse Concert Hall**  
SEE HIGHLIGHT ON THIS PAGE



SR11 Shaun Micallef: Mad as Hell and Back

Festival Highlight

**SR11 SHAUN MICALLEF: MAD AS HELL AND BACK**  
**Wednesday May 6, 6.30-7.30pm**  
**The Concourse Concert Hall**  
Comedian, writer and bon vivant Shaun Micallef sits down with Chris Taylor to chat about comedy, satire and the best loved sketches of his TV career.  
Supported by Willoughby City Council.  
**\$30/\$20**  
**Bookings 02 8075 8111, theconcourse.com.au**

CONCORD

**SR12 TONY BIRCH: THE WHITE GIRL**  
**May 1, 6.30-7.30pm**  
**Concord Library**  
Miles Franklin Award-shortlisted author Tony Birch discusses *The White Girl*, his novel exploring the Stolen Generations against the backdrop of a 1960s country town.  
**Free, bookings essential 02 9911 6210**  
**canadabay.nsw.gov.au/whats-on**

GORDON

**SR13 SOPHIE HARDCASTLE: BELOW DECK**  
**April 30, 6.30-7.30pm**  
**Ku-ring-gai Library**  
Join Australia's newest literary sensation Sophie Hardcastle in conversation about *Below Deck*, her breakout novel that explores the vagaries of consent and asks who has the space to speak.  
**Free, bookings essential 02 9424 0120**  
**kmc.nsw.gov.au**

HORNSBY

**SR14 ANNA KRIEN: ACT OF GRACE**  
**May 1, 6.30-7.30pm**  
**Hornsby Central Library**  
Join Anna Krien, one of Australia's most lauded journalists and non-fiction writers, in conversation about her propulsive debut novel *Act of Grace*, which tackles the aftermath of the Iraq War.  
**Free, bookings essential 02 9847 6614**  
**hornsby.nsw.gov.au/library**

HURSTVILLE

**SR15 TARA JUNE WINCH: THE YIELD**  
**May 1, 7-8pm**  
**Hurstville Library and Service Centre**  
Join award-winning Wiradjuri author Tara June Winch in conversation about her mesmerising second novel *The Yield*, a powerful reclamation of Indigenous language, storytelling and identity.  
**Free, bookings essential 02 9330 6111**  
**georgesriverlibraries.eventbrite.com**

KOGARAH

**SR16 KATHY LETTE: HRT: HUSBAND REPLACEMENT THERAPY**  
**April 30, 7-8pm**  
**Kogarah Library and Cultural Centre**  
Join Kathy Lette, the always entertaining *Puberty Blues* novelist, in conversation about her storied life, prolific career and renown as a trailblazer for popular feminist fiction.  
**Free, bookings essential 02 9330 9527**  
**georgesriverlibraries.eventbrite.com**

ORAN PARK

**SR17 CHRIS HAMMER: SILVER**  
**April 30, 6.30-7.30pm**  
**Oran Park Library**  
Bestselling *Scrublands* author Chris Hammer has been called "a leader in Australian noir" by renowned crime writer Michael Connelly. Chris talks with Linda Funnell about his newest novel, *Silver*.  
**Free, bookings essential**  
**library.camden.nsw.gov.au/bookings**

PENRITH

**SR22 J.P. POMARE: IN THE CLEARING**  
**April 30, 7-8pm**  
**Penrith City Library**  
Hear J.P. Pomare discuss his chilling depiction of life in a cult in his latest psychological thriller *In the Clearing*. In conversation with author Tim Ayliffe.  
**\$5 | Bookings 02 4732 7891**  
**eventbrite.com.au**

RANDWICK

**SR23 HUGH MACKAY: THE INNER SELF**  
**May 1, 6.30-7.30pm**  
**Margaret Martin Library**  
Drawing on a lifetime of social research, *The Inner Self* author Hugh Mackay discusses the freedom that can be gained by encountering our authentic selves.  
**Free, bookings essential 02 9093 6400**  
**randwick.nsw.gov.au/library**

RYDE

**SR24 NIKI SAVVA: PLOTS AND PRAYERS**  
**May 1, 6.30-7.30pm**  
**Ryde Library**  
Niki Savva talks with ABC's Laura Tingle about *Plots and Prayers*, Niki's gripping account of the bungled coup that overthrew former prime minister Malcolm Turnbull, and its surprise victor Scott Morrison.  
**Free, bookings essential 02 9952 8352**  
**ryde.nsw.gov.au/Library**

SUTHERLAND

**SR25 NICOLA REDHOUSE: UNLIKE THE HEART**  
**April 30, 6.30-7.30pm**  
**Sutherland Library**  
Nicola Redhouse discusses *Unlike the Heart: A Memoir of Brain and Mind*, her powerful and groundbreaking account of her struggle with postnatal anxiety, and her rigorous analysis of the human mind across the domains of philosophy, science and literature.  
**Free, bookings essential 02 9710 0351**  
**sutherlandshire.nsw.gov.au**

WENTWORTH POINT

**SR26 MIRANDI RIWOE: STONE SKY GOLD MOUNTAIN**  
**April 30, 6.30-7.30pm**  
**Wentworth Point Community Centre and Library**  
Mirandi Riwoe discusses her new novel, *Stone Sky Gold Mountain*. Set in Far North Queensland during the gold rush era, this poignant story explores questions of exile, belonging and identity.  
Supported by the City of Parramatta.  
**Free, bookings essential**  
**cityofparramatta.nsw.gov.au**

WINDSOR

**SR27 MATT OKINE: BEING BLACK 'N CHICKEN, AND CHIPS**  
**April 30, 7.15-8.15pm**  
**Hawkesbury Central Library**  
Matt Okine, actor, presenter, writer and one of Australia's favourite comedians, discusses his humorous and heartfelt debut novel *Being Black 'n Chicken, and Chips* – soon to be a major feature film.  
**\$5 | Bookings 02 4560 4460**  
**hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/library**

WOLLONGONG

**SR28 NGANA BARANGARAI DREAMING INSIDE #8**  
**April 30, 6-8.30pm**  
**Wollongong Art Gallery**  
Join us at the launch of *Dreaming Inside* (Volume 8). Hear readings from this year's anthology of poetry, prose and lyrics collected from First Nations inmates at Junee Correctional Centre.  
**No bookings required. Entry is a gold-coin donation upon arrival, with 100% of funds raised going towards future Ngana Barangarai (Black Wallaby) projects.**



SR20 Fighting for Hakeem

Festival Highlight

**SR20 FIGHTING FOR HAKEEM**  
**Saturday May 2, 6.30-7.30pm**  
**Riverside Theatres**  
*Fighting for Hakeem* details former Socceroos captain Craig Foster's campaign to free young footballer and Bahraini refugee Hakeem al-Araibi, who was detained in a Thai prison for 76 days. Hakeem and Craig will be in conversation with ABC's Tracey Holmes.  
Supported by the City of Parramatta.  
**\$20**  
**Bookings 02 8839 3399 riversideparramatta.com.au**

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See [swf.org.au](http://swf.org.au) for participant biographies.

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## HOW TO BOOK

Tickets for events at Carriageworks, Seymour Centre, City Recital Hall, Sydney Town Hall and Green Square Library can be purchased directly through the Sydney Writers' Festival.

For all other tickets, please refer to the individual event listings in this guide for booking information.

Transaction fees apply for all bookings, unless otherwise stated.

**ONLINE** – [swf.org.au](https://swf.org.au)

**PHONE** – (02) 9256 4200  
Monday–Friday: 9am–5pm  
Select weekends: 10am–4pm  
(March 14 & 15; April 25 & 26; May 2 & 3)  
Closed on the Easter long weekend.

**IN PERSON**  
**Carriageworks Box Office**  
Tuesday April 28–Sunday May 3:  
9am until the last event of the day starts.

**Seymour Centre Box Office**  
Thursday April 30–Sunday May 3:  
9am–4:30pm

**CONCESSIONS – Proof required**  
Proof of concession must be shown at events to obtain concession prices. Concession prices are available for children under the age of 16, full-time students, Australian Health Care Card holders and Centrelink pension card holders.

## ACCESS AND INCLUSION

**ACCESSIBLE SEATS**  
All Festival venues are accessible, including wheelchair and level access.

To book accessible seats (including Auslan-interpreted and closed-captioned bookings) for events at Carriageworks, Seymour Centre, Green Square Library and Sydney Town Hall, please contact the Sydney Writers' Festival box office on 02 9256 4200 or email at [ticketing@swf.org.au](mailto:ticketing@swf.org.au).

To book accessible seats for events at City Recital Hall, please contact the City Recital Hall box office on 02 8256 2222 or in person at 2 Angel Place, Sydney.

For all other events, please refer to the individual event listings for booking details.

**NATIONAL RELAY SERVICE**  
Sydney Writers' Festival is happy to receive phone calls via the National Relay Service. TTY users can phone 133 677, then ask for 02 9256 4200. Speak and Listen users can phone 1300 555 727, then ask for 02 9256 4200. Internet relay users can visit [relayservice.gov.au](https://relayservice.gov.au), then ask for 02 9256 4200.

**ACCESSIBLE PARKING**  
Accessible parking is available at Carriageworks and the Seymour Centre. Please call 02 8571 9099 for Carriageworks parking information.

Accessible parking is located on Maze Crescent within the University of Sydney, a short distance to the Seymour Centre.

For more details on the Festival's accessibility and inclusion practices, visit [swf.org.au/access](https://swf.org.au/access).

More information about all our Festival venues can be found at [swf.org.au](https://swf.org.au).

**TICKET COLLECTION – From first event**  
If you purchased your ticket/s directly from Sydney Writers' Festival and selected 'Collect All – From First Event', all your tickets will be bundled together. They will be ready for collection in one lot from the venue box office closest to your first paid event. Please collect all tickets from your first venue.

**E-TICKETS – Print or show on mobile**  
If you selected e-ticket/s when you made your purchase, please retrieve the email and have the barcode on the e-ticket ready before you queue for entry into your venue. You can either bring a physical printout of your e-ticket or show it on a mobile device at the door.

**HELP US TO AVOID DELAYS**  
If you are collecting tickets from the box office, please pick them up at least 45 minutes before your session begins. If you miss your first event, please call our box office to transfer your tickets to your next event ready for collection.

If you have an e-ticket, please have it ready before you queue for entry. Ensure all guests in your party have their own copy or enter as a group. You may be asked to step out of the queue if your tickets are not ready to scan. Your device screen should be undamaged and have the brightness turned up.

If you have lost the email with your e-ticket, or your device is damaged, please contact the box office at least 1 hour prior to the event to arrange a re-issue.

**AUSLAN-INTERPRETED EVENTS**  
The following events will be Auslan-interpreted:

- 9 Siri Hustvedt: I'm Writing For My Life
- 10 Bernardine Evaristo: Girl, Woman, Other
- CH11 Dav Pilkey: The Do Good Tour at City Recital Hall
- 170 Truth 2, Lies 1: Crabb and Sales on Lying About Books
- 175 Queerstories
- CH14 Raina Telgemeier: All Guts, All Glory
- 211 Malcolm Turnbull in Conversation with Annabel Crabb

**CAPTIONING**  
All events in Bay 17 at Carriageworks will be closed captioned.

**HEARING LOOP SYSTEM**  
The following venues are fitted with a hearing loop system: City Recital Hall; York Theatre and Everest Theatre, Seymour Centre; The Concourse Concert Hall; and Lennox Theatre and Riverside Theatre, Riverside Theatres, Parramatta.

**COMPANION CARD**  
Companion Card holders qualify for a complimentary ticket for their companion. Proof of concession is required.

## THE FESTIVAL PRECINCT

The Festival Precinct comprises **Carriageworks**, in the heart of Eveleigh, and the nearby **Seymour Centre** in Chippendale.

At Carriageworks, our Festival Hub, you can start the day with coffee and conversation as the best journalists from Australia and around the world discuss what's making news (see Coffee and Headlines line-up on page 11). Throughout the day, browse the bookshop, settle in for a reading session between events or catch up with friends as you enjoy delicious food at the Festival eateries by Harvest. Over at the Seymour Centre – accessible via the Festival shuttle bus from Carriageworks and Redfern Station – you can find food stalls, bars and coffee carts. Grab a bite to eat between sessions, enjoy an afternoon tippie in the leafy courtyard cafe and browse the bookstore. From the first event of the day to our late-night talks, the Festival Precinct has everything you need to immerse yourself in the 2020 Sydney Writers' Festival.

## TRAVELLING TO THE FESTIVAL PRECINCT

Please allow extra travel time if you are collecting tickets. Ticket collection is recommended at least 45 minutes prior to your first event.

Carriageworks is located at 245 Wilson Street, Eveleigh. This is a 10-minute walk from Redfern Station, City Road bus stops and Macdonaldtown Station.

The Seymour Centre is located on the corner of City Road and Cleveland Street, Chippendale. This is a 10-minute walk from Redfern Station and Carriageworks, and an approximately two-minute walk from City Road bus stops.

Catching public transport is strongly recommended as residential parking in the area is strictly limited. For more information on transport, visit [transportnsw.info](https://transportnsw.info).

**WALKING FROM REDFERN STATION TO CARRIAGEWORKS**  
Walk out of the station onto Lawson Street and turn left. When you arrive at Little Eveleigh Street, turn left and continue on until you reach Wilson Street on your left. Continue on Wilson Street for approximately seven minutes until you arrive at Carriageworks.

**WALKING FROM REDFERN STATION TO THE SEYMOUR CENTRE**  
Walk out of the station onto Lawson Street and turn left. Continue on Lawson Street until you arrive at Abercrombie Street, cross the road at the lights, turn left and then turn right onto Ivy Street. For approximately five minutes, follow Ivy Street as it continues onto Blackwattle Creek Lane, which is inside the University of Sydney. Turn right at the Seymour Centre building to walk around to the front and lower ground entrances via the side staircase.

## VENUES

**CARRIAGEWORKS**  
**245 Wilson Street, Eveleigh**  
Bay 17  
Bay 20  
Track 8  
Track 12  
Curiosity Stage  
Elston Room  
Bay 25

**SEYMOUR CENTRE**  
**Corner of City Road and Cleveland Street, Chippendale**  
York Theatre  
Everest Theatre  
Reginald Theatre  
Sound Lounge

**INNER-CITY VENUES**  
**Art Gallery of NSW**  
Art Gallery Road, The Domain  
**City Recital Hall**  
2 Angel Place, Sydney  
**Green Square Library**  
355 Botany Road, Zetland  
**Museum of Contemporary Art**  
140 George Street, The Rocks  
**Roslyn Packer Theatre**  
22 Hickson Road, Walsh Bay  
**State Library of NSW**  
Macquarie Street, Sydney  
**Sydney Town Hall**  
483 George Street, Sydney

**PARRAMATTA**  
**Riverside Theatres, Parramatta**  
Corner of Church and Market Streets, Parramatta

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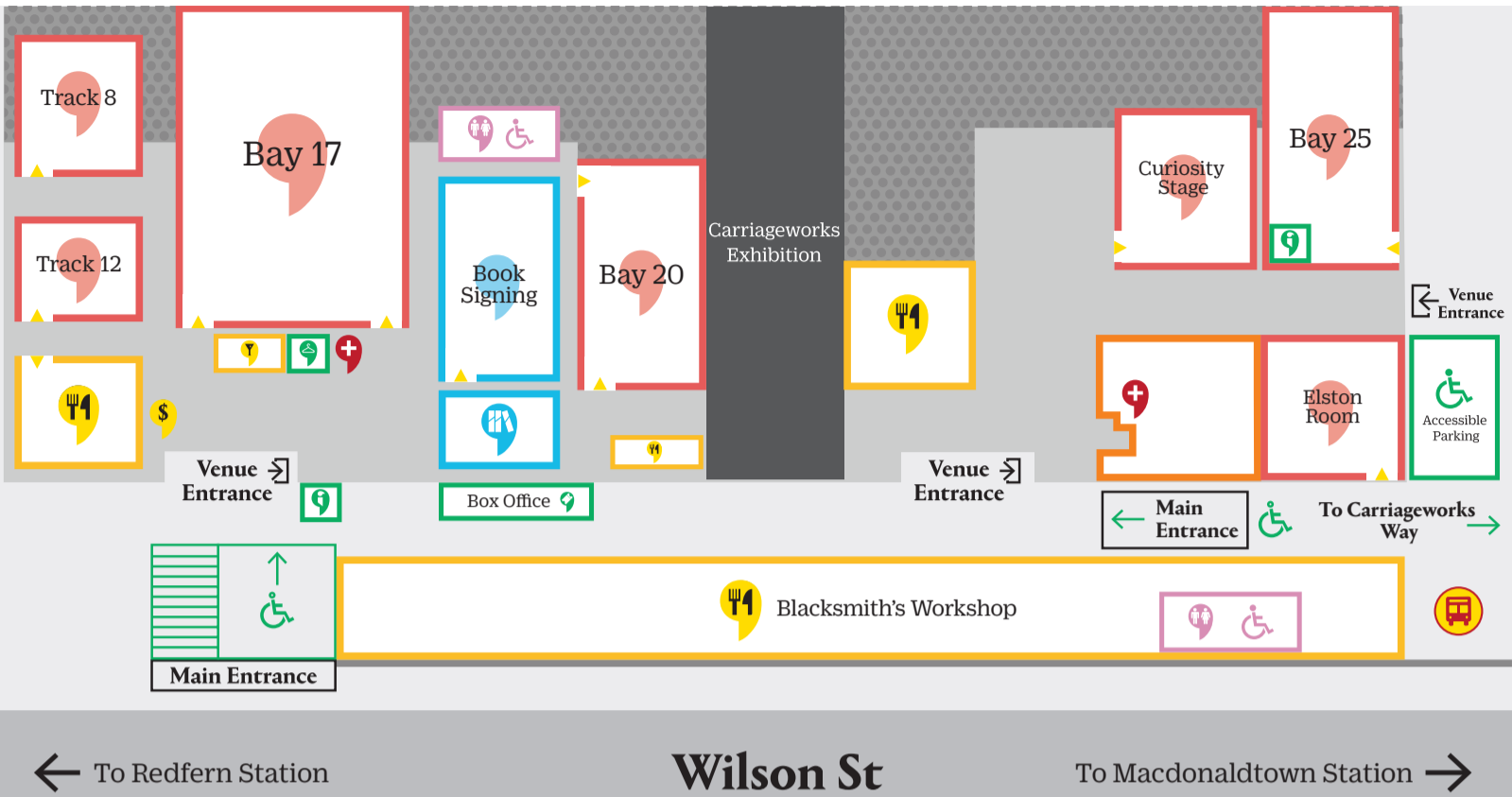
*From Vicenza to Frascati*  
with Julie Kinney | 13–28 September 2020 (16 days)  
Wander through the private grounds of majestic estates in Italy's centre and unearth the rich history of some of Italy's most romantic gardens.

Opera & Music in Eastern Europe

*Budapest, Prague and the Janáček Festival*  
with Scott Curry | 23 Sep – 07 Oct 2020 (15 days)  
Be captivated by fine opera and music at one of Eastern Europe's foremost music festivals, together with performances in Prague, Budapest and Bratislava.

CARRIAGEWORKS

- KEY
- Info Booth
  - Box Office
  - Cloak Room
  - Bookshop
  - Food & Drink
  - Theatre Bar
  - Toilets
  - First Aid
  - ATM
  - Entrances
  - Festival Bus Stop



THE FESTIVAL PRECINCT



SEYMOUR CENTRE



THE AUSTRALIAN BALLET

3 - 22 APRIL | Sydney Opera House



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Important cultural events like Sydney Writers' Festival could not happen without the support of the people of Sydney. Your participation makes all the difference. We're pleased to join you in keeping creativity alive and well in our city.

Find more events at [whatson.sydney](https://whatson.sydney)

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