

A Message from the Festival Director

The Emerging Writers' Festival has always been a festival *for* writers. Inspiring, informing and connecting writers of all kinds and at all stages of their career – that's what we do.

In our 2012 festival you will find events programmed with writers in mind. Our two-day Town Hall Writers' conference continues to grow, with over 80 exciting writers ready to discuss the art and craft of being a writer. We have also introduced a new panel series aimed at demystifying the sometimes confusing publishing world, our Industry Insider discussion sessions. Page Parlour indie press fair will be complemented by Future Bookshop, an interactive exhibition at the National Gallery of Victoria. Plus there will be plenty of time for fun and frolics at our Revenge of the Nerds Slide Night, closing night Spelling Bee and atmospheric Fright Night storytelling event.

This year our program features more ways than ever to come along and engage with the festival and network with other writers. Our Festival Hub Rue Bebelons will once again be the place to be – look out for the Late Night Book Clubs! – or you can write up a storm in our Rabbit Hole writing frenzy, join our first-ever Festival Open Mic, or jump online and explore our EWFdigital events. Yup, when we say we're the festival for writers, we *really* mean it.

Of course, the Festival is just one part in our broader mission to create opportunities for emerging writers. This year we are incredibly excited to present the Monash University Undergraduate Prize for Creative Writing, a prestigious new literary award with a Penguin publishing opportunity attached, and are tickled pink to be offering a writers' residency program as part of the Future Bookshop. We are also proud to be launching our festival publication, *The Emerging Writer: An Insider's Guide to Your Writing Journey*. This book is packed full of wisdom, tips and insider information about how to pursue your writing passion.

No matter what kind of writer you are, the Emerging Writers' Festival has your back. So come along, take part in the discussion, and celebrate your writing life.

See you at the festival,

Lisa Dempster

Who We Are

The Emerging Writers' Festival is an independent arts organisation based in Melbourne's Wheeler Centre for Books, Writing and Ideas. We exist in order to promote the interests of emerging writers – to improve their opportunities for professional development as well as their engagement with the broader public. Each year the Emerging Writers' Festival brings writers, editors, publishers and literary performers together with the reading public for a festival that is an essential part of Australia's literary calendar.

Staff

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Contact

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 176 Little Lonsdale Street
 Melbourne VIC 3000
 Phone 03 9094 7877
 Visit emergingwritersfestival.org.au or
twitter.com/emergingwriters

Message From The Minister

The Victorian Government is proud to support the 9th Emerging Writers' Festival. While still 'emerging' in age, this festival has well and truly established its place in our City of Literature.

More than just a festival, it is an important advocate, incubator and promoter of new writers, editors and publishers across all genres and media, providing professional development, networking and vital showcase opportunities.

But it's not all business. There's plenty of literary pleasure for readers to indulge in – from book clubs to markets, performances and forums. New to the festival this year is the Future Bookshop initiative, an exciting free art installation presented in partnership with the National Gallery of Victoria.

Like the Festival, our Government is committed to providing opportunities for new and emerging talent. I am proud that during the festival the \$15,000 Prize for Unpublished Manuscript, part of the Victorian Premier's Literary Awards, will be presented. Previous winners include Carrie Tiffany, Andrew Hutchinson and Nick Gadd – all of whom have gone on to be published.

Congratulations to the Festival team on another outstanding program. Whether you're a reader or a writer, enjoy the 2012 Emerging Writers' Festival.

Ted Baillieu MLA
 Premier and Minister for the Arts

Stories That Matter

Join us for the gala opening of the 9th Emerging Writers' Festival.

Stories that Matter is a celebration of all things literary. Our night of storytelling and performance will include the presentation of the Monash University Undergraduate Prize for Creative Writing, and a writerly call to arms by Fiona McGregor.

Featuring: Anne Edmonds, Nazeem Hussain, Fiona McGregor, Omar Musa, Anita Sethi, Tessa Waters.

Date: Thursday 24 May, 7.30pm - 9pm **Venue:** Treasury Theatre, 1 Macarthur Street, Melbourne **Price:** Tickets \$20 full / \$12 concession

Access:  

Supported by the City of Melbourne.

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EWFdigital: Stories In Your Stream

Bringing the festival to a national and global audience, EWFdigital is the Emerging Writers' Festival online, a space that enables writers to discuss how their words work on the web.

Find your audience and grow your digital community. No matter where you place your words online, EWFdigital is for you. Our dedicated digital festival portal presents a unique program including an interactive keynote address, panels, conversations, mentoring, curated content and networking opportunities.

EWFdigital is not bound by physical space, and the discussion focuses on the realm of digital writing. We bring emerging, edgy and energetic digital thinkers and writers from around the globe directly to your screen. Collaborative and dynamic, EWFdigital will be on your mobile, on your computer, on your tablet - and it happily blurs the boundaries between writer, audience, creator and consumer.

Explore EWFdigital to find - and create - stories in your stream.

Date: Monday 28 May to Friday 1 June **Venue:** Online - www.ewfdigital.com
Price: FREE

MasterClasses

The Emerging Writers' Festival masterclasses are intimate and interactive. With in-depth presentations by experienced writers, and plenty of time for questions and discussion, these six-hour intensives are designed for maximum impact — so come ready to learn!

The Business of Being a Writer

If only the duties of a writer were limited to writing! Alas, all the administration and marketing can be time-consuming and confusing... but it needs to be tackled if you're serious about your writing career. Back by popular demand, this informative masterclass will give you the tools and confidence to tackle the business of being a writer.

SESSIONS WILL COVER:

- Business & Legals: from getting an ABN to sorting out tax and insurance.
- Bringing The Money In: setting rates, how to invoice and managing cash flow.
- Organisation & Strategic Planning: time management, good work practices and developing your business and writing goals.
- Relationships: maintaining good relationships, finding work and support networks.
- Marketing & Self-Promotion: Navigating social media, the what to-dos and what not to-dos.

With a special keynote address by Paddy O'Reilly.

Featuring: Alex Adsett, John Bailey, Mel Campbell, Aden Rolfe and Trevor Young. Hosted by Ben Eltham.

Date: Friday 25 May, 12pm – 6pm **Venue:** Wheeler Centre, 176 Little Lonsdale Street, Melbourne **Price:** \$75. (Limited to 30 participants)

Access: 

MasterClasses

Blogging

Take your blogging to the next level! Aimed at writers already blogging, this masterclass will deal with a variety of subjects relevant to digital skills development and career projection.

With five sessions, two inspiring keynote addresses, handouts, and plenty of time for questions, we'll help you navigate the art and business of blogging.

SESSIONS WILL COVER:

- Blog to Where?: A blog's success can lead to a variety of opportunities. See how they can be pursued.
- Monetisation: tips and tricks to making money from your blog.
- Content Creation: writing, podcasting, video blogging – how should you say what you want to say.
- Strategic Planning: planning and forecasting for blogging success.
- Audience Development: how to create and engage an audience for your blog.

With a special keynote address by Alison Croggon (Theatre Notes).

Featuring: Luke Buckmaster (Cinetology), Jules Clancy (Stone Soup), Daniel Donahoo (GeekDad), Pip Lincolne (Meetmeatmikes) and Jon Tjhia (Wheeler Centre). **Hosted by:** Phil Lees (The Last Appetite).


Date: Friday 1 June, 11am – 5pm **Venue:** Wheeler Centre, 176 Little Lonsdale Street, Melbourne **Price:** \$75. (Limited to 30 participants, participants must have an active blog to take part) **Access:** 

Town Hall Writers' Conference

The cornerstone event of the Emerging Writers' Festival, the two-day Town Hall Writers' Conference is programmed to inform and inspire writers of all genres and styles. From novels to poetry, blogging to journalism, we've got something to whet any writer's appetite.

Ranging from the emerging to the established, our writers and panelists offer exciting and varied perspectives on their style or genre. Join the conversation as our writers share the ins and outs of their writing lives, deconstructing and discussing the art, the craft and the business of being a writer.

Take advantage of the collegial atmosphere to connect with fellow writers and industry professionals.

Date: Saturday 26 & Sunday 27 May, 9am – 5.30pm **Venue:** Melbourne Town Hall, Corner Swanston & Collins Streets, Melbourne **Price:** Weekend pass \$49 full/\$34 concession. Day pass \$38 full/\$28 concession. **Access:**  

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Festival Hub @ Rue Bebelons

Need a place to sit and chill between events, or want to swap stories and opinions with fellow festival attendees? Our Festival Hub at Rue Bebelons is the place to be!

During the festival, Melbourne's cosiest bar becomes a proper literary speakeasy, jumping from morning 'til night with writer types and culture buffs of all descriptions.

The excellent coffee, wine and cocktails will fuel your late night festival fun (or recharge you the morning after!), and it's the best place in town to grab a snack on the go. Plus, free wifi – need we say more?

Date: Thursday 24 May to Sunday 3 June, morning 'til night **Venue:** Rue Bebelons, 267 Little Lonsdale Street, Melbourne **Price:** FREE

Introducing The Ambassadors

Our Festival Ambassadors are experienced writers who have just one goal in mind: to assist your writing career. In addition to presenting on panels and running small group Q&A sessions on their style of writing, the Ambassadors will be lingering in the coffee room, where you can sit down with them for a chat about your work (or theirs!).

Our 2012 Ambassadors are: Ali Alizadeh (poetry), Christy Dena (digital storytelling), Lawrence Leung (comedy), Emily Maguire (novels) and Anita Sethi (journalism).

Supported by our Education Partner, Monash University Faculty of Arts.

The Embassy

Step into the Regent Room to discover our talented Ambassadors and guests ready to help you learn more about your craft. They bring the experience, you bring the questions – it will be magic!

Saturday 11am

Finding markets with Alex Adsett

Saturday 12.30pm

Digital Storytelling with Christy Dena

Saturday 1.45pm

Novels with Emily Maguire

Saturday 3pm

Comedy with Lawrence Leung

Sunday 10am

Next Wave's Text Camp (invitation only)

Sunday 11am

Poetry with Ali Alizadeh

Sunday 12.30pm

Journalism with Anita Sethi

Sunday 3pm

The Emerging Writer with Karen Pickering

Town Hall Writers Conference — Special Events

Seven Enviably Lines

Our Ambassadors share the seven tips they wish they had known at the start of their careers – a truly motivating and inspiring way to begin the Town Hall Writers' Conference.

Featuring: Ali Alizadeh, Christy Dena, Lawrence Leung, Emily Maguire and Anita Sethi. Hosted by Lisa Dempster.

Date: Saturday 26 May, 10am – 11am **Venue:** Swanston Hall, Melbourne Town Hall **Price:** FREE for Writers' Conference or \$12 full/\$8 concession.

Publishing Trends

Today's hot topics and platforms might be outdated tomorrow, so should writers be keeping up with current issues or trying to predict future trends? Navigating literary careers can be tricky, so we've assembled a panel of industry insiders to give you the straight talk on publishing: what's hot and what's not right now, and what they think might be tomorrow's hot ticket.

Featuring: Paul Collins (Ford Street), Amy Espeseth (Vignette Press), Marisa Pintado (Hardie Grant), Jeff Sparrow (Overland) and Rebecca Starford (Affirm Press & Kill Your Darlings). Hosted by Sarah L'Estrange.

Date: Saturday 26 May, 4pm – 5.30pm **Venue:** Swanston Hall, Melbourne Town Hall **Price:** FREE for Writers' Conference or \$12 full/\$8 concession. *Supported by Melinga.*

Masters & Slaves

How does a young poetess from Surfers Paradise deal with her lyrical love affair with Springsteen? Can a young gay man see his reflection in Dorian Grey? How does a student bouncer in a Gold Coast nightclub wrestle with Hemingway?

Comic, inspired and challenging writers see Small Room Collective push the envelope on the question of, who exactly are the creative writing masters, and who the slaves?

Featuring: Chantelle Bayes, Benjamin Brown, Timothy Fitzgerald, Zoe Fraser, Nicholas Guest, Belinda Hilton, Eric McGinley, Ashley Watson.

Date: Sunday 27 May, 1.45pm – 2.45pm **Venue:** Swanston Hall, Melbourne Town Hall **Price:** FREE for Writers' Conference or \$12 full/\$8 concession. *Supported by the Griffith University School of Humanities Small Room Writers Collective.*

Panels

Take a seat in the Yarra Room and take part in writing conversations with the emerging and the emerged.

Tough Topics, Saturday 11am

Politics, sex, abuse... writing on tough topics can be difficult. How do you write a compelling story on a tough topic, managing both your involvement and that of the reader? **With** Romy Ash, Paul Fearne, Sydney Smith and Fregmont Stokes. **Hosted by** Ruby Joy Murray

Structure, Saturday 12.30pm

Narrative arcs, plotting, cliff-hangers and maintaining reader interest are key concerns that all writers are interested in. Our artists share the ins and outs of how they approach structure in their writing. A nuts and bolts session on the craft of writing. **With** Ali Cobber Eckerman, Fiona Harris, Cam Rogers and Anita Sethi. **Hosted by** Stephen Asher.

Cross Platform, Saturday 1.45pm

There can be more than one way to tell a story. Different mediums can bring in new elements to an existing tale, or stories can be told across many platforms right from the start. Meet some artists who write across multiple mediums. **With** Asphyxia, Eliza Hull, John Richards and Jackie Ryan. **Hosted by** Pigeons Projects.

Post-Publication, Saturday 3pm

Congratulations – you’ve been published! Now what? Our writers share their experiences and advice on what awaits once your work is out in the world. **With** Ali Alizadeh, Alan Baxter, Emmett Stinson and Stella Young. **Hosted by** Sam Cooney.

Panels

Relationships, Sunday 10am

The publishing industry is comprised of all sorts of relationships, each bringing unique benefits and occasional challenges. We have a panel to help you navigate and manage your literary relationships. **With** Donica Bettanin, Dan Giovanni, Toni Jordan and Lawrence Leung. **Hosted by** Julien Leyre.

Aussie Voices, Sunday 11am

Does Australia have a literary voice? Who tells the stories of Australia? And are our literary voices representative of the people of Australia? **With** Michael Mohammed Ahmad, Stephanie Convery, Bruce Pascoe and Lily Yulianti Farid. **Hosted by** Sam Twyford-Moore.

Digital Writing, Sunday 12.30pm

Digital writing is about much more than whacking up a blog post every so often. It requires diligence, a consideration of audience and aesthetics. These writers discuss how they create and publish in the online space. **With** Christy Dena, Andrew Ramadge, Carla Sammut and John Weldon. **Hosted by** David Witteveen.

Building an Audience, Sunday 3pm

It’s been said before – publishers love writers with a pre-existing platform. But what is that, and how do you go about creating one while remaining true to artistic integrity? Our panellists share their tips and tricks on how to build an audience. **With** Myke Bartlett, Sarah Howell, Katie Keys and Andrew Nette. **Hosted by** Writers’ Web.

Letters to the Editor, Sunday 4pm

You want more, so we give you more! In this session we bring back our sought-after artists for one last chance to ask your burning literary questions. **Hosted by** Festival Director Lisa Dempster.

In Discussion

Enjoy the intimate atmosphere of the Melbourne Room and add your voice to the discussions about these writing forms.

Performance, Saturday 11am

Writers who perform need to concentrate on both content and delivery. Do you need special training or can you DIY skills-learning? And what are the ins and outs of putting on a show? Clementine Ford and Simon Green will share their expertise.

Graphic Novels, Saturday 12.30pm

Graphic novels are all the rage at the moment. Miranda Burton and Lee Zachariah will discuss the rise and the opportunities of the medium, based on their own histories of writing in the form.

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In Discussion

Street Press, Saturday 1.45pm

Many writers start their careers in street press. Who writes it, who reads it, and is there fame and fortune to be found? With Dione Joseph and Tyson Wray.

Writers' Groups, Saturday 3pm

Writers' groups: are they worth it? Is the feedback worthwhile or merely frustrating – or do you talk more than you critique? Dan Ducrou and Penni Russon talk about their writers' groups.

Crowdfunding, Sunday 10am

With the rise of tools like Pozible, artists are now discovering their projects can be made possible through public support. Rick Chen and Kate Toon will outline some tips (and traps) to this funding model.

Self-Publishing, Sunday 11am

Self-publishing is growing in both popularity and gravitas, providing more and more opportunities for writers as technology progresses. Nicola Themistes and Garry Trinh recount their experiences.
Supported by Blurb.

Mentoring, Sunday 12.30pm

Having a mentor can be an extraordinary opportunity for a writer. But where do you find one, and how does the relationship work? Tony Birch and Amy Espeseth discuss the mentee/mentor relationship.
Supported by the Review of Australian Fiction.

Women in Writing, Sunday 1.45pm

Anna Barnes and Emily Maguire talk about what it's like to be a woman writer in Australia and discuss the broader issues of 'women's writing'.

Life Stories, Sunday 3pm

Memoir and creative nonfiction are hot writing topics. Francesca Rendle-Short and Luke Ryan discuss how they write and re-tell their life stories in interesting ways.

Industry Insider

Interested in gaining a little inside information? Want to network with the writing industry? This series is for you!

Join our panellists as they discuss the challenges and opportunities in their area of expertise. We encourage participation and engagement – they're there to answer *your* questions.

Emerging Critics, Monday 28 May, 6pm – 7pm

The state of literary criticism and debate has been prominent in recent headlines, but just how do you become an established and respected reviewer? What are the challenges and opportunities of writing criticism and how can you get started? **Featuring** Kerry Goldsworthy, Anita Sethi and Richard Watts. **Hosted by** Bethanie Blanchard.

Emerging Editors, Tuesday 29 May, 6pm – 7pm

There are various pathways you can take from aspiring to professional editor. These editors will outline their history and share the benefits of their collective – and sometimes hard-won – editing wisdom. **Featuring** Dale Campisi, Jo Case, Penny Modra and Aden Rolfe. **Hosted by** Karen Pickering.

Indie Publishing, Wednesday 30 June, 6pm – 7pm

It is possible for indie publishers to survive past a first book or the first few issues of a literary journal, but it requires determination and smarts. Our panellists discuss their tips for literary survival, outlining how they have lasted so long in the indie publishing world. **Featuring** Sophie Black (Crikey), Susan Hawthorne (Spinifex Press) and Ronnie Scott (The Lifted Brow). **Hosted by** Patrick Pittman (Dumbo Feather).

Get Money, Get Paid, Thursday 31 June, 6pm – 7pm

Writers can – and do! – get paid. But not always. And not always the same amount as their peers. Why? Pay rates vary across the industry and different kinds of writing – and writers – are valued in different ways. Our panellists discuss the inequities of the industry and how writers can educate themselves to get money, get paid. **Featuring** Elmo Keep and Bede Payne. **Hosted by** Estelle Tang.

Date: Monday 28 May to Thursday 31 June, 6pm – 7pm **Venue:** Rue Bebelons, 267 Little Lonsdale Street, Melbourne **Price:** \$12 full/\$8 concession

TwitterFEST

Get ready to TWEET! TwitterFEST is a series of online festival panels featuring... you! It's social media mixed with literary debate, so get those #ewf12 hashtags happening and join the discussion about digital writing.

- *Monday 28 May, 2pm-3pm* What does 'digital writing' mean to you? **With** Adam Ford (@adamatsya).
- *Tuesday 29 May, 2pm-3pm* How do you develop your online community? **With** Tom Dawkins (@tomjd).
- *Wednesday 30 May, 2pm-3pm* What direction do you see digital publishing taking in the next few years? **With** Zoe Dattner (@zoedattner).
- *Thursday 31 May, 2pm-3pm* What do you think are the most exciting digital possibilities? **With** Ehon Chan (@ehon).
- *Friday 1 June, 2pm-3pm* How can writers make a living from digital writing? **With** Fee Plumley (@feesable).

Follow @emergingwriters on twitter.com and join the discussion! **Date:** Monday 28 May to Friday 1 June, 2pm-3pm **Venue:** Twitter.com **Price:** FREE

TweetFilm

TweetFilm is like talking through a film, 140 characters at a time, with no limit to the size of your lounge room. Everyone that wants to take part watches the same film at the same time and live-tweets it – and now we're bringing that experience to the Emerging Writers' Festival.

We're showing the Aussie classic *Looking For Alibrandi*, based on the novel by much-loved Sydney author Melina Marchetta, and we'd like you to join us for viewing and tweeting! Bring along your phones, laptops and iPads and tweet to your heart's content using the #tfalibrandi hashtag to connect with your fellow cinema audience members!


If you can't make it to the screening, you can still join the fun! Just get a copy of the film, start it at the same time as us (8.15 on the dot!) and use the hashtag to connect with us cinema-goers.

Date: Monday 28 May, 8pm **Venue:** Loop, 23 Meyers Place, Melbourne **Price:** Free, bookings essential

Creative Writing Bootcamp

Ready to apply some of the creative motivation the festival inspires? Do you need a bit of a boost or a guide? Then our popular creative writing bootcamp is for you!

Guided writing exercises will be provided, plus the space to do them in. All you need to do is show up with your preferred writing tools, be they pen and paper, laptop or iPad! Hosted by Alia Gabres and Maria Zajkowski, this is a fun group experience that may yield surprising results.

Date: Tuesday 29 May & Wednesday 30 May, 6pm – 7pm **Venue:** City Library Seminar Room 1, 253 Flinders Lane, Melbourne **Price:** FREE, no bookings required **Access:** 

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Emerging #QandA

Based on the (in)famous television show of the same name, **Emerging #QandA** is a political commentary chat show presented live at the Fitzroy Reading Room.

Showcasing future voices to watch in the arena of political writing and commentary, our five panellists have diverse interests and experience, and are ready to engage in public debate on the issues of the day. There will also be audience questions.

Featuring: Monica Dux, Tom Elliott, Eyal Halamish, Fatima Measham and Ben Pobjie, with Sophie Black in the host's chair.

Date: Tuesday 29 May, 7.30pm – 8.30pm **Venue:** Fitzroy Reading Room, 201 Napier Street, Fitzroy **Price:** FREE, bookings required. **Access:** 

Late Night Book Club

Held at our Festival Hub, the Late Night Book Club will feature a different host and theme each meeting. Bring along your favourite books and get ready to discuss all things wordy with like-minded readers.


Poetry with Philip Thiel, Tuesday 29 May, 9pm – 10pm

Short Stories with Angela Meyer, Wednesday 30 May, 9pm – 10pm

Date: Tuesday 29 May & Wednesday 30 May, 9pm – 10pm **Venue:** Rue Bebelons, 267 Little Lonsdale Street, Melbourne **Price:** FREE, no bookings required

Poetry Cafe


Held at The Moat, the Poetry Cafe is an afternoon to hear poets perform their work and officially launch the Cafe Poet residencies for the year. With Matt Blackwood, Alia Gabres and Varia Karipoff.

Date: Wednesday 30 May, 3pm **Venue:** The Moat, 176 Little Lonsdale Street, Melbourne **Price:** FREE, no bookings required **Access:** 

Supported by Australian Poetry.

Lunchbox/Soapbox — with Anita Sethi

Lunchbox/Soapbox is a simple idea: an old-fashioned speakers' corner in the middle of the city, in the middle of the day. Bring your lunch along to this bite-sized session and listen to Anita Sethi discuss the impact of virtual communication on human relationships.

Date: Thursday 31 May, 12.45pm – 1.15pm **Venue:** Wheeler Centre, 176 Little Lonsdale Street, Melbourne **Price:** FREE, no bookings required **Access:** 

Supported by The Wheeler Centre.

AD

Revenge of the Nerds Slide Night

As much as we may want to deny it, there is a nerd inside us all...

Never fear! Our writers are ready to make geek chic again by sharing their nerdy pastimes and obsessions with you. What's the catch? They'll be doing it 'pecha-kucha' style, showing twenty slides for only twenty seconds each! So put on those thick-rimmed glasses and grab your lightsaber because in 2012, the geeks will inherit the earth and they're racing against the clock to share their nerdy stories with you ...

Featuring: Brendan Bailey, Ben Birchall, Courteney Hocking, Melissa Keil, Jess McGuire, Andrew McClelland, Meg Mundell, Fee Plumley, Zora Sanders. **Hosted by** Ben McKenzie.

Date: Wednesday 30th May, 7.30pm – late **Venue:** The Workers Club, Corner Brunswick & Gertrude Streets, Fitzroy **Price:** \$12 full /\$8 concession

Fright Night

Who doesn't love a spooky story and getting chills down their spine?

Our late night storytelling event features diverse writers telling their most thrilling tales. Is that a cold draught or something more mysterious? Our scary stories will have you wondering...

Featuring: Kristy Chambers, Leanne Hall, Andrew Harper, Narrelle Harris, Kirstyn McDermott, Doug MacLeod, Tim Pegler and Anita Sethi. **Hosted by** Nathan Curnow.

Date: Thursday 31 May, 8.45pm – 10.30pm **Venue:** Queen's Hall, State Library of Victoria, 328 Swanson Street (Meet in the SLV lobby) **Price:** \$20 full /\$12 concession

Launch Party: The Emerging Writer

Join us for the launch of the Emerging Writers' Festival book. *The Emerging Writer* is an insider's guide full of valuable advice from fellow travellers – a resource you can keep within arm's length, for when you need to consult that map again to help you find your way.

This event will include the presentation of the Victorian Premier's Award for an Unpublished Manuscript 2012.

Date: Friday 1 June, 6pm – 8pm **Venue:** Future Bookshop, NGV Studio, Federation Square, Flinders Street **Price:** By invitation only. The first 100 people to purchase a copy of TEW will receive an invitation.

Access: 

Supported by the National Gallery of Victoria and The Wheeler Centre.

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Festival Timetable				
Event	Date	Time	Venue	Page
Stories That Matter	Thu, 24 May	7.30pm	Treasury Theatre	5
The business of being a writer masterclass	Fri 25 May	12pm-6pm	Wheeler Centre	6
Town Hall Writers' Conference	Sat, 26 May	9am-5.30pm	Melbourne Town Hall	9-15
Trends in Publishing	Sat 26 May	4pm-5pm	Melbourne Town Hall	11
Town Hall Writers' Conference	Sun, 27 May	9am-5.30pm	Town Hall	9-15
Masters and Slaves	Sun, 27 May	1.45pm-2.45pm	Melbourne Town Hall	11
Industry Insider: Emerging Critics	Mon, 28 May	6pm-7pm	Rue Bebelons	16
Tweet Film	Mon, 28 May	8pm	Loop	17
Industry Insider: Emerging Editors	Tue, 29 May	6pm-7pm	Rue Bebelons	16
Creative Writing Bootcamp	Tue, 29 May	6pm-7pm	City Library	19
Emerging #QandA	Tue, 29 May	7.30pm-8.30pm	Fitzroy Reading Room	19
Late Night Book Club	Tue, 29 May	9pm-10pm	Rue Bebelons	20
Poetry Cafe	Wed, 30 May	3pm	The Moat	20
Industry Insider: Indie Publishing	Wed, 30 May	6pm-7pm	Rue Bebelons	16
Creative Writing Bootcamp	Wed, 30 May	6pm-7pm	City Library	19
Revenge of the Nerds Slide Night	Wed, 30 May	7.30pm	Workers Club Fitzroy	22
Late Night Book Club	Wed, 30 May	9pm-10pm	Rue Bebelons	20
Lunchbox/Soapbox	Thu, 31 May	12.45pm-1.15pm	Wheeler Centre	20
Industry Insider: Get Money, Get Paid	Thu, 31 May	6pm-7pm	Rue Bebelons	16
Fright Night	Thu, 31 May	8.45pm	State Library of Victoria	22
Blogging Masterclass	Fri, 01 Jun	11am-5pm	Wheeler Centre	7
The Emerging Writer Launch Party	Fri, 01 Jun	6pm-8pm	Future Bookshop, NGV Studio	23
The Rabbit Hole	Fri, 01 Jun	6pm	Wheeler Centre	26
Future Bookshop	Sat, 02 Jun	10am	NGV Studio	28
Live Podcast	Sat, 02 Jun	11am-12pm	Wheeler Centre	29
Social Media for Writers	Sat, 02 Jun	12pm-1.30pm	Fitzroy Library	26
The Pitch	Sat, 02 Jun	2pm-4pm	Wheeler Centre	27
Social Media for Writers	Sat, 02 Jun	2.30pm-4pm	Fitzroy Library	?
Penguin Plays Rough gets Graphic	Sat, 02 Jun	6pm-8pm	Future Bookshop, NGV Studio	26
Page Parlour	Sun, 03 Jun	12pm-5pm	The Atrium, Federation Square	30
EWF Mega Open Mic	Sun, 03 Jun	12.30pm-2.30pm	Future Bookshop, NGV Studio	30
Spelling Bee	Sun, 03 Jun	6.30pm	Gertrudes Brown Couch	32
Festival Hub	Thu, 24 May - Sun, 03 Jun		Rue Bebelons	9


Town Hall Writers' Conference Timetable				
Time	Swanston Room	Yarra Room	Regent Room	Melbourne Room
SATURDAY				
9am	REGISTRATION			
10am	SPECIAL EVENT: Seven Enviably Lines			
11am		Panel: Tough Topics	The Embassy: Alex Adsett (Finding markets)	In Discussion: Performance
12pm	LUNCH			
12.30pm		Panel: Structure	The Embassy: Christy Dena	In Discussion: Graphic Novels
1.45pm		Panel: Cross Platform	The Embassy: Emily Maguire	In Discussion: Street Press
3pm		Panel: Post-publication	The Embassy: Lawrence Leung	In Discussion: Writers' Groups
4pm	SPECIAL EVENT: Publishing trends			
5.30pm	FESTIVAL HUB			
SUNDAY				
9am	REGISTRATION			
10am		Panel: Relationships	The Embassy: Text Camp (Invite Only)	In Discussion: Crowdfunding
11am		Panel: Aussie Voices	The Embassy: Ali Alizadeh	In Discussion: Self Publishing
12pm	LUNCH			
12.30pm		Panel: Digital Writing	The Embassy: Anita Sethi	In Discussion: Mentoring
1.45pm	SPECIAL EVENT: Masters & Slaves			In Discussion: Women In Writing
3pm		Panel: Building an Audience	The Embassy: The Emerging Writer with Karen Pickering	In Discussion: Life Stories
4pm	LETTERS TO THE EDITOR			
5.30pm	FESTIVAL HUB			

The Rabbit Hole

Introducing The Rabbit Hole - a three-day writing frenzy. Your aim? 30,000 words.

Sounds big and it is! But it can - and has - been done! Providing inspirational resources, a friendly and excited host, and a whole room full of like-minded hard working writers, this event is designed to help writers of all skill levels set short-term goals and achieve them.

With rival teams taking part in Melbourne, Brisbane, Hobart and online, prizes and online smack talk will provide a dangling carrot to that 30,000 word goal. Only one question remains: Are you brave enough?


Date: Friday 1 June 6pm - 10pm, Saturday 2 June & Sunday 3 June 8am-8pm **Venue:** Wheeler Centre, 176 Little Lonsdale Street, Melbourne **Price:** FREE, bookings essential. (Limited to 20 participants, first in best-dressed!) **Access:** 

Supported by Queensland Writers' Centre.

Workshops

Social Media for Writers


A social media presence is considered essential by many aspiring writers, but there is more to social networking than updating your Facebook status. At this hands-on workshop journalist, blogger and editor Kelly Gardiner will guide emerging writers through the benefits and challenges of the social web.

Date: Saturday 2 June, 12pm - 1.30pm **Venue:** Fitzroy Library, 128 Moor Street, Fitzroy **Price:** FREE, bookings essential **Access:** 

Social Media for Readers

Author Susan Orlean describes the various social media platforms as different kinds of parties: 'Twitter is a noisy cocktail party, with lots of chatting and quick interactions' while 'Facebook is a combination high school and college reunion and therapy group'.

In this session Kelly Gardiner will help you to discover the right social media 'party' for your reading habits, and will explore how the internet can help to connect you with popular authors, share your favorite books with other readers, and discover your next great read.


Date: Saturday 2 June, 2.30pm - 4pm **Venue:** Fitzroy Library, 128 Moor Street, Fitzroy **Price:** FREE, bookings essential **Access:** 

The Pitch

The Pitch has been one of our most successful events over the past three years... so this year it's going to be bigger and better than ever!

Featuring an expert panel of editors and publishers to give you no-holds-barred tips and advice about how to successfully present your work. We're also shining a spotlight on creative writing journals, where many writers get their careers started. With time for Q&A, this is one mega pitching session you don't want to miss.

Featuring: Crikey, Death of a Scenester, Farrago, Island Magazine, Killings, Meanjin, Offset, The Weekly Review, Verandah, Verge, Visible Ink, Voiceworks & more! **Hosted by** Emmyrose Hobbs and Bhakthi Puvanenthiran.

Date: Saturday 3 June, 2pm - 4pm **Venue:** Wheeler Centre, 176 Little Lonsdale Street, Melbourne **Price:** \$15 full/\$12 concession **Access:** 

Supported by Victoria University.

AD

Future Bookshop

How will we be reading in the future? Step into Future Bookshop at NGV Studio to find out!

Part art installation, part library and part interactive playground, Future Bookshop is a space for lovers of the written word. Bring a laptop, bring a smartphone, or just bring yourself and experience the ways we will be reading, writing, publishing and engaging with texts in the coming years.

Explore, ponder, read, write and imagine the future of books - then add your own ideas to the exhibition before you leave.

Featuring literary predictions from Emerging Writers' Festival, Express Media, Freeplay, if:book Australia, Meanland, Paper Radio, People Collective, SPUNC, Matt Blackwood and more, Future Bookshop imagines the brave new world of reading in a digital age.

The future is an amazing literary place. We know because we're building it right now.

Lisa Dempster
Curator, Future Bookshop

Words in Winter, Future Bookshop Residents (Mon 4 Jun – Sun 17 Jun)

Future Bookshop will feature real, live writers working in NGV Studio.

See how words unfold at Future Bookshop. Our 16 writers in residence and the Emerging Writers' Festival team will be dreaming, collaborating, creating and asking - what is the future of writing?

Come and watch our writers work, or peruse their constantly-evolving creations, on display daily at Future Bookshop.

Feeling inspired? Sit down and pen your own masterpiece...

Date: 2 June to 17 June **Opening hours:** 10am – 5pm Sun to Wed, 10am – 10pm Thu to Sat **Venue:** NGV Studio, Federation Square, Flinders Street, Melbourne **Price:** FREE

*Part of the Light in Winter Festival at Federation Square.
Supported by the National Gallery of Victoria.*

LIVE PODCAST: I Heard You Like Re-Reading Books?

Last year two new literary podcasts popped up on the Australian scene - JOMAD I Heard You Like Books and The Rereaders. In this session, the two podcasts come together, mashing up their formats and guests, for a live recording. The Rereaders discuss three current cultural topics, while JOMAD feature an extensive interview with an invited guest.

With Madeleine Crofts, Johannes Jakob, Sam Twyford-Moore and Karen Pickering.

Date: Saturday 2 June, 11am – 12pm **Venue:** Wheeler Centre, 176 Little Lonsdale Street, Melbourne **Price:** FREE, no bookings required **Access:** 

Penguin Plays Rough Gets Graphic @ Future Bookshop

Sydney's rag tag short fiction event, Penguin Plays Rough, will be hailing the first hovercraft out of St Peters, bound straight for the Future Bookshop. To usher in a future of visually stunning books, we'll giving the narrative power to the people who make the pictures.

Writer Amanda Maxwell will pen a story to photos by photographer Lucy Parakhina, and Sonja Dechian will add words to drawings by Sydney-based illustrator Helen Nehill, artist Matt Huynh will illustrate a story told by an electric guitar, graphic novelists Nicki Greenberg (The Great Gatsby - graphic novel) and one half of DIY printing press Blood and Thunder, Leigh Rigozzi, will showcase their latest work, and for those baffled by pictures, Lifted Brow editor Ronnie Scott will compress his PhD thesis on comics down to five minutes, which will surely help give you your visual bearings.

If the future still makes you a little bit anxious, fear not! We will have a large pot of hot chocolate on the boil, so bring a mug, and a rug, and we'll ease you into the future with a gentle chocolatey nudge.

Date: Saturday 2 June, 6pm – 8pm **Venue:** Future Bookshop, NGV Studio, Federation Square, Flinders Street, Melbourne **Price:** FREE, no bookings required **Access:**

Supported by the New South Wales Writers' Centre.

Page Parlour

Featuring more than 40 stalls with a vast variety of indie books, literary journals, posters, hand-crafted story books, zournals, zines and much, much more!

Come, sit, read, walk and immerse yourself in some of the best independent, underground, obscure and locally produced publications. Check out the best self published books on the block at the Blurb table or nab yourself a copy of *The Emerging Writer* – it's all happening.

Get in before everyone else does and find your new favourite read as we showcase a wealth of literary talent in our 2012 Page Parlour.

Date: Sunday 3th June, 12pm – 5pm **Venue:** The Atrium @ Federation Square, Swanston Street **Price:** FREE **Access:** 


Supported by City Of Melbourne.

EWF Mega Open Mic

We're handing the mic over to you! Bring your poems, your stories, your micro-fiction and show us what you've got. This massive two-hour event will be packed with exciting new voices, including a feature performer each hour, plus more voices who want to be heard...

Sign-up sheets will be available from 12pm. Please limit your reading to five minutes.

Hosted by Jessica Alice. Feature performers include Josephine Rowe.

Date: Sunday 3 June, 12.30pm – 2.30pm **Venue:** Future Bookshop, NGV Studio, Federation Square, Flinders Street, Melbourne **Price:** FREE, no bookings required **Access:** 

AD

Spelling Bee

Do you like words? Enjoy flexing your linguistic muscles? Can you SPELL?

If so, step up and face the Emerging Writers' Festival Spelling Bee to prove your orthographic prowess – and potentially walk away with our infamous lit-nerd trophy. Not to mention bragging rights forevermore! Plus, there'll be drinking and dancing to bring the festival to a close.

Hosted by Karen Pickering. **Judged by** Andrew Finegan.

Date: Sunday 3 June, from 6.30pm – late **Venue:** Gertrude's Brown Couch, 30 Gertrude Street, Fitzroy **Price:** FREE

AD

Bios

Adsett, Alex – Alex Adsett is a consultant offering publishing contract and negotiating advice to authors, publishers and book-sellers. She has fifteen years experience working in the publishing and bookselling industry, as well as a background in legal research and contract drafting. She is often to be found on twitter at @alexadsett or via her website alexadsett.com

Ahmad, Michael Mohammed – I am chief editor of Westside Publications. I am also currently completing an Honours Degree at UWS and a JUMP Mentorship with Professor Ivor Indyk. I have produced twelve anthologies and over 30 literary events across Western Sydney, including performances, readings and book launches. Most recently I produced and performed in the 2012 Sydney Writers' Festival event, Moving People.

Alice, Jessica – Jessica Alice resides in Brunswick in a brown and orange 70s palace. Her most beloved possessions are her bookshelf and Collector's Edition Buffy boxset. She is currently writing her Honours thesis on the work of contemporary American poet Johanna Drucker. Her favourite dinosaur is brachiosaurus.

Alizadeh, Ali – I am a writer of poetry, fiction, non-fiction and drama. My books include *Ashes in the Air* (UQP, 2011) and *Iran: My Grandfather* (Transit Lounge, 2010). I've been praised and criticised for being an unapologetically political writer. I'm also interested in philosophy and history. I teach creative writing at Monash University.

Asphyxia – Asphyxia is a Deaf puppeteer and author who handcrafted the Grimstones family and miniature furnishings from household junk. She tours nationally and internationally with the acclaimed theatre show: The Grimstones, which has now been turned into a delightful children's book series.

Bailey, Brendan – Brendan Bailey used to write poems. Hey, it was the 90s. He also had multicoloured dreadlocks and wore overalls in those heady times. Then he used to write a zine. Then he used to write

about punk rock. Now he writes about bikes and cycling, has a sensible haircut and button-down shirts. Sometimes he types so hard that his fingers hurt.

Bailey, John – John Bailey has been a journalist and critic for more than ten years, acting as arts writer for the *Sunday Age* and appearing regularly in various publications throughout Australia. He also presents fortnightly on radio station RRR, lectures at the University of Melbourne and coordinates The Signal Express, an online culture magazine written entirely by Melbourne teenagers.

Barnes, Anna – Anna Barnes is a Melbourne writer, playwright, LOLcat fancier and researcher. She has had her plays and monologues performed around Australia. Her YA nonfiction book for girls: *"Girl! The Ultimate Guide To Being You"* is being published by Penguin in July 2012.

Bartlett, Myke – I grew up in Perth, Western Australia, and spent 20 years looking for an escape route. To keep myself busy, I started writing novels. My first book was read aloud to my year five class. My most recent book won the 2011 Text Prize. I also journalise for magazines and newspapers.

Baxter, Alan – Alan Baxter writes dark fantasy, sci-fi and horror fiction, plus reviews, feature articles and opinion. His novels, *RealmShift* and *MageSign*, are out through Gryphonwood Press, and his short fiction has appeared in a variety of journals and anthologies in Australia, the US, the UK and France. Learn more at alanbaxteronline.com

Bayes, Chantelle – Chantelle Bayes is undertaking a PhD in creative writing at Griffith University. She has read her work at the Brisbane Writer's Festival and is a member of the Small Room Writers Collective. Her work has been published in *Unreal Estate* and she was shortlisted for the World Nomads Travel Writing Scholarship 2011.

Bettanin, Donica – Donica Bettanin has over ten years' publishing experience, including working in-house at Text

Bios

Publishing and with the literary agency Jenny Darling & Associates. She is currently the Programming Coordinator at The Wheeler Centre.

Birch, Tony – Tony Birch is a Melbourne-based writer. His books include *Shadowboxing* (2006), *Father's Day* (2009) and *Blood* (2011). He teaches in the writing program in the School of Culture and Communication at Melbourne University.

Black, Sophie – Sophie Black is the big cheese at *Crikey* (ie: editor.) which has been variously described by its critics as an e-zine, a smear sheet, a random electronic gossip site, a dicky little news sheet and "that thing on the internet." Luckily, most smart, discerning, good looking folk adore the publication (which is, innocently enough, the largest independent news website in the country).

Blackwood, Matt – Matt Blackwood is an award winning writer of almost-readable novels and short stories, scripts and operettas, and has designed several bespoke Locative Literature projects, including *MyStory*, *4Stories* and *6Stories*.

Blanchard, Bethanie – Bethanie Blanchard is the new literary blogger for *crikey.com.au* with *Liticism*. She is a Melbourne writer and literature PhD candidate at the University of Melbourne. Her writing has appeared in *Kill Your Darlings*, *The Lifted Brow*, *Crikey* and *Spike*.

Brown, Benjamin – Benjamin Brown is a creative writing student at Griffith University. He has previously read at the Sydney Writer's Festival Pitch Competition, Small Room Writer's Collective events, Friends of the Library Griffith University and the Somerset College 'So You Think You Can Write' literary battle royale at the Somerset Festival of Literature.

Buckmaster, Luke – Luke Buckmaster is a Melbourne based writer, editor, journalist, blogger and social media boffin. He is currently Website Editor of *crikey.com.au*

Burton, Miranda – Miranda Burton is a multimedia artist specialising in printmaking drawing, animation and creating autobiographical comic strip stories. Her first book *Hidden* was published in 2011 by Black Pepper.

Campbell, Mel – Freelance journalist, cultural critic and defending champ of the EWF Spelling Bee. Mel edits pop-culture website *The Enthusiast* (www.theenthusiast.com.au), reviews films for the *Thousands* network of city guides (www.thethousands.com.au), and furtively reads trashy paranormal romance fiction. Her debut book *Out of Shape*, a non-fiction investigation of clothing size and fit, will be published in 2013 by Affirm Press.

Campisi, Dale – Dale Campisi is a writer of food and travel books, publisher at Arcade Publications and Editor of Tasmania's literary journal, *Island*. He has worked in the publishing for ten years and taught at the University of Melbourne and Deakin University.

Carter, Lachlann – As Operations Manager for Pigeons, a not-for-profit organisation that offers writing programs to disadvantaged children in Melbourne's west, I work with kids a lot. They're generally pretty honest, so I'm just going to use something one of them said about me as my bio: 'Dude, you're a really bad dancer.'

Case, Jo – Jo Case is senior writer/editor at the Wheeler Centre. Her previous roles have included books editor of *The Big Issue*, associate editor of *Kill Your Darlings* and deputy editor of *Australian Book Review*. She is working on a memoir about parenting a child with Asperger's Syndrome; it will be published by Hardie Grant in 2013.

Chan, Eon – Eon Chan has been known as a social entrepreneur, innovator, "digital branding professional" (news.com.au), "Top 100 Most Influential People in Melbourne" (The Age) and one of the "world's most inspiring young achiever and innovator under 30" (Sandbox Network).

Bios

Chapman, Sofia – Sofia Chapman is a playwright and poet, currently Cafe Poet at Open Studio, Northcote, through Australian Poetry. Her poems have been published in *Prelude* and *Inscribe*, and her plays include *The Anorexic Chef* and the *Accidental Death of an Accordionist*. Her epic 'The Four Accordionists of the Apocalypse' will run at Carlton Courthouse this Fringe Festival.

Chen, Rick – Rick is an entrepreneur and a social change maker with a strong focus on new media design. He has a keen interest in web based technology, user interface design and innovative ideas that change people's behaviour. Rick cofounded Australia's first and biggest crowdfunding platform Pozible in 2010.

Clancy, Jules – Jules Clancy loves food especially veggies. She has a degree in Food Science and is the author of 5 ingredients 10 minutes. She has been earning a living from her blog thestonesoup.com since she quit her job designing chocolate biscuits for Arnotts in January 2010.

Collins, Paul – Paul Collins has written over 140 books and over a 100 short stories. He is best known for *The Quentaris Chronicles*, *The Jelindel Chronicles*, *The Earthborn Wars* and *The Maximus Black Files*. Paul has been short-listed for many awards and won the Aurealis, William Atheling, the inaugural Peter McNamara and the A. Bertram Chandler Award for lifetime achievement in SF. He is the publisher at Ford Street Publishing.

Convery, Stephanie – Stephanie Honor Convery is a Melbourne-based writer of fiction, non-fiction, criticism and commentary. Her work has appeared in *Overland*, *Meanjin*, and on the *ABC Drum*, among others. She has just completed her first novel. She blogs at gingerandhoney.com and *La Fille Mal Gardée*: overland.org.au/blogs/lfmg/. On Twitter she is @gingerandhoney.

Cooney, Sam – Sam Cooney has published fiction, creative nonfiction and journalism in a variety of places, both in Australia and overseas. He has also commissioned and edited writing for a few

Australian journals, and is currently the fiction editor of *The Lifted Brow*. He tweets as @samuelcooney and webs at thejumbuckisalmostextinct.com

Croggan, Alison – Alison Croggan is a Melbourne writer whose work includes prize winning poetry, criticism, novels and theatre. She is the author of the fantasy quartet *The Books of Pellinor* and her new novel, *Black Spring*, is due late 2012. She was awarded the 2009 Geraldine Pascall Critic of the Year for her theatre criticism.

Curnow, Nathan – Nathan Curnow is an award-winning poet and past editor of *Going Down Swinging*. His latest book *The Ghost Poetry Project* is based upon his stays at ten haunted sites around the country. His new collection, *RADAR*, a joint book with poet Kevin Brophy, is forthcoming in 2012 with Walleah Press.

Dattner, Zoe – Zoe has worked in the publishing industry for over 10 years. She is a founder and general manager of SPUNC.

Dawkins, Tom – For over 15 years Tom Dawkins has been exploring how technology and culture can be harnessed as tools to create a more democratic and participatory society. His latest project is StartSomeGood.com, crowd funding for social enterprise.

Dechian Sonja – Sonja Dechian's short fiction has appeared in *The Best Australian Stories*, *New Australian Stories*, *The Sleepers Almanac*, and others. She's the co-editor of two books of young people's writing about the Australian refugee experience, *Dark Dreams* and *No Place Like Home*. Sonja worked for some time as a television producer for the ABC in Adelaide and now freelances in Melbourne. She's written for television, museum, radio and documentary and is currently working on a collection of short stories.

Dempster, Lisa – Lisa Dempster is the Director of the Emerging Writers' Festival and author of *Neon Pilgrim*. Find her at lisadempster.com.au or @lisadempster.

Bios

Dena, Christy - I'm a writer, designer and director who loves inventing platforms to have to create with. I'm currently working on a hybrid of audio drama and internet play, and have previously worked on alternate reality games, theatre, independent films, and many other areas. I toggle my time between being an educator on transmedia, and inventing things to make new playful stories with.

Donahoo, Daniel - Daniel works with words. He is one of the festival's Geeks-in-Residence. His words have appeared in books, blogs, speeches, poems and lego.

Ducrou, Daniel - Daniel Ducrou's first novel, *The Byron Journals* (Text Publishing, 2010), was shortlisted for the Australian Vogel Literary Award and the Victorian Premier's Literary Award. He has published short stories in *Sleepers Almanac* and the *Australian Review of Fiction*, and is currently working on a second novel. danielducrou.com

Dux, Monica - Monica Dux is a Melbourne writer and social commentator. She has published widely on women's issues and in 2008 she co-authored the book *The Great Feminist Denial*. She is currently writing a book on pregnancy and motherhood, which will be published by Melbourne University Press in 2013.

Elliott, Tom - Tom is a director of both Beulah Capital Pty Ltd (an independent wealth management firm) and MM&E Capital Pty Ltd (a Melbourne based hedge fund). Tom currently hosts the Weekend Break show on Melbourne radio station 3AW, and appears regularly on both the ABC's *Inside Business* programme and Network Ten's *The Project*. Tom holds a Bachelor of Commerce from the University of Melbourne and a Bachelor of Arts (Philosophy, Politics and Economics) from Oxford University (UK).

Eltham, Ben - Ben Eltham is *New Matilda's* National Affairs Correspondent, *Crikey's* arts columnist and a Fellow of the Centre for Policy Development.

Espeseth, Amy - Born in rural Wisconsin, Amy Espeseth immigrated to Australia in

the late 1990s. As publisher at Vignette Press, she will continue their acclaimed sub-cultural journal series with *Geek Mook* and *Fat Mook*. Both of her novels, *Sufficient Grace* and *Trouble Telling the Weather*, will be published by Scribe.

Fearne, Paul - Dr Paul Fearne is a Melbourne writer and poet. His first book, *Diary of a Schizophrenic*, was launched at the 2010 Melbourne Writers Festival. His second book, *A Schizophrenic on Artaud*, has just been released. Dr Fearne holds a PhD from LaTrobe University, and an MA from Melbourne University.

Finegan, Andrew - Andrew Finegan is a reader and writer of poetry, music and cabaret. He has recently returned to Melbourne after spending the last nine months travelling in Japan. The temples were pretty, but got boring after a while.

Fitzgerald Timothy - Timothy Fitzgerald is a creative writing and digital communications major at Griffith University. His personal essay 'Just talk diamonds' will be published in *Talent Implied 2012*. He regularly performs as part of the Small Room Writers Collective. In 2011, he was selected to be apart of Griffith's expedition to the Ubud Writer's and Reader's festival in Bali.

Ford, Adam - Adam Ford is the author of the poetry books *The Third Fruit is a Bird*, *Not Quite the Man for the Job*, the novel *Man Bites Dog* and the short story collection *Heroes and Civilians*. He makes zines and comics sometimes, too.

Ford, Clementine - Clementine Ford is a rabbleroising, troublemaking, mouthy banshee who lives in the starving middle class artists' enclave known as 'North Fitzroy'. By day, she writes polemical screeds about feminism, politics and sociology. By night, she watches *Game of Thrones* and feels funny in her downthere.

Fraser Zoe - Zoe Fraser is an Honours student in Creative Writing. Her fiction appears in the forthcoming *Talent Implied* anthology. In 2011 she participated in Griffith University's Writing Retreat with

Bios

Frank Moorhouse, the Oxford Creative Writing Summer School, and the Ubud Writers and Readers Festival. She is a member of Small Room Writer's Collective.

Gabres, Alia - Alia Gabres is a co-director of The Centre for Poetics and Justice, a not-for-profit organisation focused on using poetry as a form of literary education, self expression and social engagement for marginalised peoples. She was recently a part of the Global Poetics Tour 2011 and is Cafe Poet at the Melbourne City Library.

Gardiner, Kelly - Kelly Gardiner is an author, journalist, blogger and editor with many years' experience in print and digital media. Her books include last year's YA novel, *Act of Faith*, the 'Swashbuckler' adventure trilogy for young readers, and a picture book, *Billabong Bill's Bushfire Christmas*.

Giovannoni, Dan - Dan Giovannoni writes plays for adults and young people. Most recently he wrote *Two by Two* and *Cut Snake*, and worked on *No Show's Shotgun Wedding* for Next Wave. He is currently working as a guest artist with *Back to Back's Theatre of SPEED*, is a writer-in-residence at Red Stitch, and in June will be artist-in-residence at Leonora High School in remote WA. His new play *Wrecking* opens at the Old Fitz in September.

Goldsworthy, Kerryn - Kerryn Goldsworthy is a writer and literary critic who lives and works in Adelaide. She is a regular weekly reviewer for the Sydney Morning Herald and is the author of three books, the most recent of which is *Adelaide* in the Cities Series being published by NewSouth Books.

Green, Simon - Simon J. Green writes for websites, video production and screen. He just so happens to be marvellous at producing those very same things. He's equally at home in a spreadsheet as he is in Celtx. His latest work is *BULLET: A Superhero Comedy*, a radio play performed live on stage at the Melbourne Comedy Festival.

Greenberg Nicki - Nicki Greenberg is a writer and illustrator with a special interest in sequential art narrative. Nicki's first books, *The Digits* series, were published when she was fifteen years old, and sold more than 380,000 copies. Since then, she has devoted most of her ink to comics, but has also written and illustrated fiction and non-fiction books for children. At seventeen, Nicki fell in love with *The Great Gatsby*. Almost ten years later, she set out to pay tribute to F. Scott Fitzgerald's novel by interpreting it in comic art form. It took more than six years to complete this enormous labour of love. This mad undertaking was followed by three years' passionate work on Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, which was finally staged on the page in 2010. Nicki lives in Melbourne, Australia, with her family, their poodle and two bad cats. In her spare time she works as a lawyer.

Guest, Nicholas - Nicholas Guest is an undergraduate writing student at Griffith University on the Gold Coast and a member of the Small Room Writers Collective. He completed an internship at the 2011 Ubud Writers and Readers Festival and his novella *The Ferry Master* will be published in the upcoming anthology *Talent Implied 2012: New Writing from Griffith*.

Halamish, Eyal - Activist, consultant, and storyteller from Chicago living in Melbourne, Australia shaking up the political-media system by putting citizens in the driver seat.

Hall, Leanne - Leanne Hall writes novels and short stories that sit somewhere between reality and fantasy. She works as a children's and YA specialist at an independent bookstore, and is a compulsive recommender of books.

Harper, Andrew - I write, spin yarns, tell jokes and make art. I am a performer that indulges in stand up, I make performance art and I collect and tell stories. I am interested in what a story is, and the place and purpose of sharing them in the modern age.

Bios

Harris, Fiona - Fiona Harris is an actor/writer whose TV writing and performing credits include sketch comedy series', *Skithouse*, *Flipside*, *Comedy Inc.* and ABC3's kids show *Prank Patrol*. She has written numerous comedy festival shows, including the award-winning *Footy Chicks*, and *Plus One*, which had its successful debut at the MICF this year.

Harris, Narrelle - Narrelle M Harris is a Melbourne-based writer. Her latest book is *Showtime*, a short story collection, released in March 2012 by Twelfth Planet Press. The sequel to *The Opposite of Life*, a vampire novel set in Melbourne, will be published in mid-2012 by Clan Destine Press. Narrelle also writes in the business sector. She created the Melbourne Literary iPhone app in association with Sutro Media in 2010. Her second app in partnership with Sutro, Melbourne Peculiar, is due out in April 2012. Her website is narrellemharris.com and her blog, mortalwords.com

Hawthorne, Susan - Susan Hawthorne co-founder Spinifex Press with Renate Klein 21 years ago. Spinifex has published more than 200 titles and embarked on eBook publishing in 2006. She's a member of the APA's Independent Publishers Committee. She is the author of ten books and is Adjunct Professor in the Writing Program at James Cook University, Townsville.

Hilton, Belinda - Belinda Hilton is a PhD student at Griffith University Gold Coast. She was the featured poet for the Poetry in Film Festival 2011 and her work has appeared in *Talent Implied*. Belinda has been the director of Small Room Writers Collective since late 2009 and has a performance background.

Hobbs, Emmyrose - Emmyrose Hobbs is co-managing editor of *Offset*, Victoria University's creative arts journal. She has interned for Express Media, Emerging Writers' Festival and was on the editorial committee for *Inscribe* magazine. She sometimes writes reviews for Artshub. She'll never be caught without red lipstick on.

Hocking, Courtney - Courteney Hocking is a hard-working writer & comedian. She's worked as the only ladywriter for *Good News Week* (Ten), founded Australia's only political comedy room, Political Asylum and written for the *Age* and *Crikey*, as well as co-hosting radio with Daniel Kitson. She's "whip smart... shrewd & funny" (the *Age*).

Howell, Sarah - Sarah is known as a producer of comics related events and projects, including as Co-Director of the 2009-10 National Young Writers' Festival. Sarah's illustrations have appeared in the Emerging Writers' Festival *Reader*, *The Lifted Brow*, and the 2011 Melbourne Writers' Festival comic anthology *Drawn from Life*.

Huynh, Matt - Matt Huynh is a Sydney born, New York based, illustrator and comic creator. Creative Sydney Festival named him one of the most innovative contributors to Sydney's culture for his graphic novel CAB, documenting true stories from his childhood suburban migrant community, Cabramatta. In 2009, Matt worked with leading illustrators and publishers worldwide under the Design NSW Travelling Scholarship. From 2010-2011, Matt undertook a yearlong commitment to create new exhibitions with every season, culminating in the exhibition of a nine meter charcoal scroll and paintings in the Australian Museum. Matt documented a Chinatown martial arts troupe in a reportorial comic launched at the *Sydney Opera House* for the 2011 *Graphic Festival*. His work has appeared in the *New York Times*, *Rolling Stone* and *Bloomberg Business Week*. More of his work can be found at matthuynh.com

Hull, Eliza - Eliza Hull is a poet, lyricist and singer. She currently works at Australian Poetry and her debut EP *Dawn* is out in May.

Hussain, Nazeem - Nazeem Hussain is one of Australia's most incisive and daring comedians. He is one half of the award winning comedy duo 'Fear of a Brown Planet' and co-created and starred on the cult-hit comedy 'Salam Café' on SBS, as well as on *Balls of Steel Australia* on the Comedy Channel.

AD

Bios

JOMAD - A homemade podcast about reading, writing and friendship. With Johannes Jakob, former *Voiceworks* Editor and Pokemon aficionado and Madeleine Crofts, primary-teacher-to-be and general loudmouth.

Jordan, Toni - Toni Jordan can't stop writing, reading, teaching and thinking about novels.

Joseph, Dione - Dione Joseph is a prolific writer with extensive experience as a theatre director and community cultural arts worker. Dione has worked for Fairfax Media in New Zealand and is the former editor of *Melbourne City Newspaper*. She is now working as editor-in-chief of new online lifestyle publication thebearbrass.com

Karipoff, Varia - I am a Melbourne based arts and culture writer (*RealTime Arts*, *Essentials*). I have been recently shortlisted for the Ada Cambridge Prize for Poetry and am working on a short and bittersweet pack of poems. My prose and fiction has been published online and in zines (*Young British Poets*, *Capsule*, *Potroast*).

Keep, Elmo - Writer, gun for hire, pedant. My philosophy is simple, like a bean.

Keil, Melissa - Melissa Keil is a Melbourne-based writer, obsessive book-buyer, and confirmed geek. She has at various times been a high school teacher, Middle-Eastern tour guide, waitress, and community theatre dog's body. She is currently working as a children's editor and completing her first YA novel.

Keys, Katie - Katie Keys / tinylittlepoems is a thirty-something non-Indig Aussie Brit and Café Poet at Melbourne's Rue Bebelons. A poet, writer, reviewer and arts manager, her writing has been published in anthologies, magazines and online in Australia and beyond. She tweets one tiny little poem each day at twitter.com/tinylittlepoems

Lees, Phil - Phil Lees is a Melbourne-based writer and social media manager for Tourism Victoria. He writes at lastappetite.com,

covers global food issues each week for SBS's World Food Blog and occasionally in the offline media at *Wall Street Journal*, *Chili Pepper Magazine* and others. Lonely Planet once called him "the unofficial pimp of Cambodian cuisine".

L'Estrange, Sarah - Sarah L'Estrange is a producer on Books and Arts Daily, ABC Radio National.

Leung, Lawrence - TV writer, comedian and director. He created two ABC1 telly shows, 'Lawrence Leung's Unbelievable' and the AFI-nominated 'Choose Your Own Adventure'. He also wrote pranks for 'The Chaser's War On Everything' and toured his award-winning stand up shows nationally and overseas. He once solved a Rubik's Cube whilst skydiving.

Leyre, Julien - Manic multi-tasker. Julien speaks Mandarin with a French accent and Italian body language. He writes fiction, non-fiction and film - some of it with a gay focus - some of it on exotic places. He's bringing Chinese writing to the West - online, with others. And it's his second year at the EWF.

Lincolne, Pip - Pip Lincolne is a Melbourne dwelling blogger and author. Pip has been blogging since 2006. She's penned 4 crafty books and is working on her 5th and 6th, in between writing almost daily lifestyle blog Meet Me at Mikes, editing News Ltd women's blog JustB, writing for Frankie and hanging with her kids (she has 3!) Pip lives in inner city Fitzroy, appears on The Circle semi-regularly and would like a house in the country with a wood-fired oven and a big verandah, please. She has a dog, a cat and two birds and has just snuck a puppy into her house, too.

Maguire, Emily - I'm the author of three novels and two non-fiction books, and my essays and articles on feminism, sex, culture and travel have been published widely. When I'm not writing, I work as a mentor for new and emerging writers, and run creative writing workshops for kids.

Bios

McDermott, Kirstyn - Kirstyn McDermott is a Melbourne author whose work has been published in various journals, magazines and anthologies, including *Aurealis*, *Southerly*, *GUD*, *Southern Blood* and *Island*. She has received various awards for both her short fiction and her debut novel, *Madigan Mine*. Her second novel, *Perfections*, will be published in 2012.

McGinley Erin - Erin McGinley is a Bachelor of Communications student at Griffith University Gold Coast. She is a member of the Small Room Writers Collective.

McGregor, Fiona - Sydney writer and performance artist. She has published five books, the most recent *Indelible Ink* winning The Age Book of the Year. Showed Water Series - performances inspired by water - at Artspace and MOP in 2011.

McGuire, Jess - Jess McGuire is a writer & broadcaster. She can be heard every morning between 6am & 9am on Triple R as a member of the Breakfasters. She was the editor of pop culture website Defamer Australia for four years, and has written for various publications including *The Daily Life*, *The Vine*, *The Sunday Age*, *The Drum*, and *jmag* amongst others.

McKenzie, Ben - Ben McKenzie is an actor (The Bazura Project, Woodley), scientist (The Peer Revue), comedian (Museum Comedy), feminist, improviser (Dungeon Crawl), geek, presenter (Planet Nerd), gameguy (Pop Up Playground), voiceover artist, nerd, writer (*Geek Mook*) and ginger (real life). Find him at labcoatman.com.au or follow @labcoatman. His favourite dinosaur is Stegosaurus.

McClelland, Andrew - Andrew McClelland is a comedian, writer and DJ. Modesty prevents him from saying how good he is at those things, but not from implying it through the medium of this sentence.

Measham, Fatima - Fatima Measham is a Melbourne writer whose work has appeared in *ABC The Drum*, *Fairfax National Times*, *Eureka Street*, *Australian Catholics*, and *The King's Tribune*. She hopes to make a career out of being the Token Brown Female Asian at festival panels.

Meyer, Angela - Angela Meyer's short stories and reviews have been published widely. She is a former acting editor of *Bookseller+Publisher* and runs a popular literary blog, *LiteraryMinded*. She is working on a novel as part of a Doctor of Creative Arts through the University of Western Sydney. literaryminded.com.au

Modra, Penny - Penny Modra is the editor of *The Thousands Melbourne*, and the editorial director of the *Thousands City Guides*. She has written weekly visual arts columns for the Age and the *Sunday Age*; edited books including *Nobody Told Me There'd Be Days Like These* (Amanda Maxwell, 2008); and recently proof read *Wooooo Magazine* issue #7, Arts Victoria's *Cheap Arts* guide and four PhDs - although she will never, ever do this again.

Murray, Ruby J - Ruby J Murray is a writer, researcher, and sometime foot-stomper currently based in Melbourne, Australia. She writes political opinion and creative non-fiction for both on-line and print publications and is a regular contributor to *Dumbo Feather Pass it On*. Her debut novel *Running Dogs*, set in Jakarta, Indonesia, is out through Scribe.

Musa, Omar - Omar Musa is a rapper and poet from Queanbeyan, Australia. He has won the Australian Poetry Slam and the Indian Ocean Poetry Slam. He has released a book of poetry, three hip-hop albums recorded in the USA and has toured throughout Asia, Europe and Australia, doing writers festivals and hip-hop shows, including tour support for Gil Scott-Heron in Germany.

Nette, Andrew - I am a Melbourne-based writer and one of the editors at Crime Factory Publications, a recently established small press specialising in crime fiction. My first novel will be released mid-2012 by Snubnose Press. My blog, *Pulp Curry*, focuses on crime fiction and film, particularly from Asia and Australia.

O'Duffy, Patrick - Patrick O'Duffy publishes textbooks by day and writes by night. Well, on weekends anyway. Previously

Bios

working in the roleplaying games industry as a writer and designer, these days he focuses on writing and publishing short-form ebooks, blogging about writing and slowly completing his first novel.

O'Reilly, Paddy - I'm an odd-jobbing writer, back living in my home town Melbourne. I've published three and a quarter books and many short stories in magazines and anthologies. My latest book is *The Fine Colour of Rust*.

Parakhina, Lucy - Lucy Parakhina is a photographer and creative producer living in Sydney. As part of Penguin Plays Rough, she project managed the publication of a book and a multi-media iPhone app. As a core member of performance collective Fetish Frequency, she participated in Underbelly Arts Festival 2011. As a photographer, she has worked for Performance Space, PACT Centre for Emerging Artists, Oxfam and FBI Radio, and has had her photos published in *Ampersand*. In 2012, she is a co-curator of Open Source, a new program of interdisciplinary performance creative developments supported by the Australia Council.

Pascoe, Bruce - Writes a lot. Plays a bit of cricket. Swims, fishes, knocks about in the bush. Secretary of Bidwell-Maap Nation. Bunurong-Tasmanian heritage.

Payne, Bede - Bede Payne is a union official working for the Media, entertainment and arts alliance. As a campaign coordinator he has worked with Journalists from across the country on improving pay, conditions, journalistic quality and copyright protection in a fast changing media landscape. With degrees in creative writing and industrial relations he sees the creative industries both as a creator and an activist.

Pegler, Tim - As a journo, Tim Pegler used to see himself as a professional sceptic. But sometimes events can't be easily explained away... Tim's second YA novel, *Five Parts Dead*, draws on spooky tales told to him. Now it's time to share them with you.

Pickering, Karen - Karen Pickering is the incumbent editor of *The Emerging Writer*. She is the creator and host of *Cherchez la Femme*, a monthly digest of pop culture and current affairs from a feminist perspective. Her writing has appeared in *Overland*, *Crikey* and *The Drum*, and she presents a radio segment on feminist classics, called *The Women's Room*, for Aural Text on RRR. In her spare time, she organises SlutWalk Melbourne and moonlights as a comedian, host and MC.

Pintado, Marisa - I am a commissioning editor of children's and YA fiction at Hardie Grant Egmont in Melbourne. In 2011 I launched the Ampersand Project, a search for YA manuscripts by unpublished writers. I have half-baked plans to begin a blog about apples, but otherwise lack any serious writing credits.

Pittman, Patrick - Patrick Pittman has been a freelance writer, editor, radio broadcaster, playwright, academic, activist, company director, community builder, and nightshift carer of a supercomputer. He is the editor of *Dumbo Feather*, a Melbourne-based quarterly magazine featuring conversations with extraordinary people.

Plumley, Fee - A geek artist, a bus, many guests & a huge country to explore. crowdsourcing my life for the sake of creative digital culture. reallybigroadtrip.com

Pobjie, Ben - Ben is a writer, comedian and raconteur who has for years explored the nature of truth through humour, satire and jokes about sweaty people on MasterChef. He can be found in newspapers and websites absolutely everywhere.

Puvanenthiran, Bhakthi - Bhakthi Puvanenthiran is a journalist, editor, programmer and broadcaster from Melbourne. She works at the Melbourne Writers' Festival and tweets @bhakthi.

Ramadge, Andrew - Andrew Ramadge knows how to get a bajillion hits. From 2007 to 2011 he was the national technology reporter for news.com.au. He has also written widely about pop music and is currently learning how to garden.

Bios

Rendle-Short, Francesca - Francesca Rendle-Short grew up in Queensland. She is the author of *Bite Your Tongue* (a novel/memoir), *Imago* (a novel) both by Spinifex Press, and *Big Sister* (Redress Novellas). She has also published many short fictions, photo-essays, exhibition text and poetry. She is the Program Director of Creative Writing at RMIT.

Richards, John - John Richards is an award-winning writer and broadcaster, best known for presenting the *Boxcutters* podcast and co-creating and writing the ABC1 comedy series *Outland*. He has also created material for Radio National, 6UVSFM, RTR, JJJ and Channel 10, hosted shows on RRR and Joy 94.9 and written for many publications.

Rigozzi Leigh - Leigh Rigozzi is a Sydney-based artist and writer. He is best known for his self-published zines and comics. Leigh was a co-founder of the Blood & Thunder publishing concern, and has been heavily involved in the Rizzerria printmaking co-operative. He studied his Masters at Sydney College of the Arts, and now exhibits his drawings and paintings at Ray Hughes gallery in Sydney. His latest publication is entitled *Pubs of the Inner West*. You can see examples of Leigh's work at leighrigozzi.com.

Rolfe, Aden - Aden Rolfe is a writer and editor whose work includes poetry, radioplays, collage and criticism. His writing has appeared in *Best Australian Poems 2011*, *Overland* and *Best Australian Poetry 2009*, and has been broadcast on Radio National. He works as a freelance copywriter, and edited Volume 2 of *The Reader*.

Rogers, Cam - Author of *The Music of Razors*, screen and videogame writer, journalist and photographer. 'Passionate' or 'unhinged', you decide.

Russon, Penni - Penni Russon is fascinated by adolescence and the intersection that exists in that period of life between language, bodies, reality, imagination, poetry, sexuality, and ideas, which is why she mostly writes literary fiction for teenagers. She sometimes writes for boring grownups too, now that she is one.

Ryan, Jackie - Jackie writes, directs and designs Burger Force comics. You can read them if you take a trip to burgerforce.com. If you wander over to jackieryan.net you can also inspect Jackie's film work. The nerd highlight of Jackie's career to date is designing a poster for Stan Lee's Comikaze Expo.

Ryan, Luke - Freelance writer, comedian and man about town. I write short-form non-fiction with a comic edge and am currently working on my debut book, *I Guess You're Only as Sick as You Feel*, a comedy memoir about having had cancer a couple of times due for release through Scribe Publications in early 2013. Work has appeared in *The Vine*, *Smith Journal*, *Crikey*, *The Lifted Brow*, *Kill Your Darlings*, *Time Out* and many others.

Sammut, Carla - Carla Sammut writes the vegan food blog *easy as vegan pie*. She is also a theatre critic having written for *Milkbar Magazine*, *Theatre Alive* and *Broadsheet*.

Sanders, Zora - Zora Sanders is the Deputy Editor of *Meanjin* and former editor of *Farrago*. She is grateful for the opportunity to discuss 17th century Australian maritime history with a captive audience. She doesn't often get the chance.

Scott, Ronnie - Ronnie Scott has published work in *Heat*, *The Big Issue*, and *The Believer*, and he's the comics and graphic novels critic for ABC Radio National. In 2007, he founded *The Lifted Brow*, a freeform arts, culture, and fiction magazine.

Sparrow, Jeff - Jeff Sparrow is the editor of *Overland* literary journal. His books include *Radical Melbourne: A Secret History and Radical Melbourne 2: The Enemy Within* (cowritten with sister Jill), *Communism: A Love Story and Killing: Misadventures in Violence*. He is the co-editor with Antony Loewenstein of *Left Turn*, a collection of political essays. His book on neoliberalism, pornography and censorship will be out later this year.

Bios

Sethi, Anita – Anita Sethi is an award-winning writer, journalist and broadcaster. She is recipient of a Penguin/decibel Prize, Arts Council Writing Award, and Winston Churchill Travelling Fellowship. She is International Writer-in-Residence and Ambassador at the Emerging Writers' Festival, Melbourne 2012. Website: anitasethi.co.uk. Twitter: twitter.com/anitasethi

Starford, Rebecca – Rebecca Starford is associate publisher at Affirm Press and editor and co-founder of *Kill Your Darlings* literary journal. She is a former deputy editor at *Australian Book Review*. Rebecca regularly publishes in the *Age* and the *Australian*.

Stinson, Emmett – Emmett Stinson is the author of the short story collection *Known Unknowns*, which was shortlisted for the 2011 Steele Rudd Award in the Queensland Premiers Awards. He has received the Age Short Story Award and a Lannan Poetry Fellowship, and is a Lecturer in Publishing at the University of Melbourne.

Stokes, Fregmonto – In 2008, Fregmonto co-wrote 'Melbourne Model: The Musical', a satire on the reforms then being introduced at Melbourne University. In 2010, he co-devised the 'Four Friends' Project in Bhutan, and completed an Honours thesis on the project in 2011. Currently he is writing '1938', a musical about an Aboriginal protest that occurred in that year.

Tang, Estelle – Estelle Tang is an editor at Oxford University Press and Online Editor at *Kill Your Darlings*. Her writing has appeared in *Australian Book Review*, *The Lifted Brow*, *The Big Issue* and on Radio National. She also sits on the editorial advisory committee of Paper Radio and the SPUNC board.

Themistes, Nicola – Nicola Themistes is an allegorist, belletrist, Milton devotee and occasional conceited hack. Her first novel, *Spectacle City*, is critical and satirical rendering of cultural identity in the city of Melbourne. She is publishing it independently as a limited print edition and as an e-book in May 2012.

Thiel, Philip – Philip Thiel gave flowers, imitated saints, followed people, used lemons, kissed people, flipped coins, stopped.

Tjhia, Jon – Jon Tjhia is a multimedia dork and corn fancier raised and renting in Melbourne. When not snipping, writing, designing and publishing content as the Wheeler Centre's Online Content Manager, he's co-executive producer and lead sound designer of trans-Tasman non-and-fiction literary podcast Paper Radio, a musician, internet troublemaker and occasional writer.

Toon, Kate – A writer and poet living on the Central Coast, NSW. I've had over 30 short plays performed across Australia, in the US, Europe, Singapore and the UK. A member of Australian Poetry Society, represented by literary agents Curtis Brown, self-publishing a volume of poetry, 'Gone Doty', and raising funds with Pozible.

Trinh, Garry – Garry Trinh is a Sydney-based photographer, artist, and storyteller who believes in the power of publishing. His work has been published in *Monster Children*, *Runway*, *Empty*, and *ANP Quarterly*. As community evangelist for Blurb Australia, he works tirelessly to inspire writers and artists to publish their work. A dedicated bookmaker himself, he has made over ten books with Blurb so far, and is working on more.

Twyford-Moore, Sam – Sam Twyford-Moore is a writer of fiction and non fiction, writing having appeared in *Meanjin*, *Overland* and elsewhere. He is host of The Rereaders podcast. He is currently conspiring with the editors Seizure/Xoim on *The Five Obstructions*, which will be released as an e-book in 2012.

Vandenberg, Owen – Owen Vandenberg is a Melbourne writer and maker of too many dad jokes. He has two disparate tertiary qualifications, which he hopes to reconcile into some kind of grotesque academic chimera. He is also the creator of TweetFilm, a monthly film screening where audience members interact via Twitter.

Bios

Watson, Ashleigh – Ashleigh Watson is in her final year of undergraduate study with Griffith University and is a member of the Small Room Writers Collective. She writes for a tourism magazine on the Gold Coast and last year completed a photography internship in Bali at the Ubud Writers and Readers festival.

Waters, Tessa – Tessa Waters is a Melbourne based comedian, actor and producer known for creating physical comedies with heart and soul. She was voted as one of the Top 10 Emerging Australian comedians by the *Sydney Morning Herald* and the *Age* in 2011 and has toured her critically acclaimed physical comedies (How to be a Lady, Sexytime and Standing up/Falling Down) and film work throughout Australia as well as the United States.

Watts, Richard – Richard Watts is a writer, broadcaster and critic. He hosts the weekly program SmartArts on 3RRR FM, and works as the National Reviews Editor at artshub.com.au

Weldon, John – John Weldon is interested in the intersection of social media and narrative. What happens when you use interactive tech to break down the barriers between readers and writers? What happens to control, to authority, to the writing itself? He also grows marrows.

Whittaker, Jason – Jason Whittaker was named editor of *Crikey* in April 2012, after two years as deputy editor. Previously he spent almost six years editing business publications for a division of ACP Magazines in Brisbane. He's been a blogger, theatre critic and freelancer since completing a Bachelor of Journalism at QUT.

Witteveen, David – I'm a writer living in Melbourne. Mostly I write ghost stories and urban fantasy. I co-curated the online storytelling project Melbourne By Dusk as part of the Emerging Writers' Festival in 2011.

Wray, Tyson – Tyson Wray is an editor, writer and general all-rounder. He specialises in electronic and ambient music alongside the arts. Based in Melbourne, he is the arts and associate music editor of *Beat Magazine*,

editor of *100% Magazine* and the online managing editor of their affiliated website. He contributes to *Resident Advisor*, *triple j mag*, *The Big Issue*, *Fashion Journal*, *mX* and numerous other websites, record labels and publications.

Writer's Web – writers' web allows emerging Australian writers to become authors by connecting them directly with readers rather than waiting to be traditionally published. Created by Emma Mactaggart and Janet Kieseker, www.writersweb.com.au allows the reader to be to be the judge and is a way to 'get spotted' by mainstream publishers through reader reviews.

Young, Stella – Stella Young is a writer, comedian and activist who spends most of her spare time knitting and drinking tea. She is the editor of ABC Ramp Up, an online space for discussion of disability issues in Australia.

Young, Trevor – I'm a 'PR Warrior' on the front line of the communications revolution. As an ex-journalist schooled in the traditional ways of PR, I spend much of my time these days helping businesses, nonprofits and individuals to leverage social media and content marketing strategies to build awareness of, and trust in, their brand. I blog, speak, train, consult, strategise and cajole (as well as create heaps of content for myself and others). I'm partial to '60s hard bop jazz, dramatic film scores, Melbourne's laneway culture and the Geelong Cats.

Zachariah, Lee – Lee is a Melbourne-based writer and critic. He is the co-host of ABC2's The Bazura Project, and the film podcast Hell Is For Hyphenates. He is the writer of FEC Comics' Shakespeare-themed Great Works, and is currently developing other projects due for publication in the next year.

Zajkowski, Maria – Maria Zajkowski is a Melbourne based poet. Previously shortlisted for the Alec Bolten Award, the Bridport Prize (UK) and the Newcastle Poetry Prize, she was the winner of the 2011 Josephine Ulrick Poetry Prize. Her work has been funded by Arts Victoria and the Australia Council for the Arts.

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Ticket Info

Town Hall Writers' Conference

Weekend pass:
 \$49 full/\$34 concession
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Masterclasses: \$75
 The Pitch:
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Industry Insider:
 \$12 full/\$8 concession

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Stories that Matter:
 \$20 full/\$12 concession
 Revenge of the Nerds Slide Night:
 \$12 full/\$8 concession
 Fright Night:
 \$20 full/\$12 concession

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