

Emerging Writers' Festival Roadshow



Sydney
Canberra
Wagga Wagga
Melbourne

4 – 10 November 2014

Director's introduction

The Emerging Writers' Festival is thrilled to be returning to Sydney this year to present the EWF Roadshow for the third time at the NSW Writers' Centre. The full day festival at the Centre is filled with daring contemporary conversations around the art of writing – featuring discussions on pop culture, criticism, mentorship, digital literature and way, way more. The Emerging Writers' Festival is more than your usual writers festival!

This year we're taking the term 'Roadshow' literally, stopping in to present events in Wagga Wagga and Canberra on the way. Throughout the trip we will pick up a writer at each stop, before taking them on to celebrate emergent writing at the NSW Writers' Centre. The ability to connect writers like this, to travel and come together to form communities is essential to the work that the Emerging Writers' Festival does. This is writing worth travelling for.

Sam Twyford-Moore, Director

How to book tickets

NSW Writers' Centre

Online at nswwc.org.au or
by phone (02) 9555 9757

Price

Non-members \$90

Members \$60

Member concession \$50

There is plenty of free parking at the Centre. Lunch can be bought from Mexican food van Mobile Cantina. There will also be a coffee cart providing hot drinks and baked goods.

The NSW Writers' Centre is located in the grounds of Callan Park, Balmain Road, Rozelle.

For directions and public transport options, visit our website nswwc.org.au.

Emerging Writers Festival Roadshow

NSW Writers' Centre Saturday 8 November 2014

PATRICK WHITE ROOM

The 5 X 5 Rules of Writing 10am – 11am

Five writers share the writing advice they wish they had known when they were starting out—in the form of five rules for writing, each. It's 5 X 5 and you will come away with 25 hot tips. Featuring Tom Doig, Delia Falconer, Benjamin Law, Walter Mason, and Laura Jean McKay. Hosted by Sam Twyford-Moore.

The Responsibility of Writers 11am – 12pm

Sometimes it needs to be said aloud – writing is an incredibly powerful medium. These writers look at the ethics of writing responsibly, giving voice to the unheard, and the responsibility of storytellers. Featuring Peter Polites, Nakkiah Lui and Eleanor Limprecht. Hosted by Jane McCredie.

When Books Go Big! 12pm – 1pm

What happens when your first book goes better than you expected? This is a conversation about how to keep your head and plan for a career no matter what the outcome of your publishing story. Featuring Bruce McCabe, Jessie Cole and Ingrid Jonach and Lucy Neave. Hosted by Julia Tsalis.

Lunch 1pm – 2pm

Over lunch, take the opportunity to have a look at recent work from Australia's thriving small press scene in an exhibition of comic art hung throughout the Writers' Centre. Curated and introduced by cartoonist Leigh Rigozzi.

Live Writers' Group with SWEATSHOP 2pm – 3pm

Everyone recommends joining a writing group for an opportunity to develop your work-in-progress, but how does one actually work? The SWEATSHOP Western Sydney Literacy Movement will workshop their writing live and show you how it can be done. Featuring Luke Carman, Mohammed Ahmad, Fiona Wright, Lachlan Brown and Felicity Castagna.

Pop Topics 3pm – 4pm

"I have come to chew bubble-gum and talk about pop culture. And I'm all out of bubble-gum!" What is it about pop culture that inspires us? These writers are no snobs and take the power of pop as serious as can be. With Steph Harmon, A.H. Cayley, and Wilfred Brandt.

Travel Stories: Here and There 4pm – 5pm

We all love to travel and travel stories are an increasingly popular form. How do you make your overseas jaunt into a story that stands out? These writers are often out of the country, catch them speaking before they go jetsetting again for their next chapter. Claire Dunn, Walter Mason, Tom Doig. Hosted by Ellen Tyrrell.

You Are Here! 5pm – 5.30pm

Over the course of the EWF you're going to be inspired and overwhelmed and we want to know who you are! Get up on stage and share what you write and what you're going to go home and write after a weekend of inspiring conversation.

The Control Room

Step into The Control Room where you are in control of the conversation. There is no host. There are only the guest and the audience. They bring the experience, you bring the questions.

11am – 12pm: Jemma Birrell (Sydney Writers Festival)
12pm – 1pm: Walter Mason (Author, *Destination Saigon*)
2pm – 3pm: Laura Jean McKay (Author, *Holiday in Cambodia*)
3pm – 4pm: Robert Watkins (Hachette Australia)
4pm – 5pm: Garry Trinh (Blurb)

JUDITH WRIGHT ROOM

Normal: A Performative Reading 11am – 12pm

These four writers all identify as artists with disability, and together they will deliver an innovative performative reading, followed by a Q&A looking at how accessibility can be integral to the creative process. Featuring Amanda Yeo, Gayle Kennedy, Georgia Cranko and Gaelle Sobott.

Proudly supported by Accessible Arts.

The Look of the Book 12pm – 1pm

Sometimes judging a book by its cover feels so, so right. What if illustrators and designers are our closest allies? Are there interesting ways to collaborate? These graphic talents will discuss why a book's design is integral to its very being. With Evi O, Leigh Rigozzi, and Zoë Sadokierski.

Critical Conditions 2pm – 3pm

Critics of criticism say the form has lost its power to persuade audiences. Others say we are entering a new era with the rise of digital criticism. How can creative writers interact with their critical counterparts in useful ways? And can writers themselves ever be truly self-critical? With Susan Wyndham, Delia Falconer, and James Tierney.

Regional Rules 3pm – 4pm

NSW has more writers' centres than any other state or territory. Meanwhile, regional writers festivals are popping up everywhere. Is it time for writers to consider moving to the country or a regional city outside of Sydney? Featuring Claire Zorn, Lachlan Brown, and Samantha Dagg. Hosted by Portia Lindsay.

Enter the Mentor 4pm – 5pm

Mentorship is often an unacknowledged part of the writing ecology, but seems an increasingly essential support system as the industry gets tougher. Meet two writers currently in the NSW Writers' Centre's Indigenous Writers Mentorship Program. Featuring Nardi Simpson and Larissa Behrendt.

The Digital Library

Digital Writer in Residence Connor Tomas O'Brien will be building The Digital Library over the course of the day. Park yourself in our intimate library space as Connor tackles four unique projects, from innovative works involving ebooks, videoconferencing international writers, building a Bot and more. Connor will be on hand to discuss experimental digital literature and how you can build skills in the online world too.

Drinks on the Verandah 5:30pm

Storytelling in the Garden 6pm – 6:30pm

Unwind to some illustrated readings from up-and-coming writers in our indigenous mentorship program. Held in the Writers' Centre garden, featuring Janite Barker, Kodie Bedford, Siv Parker, Nardi Simpson, and Robyn Ridgeway, with visual accompaniment provided by some of Sydney's best comic illustrators.

Festival Participants

For full bios visit nswwc.org.au

Michael Mohammed Ahmad is the director of SWEATSHOP: Western Sydney Literacy Movement. His first novel is *The Tribe* (Giramondo, 2014).

Janite Barker is a Gamilaray woman from Central Western NSW. She is a writer of stories for children.

Kodie Bedford was born and raised in the wild Midwest of Western Australia with family links to the East Kimberley Jaru and Kija language groups.

Larissa Behrendt is an award-winning writer of fiction and non-fiction. She is Professor of Indigenous Research at UTS.

Jemma Birrell is the Artistic Director of the Sydney Writers' Festival.

Wilfred Brandt is a Sydney-based writer and teacher whose focus is on film, music, art, subculture and where these intersect.

Lachlan Brown is a lecturer in English at Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga. Lachlan's first book of poetry, *Limited Cities*, was published by Giramondo in 2012.

Luke Carman is a writer from Livo whose first book of fiction, *An Elegant Young Man*, is available from Giramondo. He is Associate Director of SWEATSHOP.

Felicity Castagna is the author of the short story collection *Small Indiscretions: Stories of Travel in Asia* and the YA novel *The Incredible Here and Now*.

A.H. Cayley is a Sydney writer and broadcaster. She curates and hosts live event Confession Booth at Giant Dwarf.

Tamar Chnorhokian identifies strongly with her Western Sydney community and her Armenian background. Her first novel is *The Diet Starts on Monday*.

Jessie Cole's debut novel, *Darkness on the Edge of Town*, was shortlisted for the 2013 ALS Gold Medal. Her new novel, *Deeper Water*, is out now.

Georgia Cranko wrote and performed the 2010 solo piece for stage, *Living within Context*, based on her life with Cerebral Palsy.

Samantha Dagg is a Newcastle-based writer. Her short fiction has been published in *Going Down Swinging* and the *Sleepers Almanac*.

Tom Doig is a writer, PhD candidate and moron. In 2013 Allen & Unwin published his first book, *Moron to Moron: two men, two bikes, one Mongolian misadventure*.

Claire Dunn is a journalist, educator, barefoot explorer and author of *My Year Without Matches*, a memoir about living in the wilds.

Delia Falconer is the author of two novels *The Service of Clouds* and *The Lost Thoughts of Soldiers*, and a memoir/cultural history - *Sydney*.

Steph Harmon is the managing editor of *Junkee.com*, a pop culture/politics website that launched last year.

Ingrid Jonach's debut young adult novel *When the World Was Flat (and we were in love)* was published internationally and became an Amazon bestseller.

Gayle Kennedy is a member of the Wongaibon Clan of South-West NSW. Her book *Me, Antman & Fleabag* won the David Unaipon Award in 2006.

Benjamin Law is the author of two books—*The Family Law* and *Gaysia: Adventures in the Queer East*—which were nominated for Australian Book Industry Awards.

Eleanor Limprecht's first novel, *What Was Left*, came out last year and was shortlisted for the Australian Literature Society Gold Medal.

Portia Lindsay is the General Manager and Online Editor for *Seizure* and writes for publications including *The Australian* and *Books and Publishing* magazine.

Astrid Lorange is an Associate Lecturer at UNSW Art & Design and a Researcher at the National Institute of Experimental Arts. Her poetry books include *Pathetic Tower*, *Eating and Speaking* and *Minor Dogs*.

Madelaine Lucas has appeared in *Island Magazine*, and several volumes of the *UTS Writers' Anthology*. She is currently working on an album with her band *Devotional*.

Nakkiah Lui is a writer for theatre and TV and proud Gamilaroi and Torres Strait Islander woman from Mount Druitt, Western Sydney.

Walter Mason's first book, *Destination Saigon* was named one of the ten best travel books of 2010 by the *Sydney Morning Herald*.

Bruce McCabe is the author of the thriller *Skinjob*. He lived in Kenya, Fiji and Japan before returning to Sydney, where he is now based.

Jane McCredie is the Executive Director of the NSW Writers' Centre.

Laura Jean McKay is the author of *Holiday in Cambodia* (Black Inc. 2013), which was shortlisted for the New South Wales Premier's Literary Awards.

Lucy Neave is the author of *Who We Were*, a novel published by Text.

Evi O. is a book designer and illustrator. She works for Lantern, a division of Penguin Random House and is art director of *Alphabet Family Journal*.

Siv Parker is an Aboriginal woman, an award-winning writer and a social commentator.

Peter Polites recently edited the publication *Ornaments from Two Countries*.

Robyn Ridgeway is a Dungutti woman who writes poetry and YA paranormal romance.

Leigh Rigozzi is a Sydney-based artist and writer. He is the editor of the comics anthology *Blood & Thunder*.

Zoë Sadokierski is an award winning book designer, illustrator and writer who lectures at UTS.

Nardi Simpson is from the Yuwaalaraay people. She is a writer and member of folk/soul band the Stiff Gins.

Gaele Sobott is currently completing a collection of short stories on her experience of disability, and life in Lakemba.

James Tierney is a writer and reviewer from Sydney. His work has appeared in *The Sydney Morning Herald*, *The Australian*, *Australian Book Review* and *The Big Issue*.

Connor Tomas O'Brien is Digital Programs Manager of the Emerging Writers' Festival.

Garry Trinh is the Community Manager for *Blurb Australia*.

Julia Tsalis is the Program Manager of the NSW Writers' Centre.

Sam Twyford-Moore is the Director of the Emerging Writers' Festival.

Ellen Tyrrell is Membership Officer at the NSW Writers' Centre. She is also a Sydney based writer with a Masters in Creative Writing from UTS.

Robert Watkins is a publisher at Hachette Australia. He's primarily interested in publishing non-fiction with a leaning towards young, contemporary voices.

Fiona Wright's poetry collection, *Knuckled*, won the 2012 Dame Mary Gilmore Award.

Susan Wyndham is the literary editor of *The Sydney Morning Herald*.

Amanda Yeo is a solicitor and SWEATSHOP writer.

Claire Zorn's first young adult novel *The Sky So Heavy* was published to critical acclaim in 2013. Her second novel *The Protected* was published in 2014.

Station to Station

WAGGA WAGGA

Caravanserai of Courage

Date: Tuesday 4 November, 7.30pm – late

Venue: Booranga Writers' Centre, McKeown Drive, Charles Sturt University

Price: Free, bookings essential

Join us on our first stop of the Roadshow with writers Laura Jean McKay, Tom Doig and Lachlan Brown for an evening of reading – the Caravanserai of Courage – with new art by Tony Curran and a chance to participate in our open mic session. Refreshments will be provided.

Proudly supported by Charles Sturt University

The Regional Writers' Roundtable

Date: Wednesday 5 November, 8.30am – 10am

Venue: Eastern Riverina Arts, 98 Fitzmaurice St, Wagga Wagga

Price: Free, bookings essential

Join the EWF team for a breakfast event before hitting the road again. We host an open forum about writing residencies, grants and living regionally. Have your say and get unique writing advice from our visiting writers.

Proudly supported by Charles Sturt University

CANBERRA

The Canberra Caravan

Date: Wednesday 5 November, 7pm – late

Venue: Gorman House Arts Centre, Ainslie Avenue, Braddon

Price: Free, bookings essential

The EWF Roadshow hits its second stop in Canberra. Join writers Laura Jean McKay, Tom Doig, Lachlan Brown and our local Canberra recruits Ingrid Jonach and Lucy Neave for an evening of readings, poetry and more.

Proudly supported by Australian National University

Scissors Paper Pen Lit Breakfast

Date: Thursday 6 November, 8.30am – 10am

Venue: Lonsdale Street Roasters, 7 Lonsdale St, Braddon

Price: Free, bookings essential

SPP presents the Roadshow Breakfast of the Year. Sweep the sleep from your eyes and come coffee with the EWF Roadshow crew. Join the 'life of a writer' roundtable, guest star on a podcast, buy a book, and get literary before the day gets real.

Proudly supported by the University of Canberra

SYDNEY

Amazing Babes

Date: Thursday 6 November, 7.30pm – late

Venue: Giant Dwarf, 199 Cleveland Street, Redfern

Price: \$15 full / \$12 concession

Inspired by Eliza Sarlos's picture book *Amazing Babes*, we invite an incredible line-up of writers to tell stories about the women who have inspired them, in their writing and their lives. The most popular event of this year's Emerging Writers' Festival finally comes to Sydney; this is a night to be inspired and celebrate the women who made us who we are.

Featuring Astrid Lorange, Laura Jean McKay, Pip Smith, Tamar Chnorhokian, Rosanna Beatrice Stevens, Madelaine Lucas, and more. Hosted by Eliza Sarlos.

Electric Literature

Date: Monday 10 November, 6.30pm-9.30pm

Venue: NSW Writers' Centre

Bookings: nswwc.org.au or by phone (02) 9555 9757

Price: \$55 non-members / \$35 members

Connor Tomas O'Brien, director of the Digital Writers' Festival, leads an engaging and thought-provoking seminar on writing digital literature. Imagine you were living in the future, with access to any form of technology imaginable. What kind of story would you tell, and how? Explore the interplay between new kinds of screens, networks, and computers - write an algorithmic poem, create a story that masquerades as a videogame, and learn how to best launch your digital work into this brave new world of words!

Inside the Publishing House

When: Friday 7 November, 12pm – 5pm

Where: Hachette Australia, 207 Kent St, Sydney

Price: \$60 full / \$50 concession

This unique event will take you inside – literally inside – one of Australia's biggest and brightest publishing houses, Hachette Australia. Through the day you will be shown the entire production process of a book – from acquisition to sales – meeting publishers, editors and marketers throughout. This is a once in a lifetime chance to see behind the scenes of how books get made. Perfect for aspiring editors and publishers, join us for a drink afterwards. Tickets are strictly limited.

Proudly supported by Hachette

How to book tickets

For **Wagga Wagga**, **Canberra**, **Amazing Babes** and **Inside the Publishing House**, please visit: emergingwritersfestival.org.au for full event details and bookings.

For **NSWWC Roadshow day** and **Electric Literature** event please visit nswwc.org.au or phone (02) 9555 9757