

Adelaide Writers' Week

Pioneer Women's Memorial Garden

2-7 March 2024

Text only guide

Book Tent

Pioneer Women's Memorial Garden

Sat 2 – Sun 3 Mar 8:30am – 6:30pm

Mon 4 Mar 8:30am – 8pm

Tue 5 Mar 8:30am – 8:30pm

Wed 6 – Thu 7 Mar 8:30am – 6:30pm

All proceeds from the Book Tent help fund Adelaide Writers' Week.

Thank you for your support!

Acknowledgement of Country

Ngadlu tampinhi, Kurna Miyurna yailtya yarta-mathanya Wama Tarntanyaku. Ngadlu tampinhi purkarna pukinangku, yalaka, tarrkaritya. Parnaku yailtya, parnaku tapa purruna, parnaku yarta ngadlu tampinhi. Yalaka Kurna Miyurna parnaku yailtya, tapa purruna, yarta kuma puru martinhi, puru warri-apinhi, puru tangka martulayinhi.

We acknowledge the Kurna people are the traditional custodians of the Adelaide Plains, and pay respects to Elders past and present. We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land. We acknowledge that they are of continuing importance to the Kurna people living today.

Welcome

Peter Malinauskas MP

PREMIER OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Sixty-four years after it was first established, Adelaide Writers' Week continues to celebrate the undeniable power of the written word, of fearless ideas and thoughtful conversation.

Free to anyone who wishes to come along in person and pull up a chair in the beautiful Pioneer Women's Memorial Garden, we are so proud that this festival of words and literature animates the city every March with its riveting talks and thought-provoking debate.

Acclaimed international writers and literary giants converge on our garden to share their books and thoughts, giving us all the chance to be inspired by their work and the opportunity to see the world through their eyes.

I thank Louise Adler AM for this, her second program, and congratulate all who take part in making it happen.

Andrea Michaels MP

MINISTER FOR ARTS

Welcome to Adelaide Writers' Week 2024. It is fantastic to welcome back this celebration of extraordinary and thought provoking literature. Every year, Adelaide draws writers from across the world and brings them together for a series of powerful conversations about the issues and ideas that are shaping our world and this year's program is no different.

Under the direction of Louise Adler AM, this year's Adelaide Writers' Week features an array of talented authors including celebrated literary giants, laureates, poets and world-renowned intellectuals alongside exciting new voices.

I congratulate the team at Adelaide Writers' Week for bringing us yet another extraordinary celebration of the written word.

See you all in the Garden!

Tracey Whiting AM

CHAIR, ADELAIDE FESTIVAL

I am honoured to share the 2024 Adelaide Writers' Week program with you all in my first year as Adelaide Festival Chair. A much-loved and important part of the Festival since 1960, Adelaide Writers' Week continues to provide opportunities for conversation, debate and discussion with writers from across Australia and around the world. This year's program, the second from Director Louise Adler AM, includes some of the finest writers and thinkers in the literary community.

It takes significant support to make this exceptional event possible. I would like to thank our generous philanthropic supporters, particularly members of The Literati donor circle, and acknowledge the support of the Government of South Australia and our corporate partners.

Thank you also to the Adelaide Festival and Writers' Week team for your work in delivering the 2024 program.

Join us in 2024

Adelaide Writers' Week takes place in the heart of Kaurna Meyunna Yerta – Tartanya (red kangaroo place) on the banks of the Karrawirra Parri (red gum forest river).

The main program of events is free to attend and is held outdoors in the Pioneer Women's Memorial Garden and Torrens Parade Ground, located between King William Road, Victoria Drive and Kintore Avenue in Adelaide.

Sessions take place across three main stages (East Stage, West Stage and North Stage) and in the Torrens Tent. This year's program also includes several ticketed events at Adelaide Town Hall and Bonython Hall.

Pioneer Women's Memorial Garden

The Pioneer Women's Memorial Garden opened on 19 April 1941 from funds raised by the Women's Centenary Council to honour South Australian women pioneers. It was designed and built by landscape gardener Elsie Cornish and includes a sculpture by Ola Cohn and sundial designed by George Dodwell. The founding trustees are listed on a plaque at the entrance to the Garden. The Garden is maintained by the City of Adelaide with the current trustees of the Pioneer Women's Memorial Trust.

Adelaide Writers' Week attendees are asked to respect the grounds at the Pioneer Women's Memorial Garden by avoiding garden beds, paying attention to signage and following instructions from volunteers.

We thank the trustees of the Pioneer Women's Memorial Garden and Heritage South Australia for allowing us to use the site for so many years.

For more information, please visit our website:

adelaidefestival.com.au/writers-week

Community Live Streaming

Streamed from the East Stage

Thanks to the Office for Ageing Well and Seniors Card, we will be live streaming select Writers' Week sessions at participating libraries, community centres, retirement villages and schools across the state from Mon 4 Mar – Thu 7 Mar.

If your organisation would like to host community live streaming, please email awwinfo@adelaidefestival.com.au

For a list of participating libraries, please visit our website: adelaidefestival.com.au/writers-week

A Message from Louise Adler AM, Director

"A storm is blowing from Paradise; it got caught in his wings with such violence that the angel can no longer close them. This storm irresistibly propels him into the future to which his back turned, while the pile of debris before him grows skyward. This storm is what we call progress."

Walter Benjamin wrote the above about one of his most treasured possessions, Paul Klee's *Angelus Novus*. A century later, we are still confronted by this paradox – that progress is not a story of continuity, of community, of improvement, or even of unalloyed collective joy.

Our theme this year is *The Past is Not Another Country*. Contrary to the L.P. Hartley aperçu that "the past is a foreign country", the past is very much with us, shaping both our collective experience and our most intimate relationships. Novelists, poets and writers from across the world once again join us to reflect on the lessons of history, make sense of the present moment and imagine a future that just might hold the promise of hope.

The issues writers lay bare for us are both universal and specific to this time and place. Explorations of the personal and the private are inescapably also political and public. While poets like Madison Godfrey wrestle with the politics of emotion, postcolonial novelists like Meena Kandasamy probe the problems posed by caste, sex and religion. From the Ancient Rome conjured up by Mary Beard to the simulacrum of humanity in Ted Chiang's stories, writers pose the fundamental question: what does it mean to be human?

Thank you

Thank you to the following people and groups for their support, enthusiasm and contributions: Vice Chancellor Prof Peter Høj, Vice Chancellor Prof Mark Scott, The Literati donor circle and book club, the Special Women who know who they are, Sue Dillon, Richard Denniss, Anna Chang, Maxine McKew, Prof Glyn Davis, Ann Mossop, Chip Rolley, Veronica Sullivan, Jackie Ryan, Alice Marklew, Rebecca Batties, Tara Prowse, Claire Mabey, Roanna Gonsalves, Jessica Alice, Anna Taylor and the talent bank at the ABC.

Director's Choice

Streamed from our place to yours

Our selection of Director's Choice sessions can be streamed from home. It's the perfect option for people who can't make it to Adelaide Writers' Week or are having difficulty choosing between sessions on the day. Director's Choice tickets are available on a Pay What You Can basis, with a recommended minimum of \$15 per event for those in full-time employment. Events can be viewed live from their scheduled start and for one week thereafter.

For more information or to book your tickets, please visit adelaidefestival.com.au/writers-week

Thomas Keneally and Friends

Thomas Keneally with Nikki Gemmell and special guests

Sat 2 Mar, 12pm

Technofeudalism

Yanis Varoufakis with Barbara Pocock

Sat 2 Mar, 1:15pm

But What Can I Do?

Alastair Campbell with Bob Carr

Sat 2 Mar, 2:30pm

Storytellers

Leigh Sales with Lisa Millar

Sun 3 Mar, 12pm

Mary Beard: Empress of Rome

Mary Beard with Jonty Claypole

Sun 3 Mar, 2:30pm

Lies My Mirror Told Me

Wendy Harmer with Richard Fidler

Mon 4 Mar, 9:30am

The Power of Love

Anne Enright and Anne Michaels with Beejay Silcox

Mon 4 Mar, 12pm

A Dangerous Business

Jane Smiley with Jonathan Green

Tue 5 Mar, 12pm

Edenglassie

Melissa Lucashenko with Claire Nichols

Tue 5 Mar, 2:30pm

Killing for Country

David Marr with Rachel Perkins

Wed 6 Mar, 1:15pm

The Israel/Palestine Question

Ilan Pappé with Annabelle Quince

Thu 7 Mar, 12pm

Homecoming

Kate Morton with Sarah Martin

Thu 7 Mar, 5pm

Breakfast with Papers

Sat 2 Mar – Thu 7 Mar

8AM Daily / West Stage

Breakfast with Papers is the way Adelaide Festival starts its mornings. In 2024, this much-loved fixture will greet each day of Writers' Week in the beautiful surrounds of the Pioneer Women's Memorial Garden.

Join Adelaide's own Tory Shepherd of The Guardian, Jonathan Green of Radio National and their special guests as they interrogate the morning media and turn an amused and critical eye on current events.

The full schedule will be available at adelaidefestival.com.au/2024-bwp

The Australia Institute

Sun 3 Mar

9:30AM – 2:15PM / West Stage

The Australia Institute is the nation's leading independent think tank, whose high impact research changes minds and creates more informed debate of the issues that matter. The Australia Institute is partnering with Writers' Week in 2024 to offer answers on some of the policy questions facing Australia today. Join Australia Institute Executive Director Richard Denniss and the team for a series of provocative, courageous and unmissable discussions.

Saturday 2 March

Breakfast with Papers

8AM / West Stage

Lola in the Mirror

Trent Dalton

9:30AM / East Stage

Trent Dalton's subject has always been love. In a wideranging conversation with Katrina Strickland, he reflects on his writing and why his themes connect so deeply in these troubled times.

Can War Be Humane

Samuel Moyn

9:30AM / West Stage

An intellectual and humanist, Samuel Moyn's work focuses on human rights and the laws of war. In conversation with Ben Saul, Moyn explains why the idea of "humane war" is not an oxymoron.

Trust

Jeanne Ryckmans

9:30AM / North Stage

Literary agent turned memoirist Jeanne Ryckmans' new work is a devastating personal detective story. Ryckmans explains to Beejay Silcox how a con artist and fantasist can dupe an intelligent and worldly woman.

Question 7

Richard Flanagan

10:45AM / East Stage

Internationally acclaimed novelist Richard Flanagan says: "writers are no more than dancing shoes sliding between the dance and the floor." He discusses his latest book with Julia Baird.

You, Me and the B52s

Bob Carr, James Curran, Amanda Hodge, Sam Roggeveen and Peter Varghese

10:45AM / West Stage

The Australian Labor Party has embraced AUKUS, a security arrangement that handcuffs Australia to the US. Has the government made the right call? Join Bob Carr, James Curran, Amanda Hodge (live stream), Sam Roggeveen and Peter Varghese with Maxine McKew.

Graft

Maggie MacKellar

10:45AM / North Stage

Set over a year on a merino wool farm in Tasmania, Maggie MacKellar's memoir is a meditation on motherhood, family and home. Life is not easy, as MacKellar explains to Georgina Godwin.

Thomas Keneally and Friends – Director's Choice

12PM / East Stage

Tom Keneally's first book was published in 1964 and he has gifted generations of readers with a novel or a nonfiction book almost every year since.

Join Keneally, chair Nikki Gemmell and guests to honour this National Treasure.

Stone Yard Devotional

Charlotte Wood

12PM / West Stage

Charlotte Wood's latest novel is a deeply personal account of a woman in retreat, in despair, while the world is in crisis. The author tells Beejay Silcox why she has written this novel at this moment.

36 Ways of Writing a Vietnamese Poem

Nam Le

12PM / NORTH STAGE

Following the huge success of his debut collection, *The Boat*, Nam Le challenges the expectation that his subject is inevitably 'identity' with his new book. He talks to Patrick Flanery about why he writes poetry.

Technofeudalism - Director's Choice

Yanis Varoufakis

1:15PM / EAST STAGE

If the world is an algorithm, we citizens are mere cloud serfs. Yanis Varoufakis tells Barbara Pocock what killed capitalism.

Be Mine

Richard Ford

1:15PM / WEST STAGE

Richard Ford's new novel is the fifth featuring "arch-ordinary American" Frank Bascombe – a character who describes the aphorism of 'yeah-no' as "the entire human condition in two words". Ford discusses his oeuvre with Nicole Abadee.

Unfinished Woman

Robyn Davidson

1:15PM / NORTH STAGE

Robyn Davidson's life and writing has been shaped by curiosity, restlessness and a desire to see the world. In conversation with Sarah L'Estrange, Davidson talks about why she returned to Australia.

But What Can I Do? – Director's Choice

Alastair Campbell

2:30PM / EAST STAGE

Alastair Campbell's latest book explains why politics matter in a clarion call to the next generation. He joins us at Writers' Week in conversation with Bob Carr.

We Have to Talk About the Weather

Susan Close, Peter Frankopan and Joëlle Gergis

2:30PM / WEST STAGE

Celebrated historian Peter Frankopan, climate scientist Joëlle Gergis and Susan Close, South Australia's Deputy Premier and Environment Minister, speak with Marian Wilkinson about the rise and fall of civilisations through the lens of dramatic weather events.

The Empty Honour Board

Martin Flanagan

2:30PM / NORTH STAGE

In *The Empty Honour Board*, Martin Flanagan wrestles with what he remembers, what he's forgotten and what he never knew about the boarding school he was sent to at the age of eleven. He discusses the complexities with Louise Milligan.

Crossing the Line

Nick McKenzie

3:45PM / EAST STAGE

Acclaimed journalist Nick McKenzie's investigations are a catalogue of corruption and abuse revelations involving powerful institutions and people. His latest book tells the inside story of his investigation into Ben Roberts-Smith. In conversation with Maxine McKew.

The Librarianist

Patrick deWitt

3:45PM / WEST STAGE

Patrick deWitt has been lauded as the 21st century's Mark Twain. He tells Jason Steger about the "not unhappy protagonist" of his latest novel and why he chose to write it in the third person.

A Brilliant Life

Rachelle Unreich

3:45PM / NORTH STAGE

Towards the end of her mother's life, Rachelle Unreich decided to document her wartime experiences in an attempt to understand her remarkable vitality and optimism. In conversation with Georgina Godwin, Unreich explains her motivation for taking on this task.

The In-Between

Christos Tsiolkas

5PM / EAST STAGE

Mature love is the subject of Christos Tsiolkas' latest novel, *The In-Between*. He speaks with Charlotte Wood about intertwining the personal and political in his fiction.

Praiseworthy

Alexis Wright

5PM / WEST STAGE

Alexis Wright's new novel is both a grand allegorical epic and a book for our times, engaging with Aboriginal sovereignty and the impact of global warming. Join the author in conversation with Nicholas Jose.

Songs for the Dead and the Living

Sara M. Saleh

5PM / NORTH STAGE

Award-winning human rights lawyer Sara M. Saleh explores the complexities of identity in her writing. She joins us on the North Stage to talk about her new poetry collection and her debut novel.

The Grande Dames of Letters

Mary Beard, Anne Michaels, Jane Smiley and Elizabeth Strout

8PM / ADELAIDE TOWN HALL

Hosted by The Drum's Julia Baird, this once-in-a-lifetime conversation brings together some of the greatest writers of our age. Renowned classicist Mary Beard (*SPQR, Women & Power, Emperor of Rome*), Orange Prize (now Women's Prize) winner Anne Michaels (*Fugitive Pieces, The Winter Vault, Held*) and Pulitzer Prize winner Jane Smiley (*A Thousand Acres, Some Luck, A Dangerous Business*) will join us in person at Adelaide Town Hall with Pulitzer Prize winner Elizabeth Strout (*Olive Kitteridge, My Name is Lucy Barton, Lucy by the Sea*) joining via live stream. Don't miss your chance to hear from the Grande Dames of Letters.

TICKETS

A Res \$59, Friends \$50, Conc \$47, U30 \$35, Student \$30

B Res \$49, Friends \$42, Conc \$39, U30 \$30, Student \$25

Book at adelaidefestival.com.au

Sunday 3 March

Breakfast with Papers

8AM / West Stage

The End of Liberalism

Samuel Moyn, Katharine Murphy and Peter Varghese

9:30AM / EAST STAGE

Have we abandoned the idea that citizens in an ethical society have obligations to others and the state? In these increasingly illiberal times, Glyn Davis moderates a discussion with Samuel Moyn, Katharine Murphy and Peter Varghese.

Straight Talk

Richard Denniss, Joëlle Gergis, Thomas Keneally and Yanis Varoufakis

9:30AM / WEST STAGE

Politicians and commentators frequently use jargon to disguise self-interest as national interest, to make the absurd seem inevitable or the inequitable seem fair. Richard Denniss, Joëlle Gergis, Tom Keneally and Yanis Varoufakis join Natasha Mitchell to discuss the power of speaking simply in complicated times.

In Bad Faith

Dassi Erlich

9:30AM / NORTH STAGE

Dassi Erlich's memoir is a devastating account of sexual abuse in the closed religious Adass community. Bringing her perpetrator to justice took over fifteen years. She shares her story with Louise Milligan.

Bright Shining

Julia Baird

10:45AM / EAST STAGE

Julia Baird's latest book makes the case for grace: forgiving the unforgivable, letting go of ancient grudges, and learning generosity. She shares what life has taught her with Christos Tsiolkas.

No Greater Ally? Assessing the Aus-US Alliance

James Curran, Zoe Daniel and Emma Shortis

10:45AM / WEST STAGE

The US has claimed that it has "no greater ally than Australia", however, this year it faces what may be the most important presidential election in generations. What are the risks, and the rewards, of waltzing in step with the world's greatest superpower? Join James Curran, Zoe Daniel and Emma Shortis with Marian Wilkinson.

The Revenge Club

Kathy Lette

10:45AM / NORTH STAGE

Kathy Lette is a master – or should that be a mistress? – of the pun, the quip, the barb. Over seventeen books, Lette has documented modern life in all its ironies. She shares the joke with Georgina Godwin.

Storytellers – Director's Choice

Leigh Sales

12PM / EAST STAGE

Two of our most highly regarded journalists, Leigh Sales and Lisa Millar, discuss their decades-long friendship, the art of storytelling and life lessons from thirty years at the front line of journalism.

Prima Facie

Suzie Miller

12PM / NORTH STAGE

Prima Facie is the story of a brilliant barrister who finds herself defenceless after she is sexually abused. Suzie Miller discusses the problem of speaking out with Nicole Abadee.

South Australia: Laboratory of Democracy

Susan Close, Royce Kurmelovs, Noah Schultz- Byard and Tory Shepherd

12PM / WEST STAGE

Whether it's the establishment of a First Nations Voice to Parliament or the installation of the Tesla Big Battery, South Australia often leads the way. Susan Close, Royce Kurmelovs, Noah Schultz-Byard and Tory Shepherd talk with Jules Schiller about why SA stands as a beacon of policy creativity.

The Wren, The Wren

Anne Enright

1:15PM / EAST STAGE

Anne Enright's eighth novel is a brilliant report on one unhappy family; an intergenerational tale framed by the self-aggrandising legacy of the poet-father. Join the author in conversation with Claire Nichols.

Ripples and Resilience: Navigating Our Rivers

Richard Beasley, Margaret Cook, Sarah Hanson-Young and Kate McBride

1:15PM / WEST STAGE

The relationship between rivers and the communities and cities that grow around them is a complex one. Richard Beasley, Margaret Cook, Sarah Hanson-Young, Kate McBride and chair Natasha Mitchell explore the challenges and opportunities associated with balancing development and our natural river ecosystems.

Nevermoor

Jessica Townsend

1:15PM / NORTH STAGE

In 2024, Jessica Townsend will publish the fourth book in her Nevermoor series. What can we expect from the next instalment? In this session for middle grade readers, Townsend joins chair Clare Sawyer to reveal some of the secrets of her fantastical world.

Family Circus

2:30PM / ADELAIDE TOWN HALL

Who knows you better than your own family? Richard Fidler and Sarah Kanowski from ABC's Conversations are joined by Martin Flanagan, Wendy Harmer, Tom Keneally, Lisa Millar and Christos Tsiolkas as they tell real stories from their own families. Prepare to laugh, cry and maybe duck for cover.

TICKETS \$29

Book at adelaidefestival.com.au

Mary Beard: Empress of Rome – Director's Choice

Mary Beard

2:30PM / EAST STAGE

Mary Beard, one of the world's most famous classicists, talks to Jonty Claypole about bringing the past to life. As the author of over twenty books and numerous television documentaries, Beard has fought to keep the classics in the mainstream. Over her career, this has involved breaking the glass ceiling, reinvigorating public service broadcasting and embracing the power – as well as the perils – of social media. She tells (almost) all about the highs and lows of public intellectualism in the 21st century.

Inner Sanctum

Evelyn Araluen, Ali Cobby Eckermann, Jazz Money and Ellen van Neerven

2:30PM / WEST STAGE

In conjunction with the 18th Adelaide Biennial of Australian Art, poets Evelyn Araluen, Jazz Money and Ellen van Neerven share their work and speak with Ali Cobby Eckermann about imagination, community and creating sanctuaries.

Best Wishes

Richard Glover

3:45PM / EAST STAGE

Richard Glover's latest book is a hilarious manual for how to make the world a better place, "one wish at a time" – which occasionally includes the use of a leaf blower. In conversation with Leigh Sales.

The Earth Transformed

Peter Frankopan

3:45PM / WEST STAGE

In conversation with Glyn Davis, the bestselling author of *The Earth Transformed*, Peter Frankopan, explores the impact of environmental change across the arc of human history.

The Future of News

Alan Rusbridger, Justin Stevens and Lenore Taylor

5PM / EAST STAGE

Publishing unverified information has seemingly become routine – hence the creation of *Verify*, a new BBC News initiative. Alan Rusbridger (live stream), Justin Stevens and Lenore Taylor join Laura Tingle to discuss the future of news.

On Giving Up

Adam Phillips

5PM / WEST STAGE

British psychoanalyst Adam Phillips says we spend most of our lives anxiously hoping we will change – and doing everything we can to stop this happening. He joins Sarah Kanowski via live stream to discuss “the unexamined life”.

Hear Me Roar!

5PM / NORTH STAGE

Writers' Week's favourite showcase of slam poetry and spoken word returns in 2024 with performances from poets including Madison Godfrey, Sara M. Saleh, Kirli Saunders, Katherine Sortini and Australian Poetry Slam Champion Rob Waters.

The Rest is Politics

Alastair Campbell and Rory Stewart

7PM / ADELAIDE TOWN HALL

This special event will be introduced by the Premier of South Australia, Peter Malinauskas. Join us for a conversation between two of the world's political doyens, as former UK Labour communications director Alastair Campbell is joined via live stream by former Tory cabinet minister Rory Stewart. Their twice weekly podcast, The Rest is Politics, routinely tops the British charts with over 60 million downloads and celebrates the revival of the lost art of 'disagreeing agreeably'.

7.30's multi-award-winning host Sarah Ferguson will shepherd the odd couple of politics through a discussion of leaders, leadership and lying: from Vladimir Putin – "the author of lying as strategy", according to Alastair Campbell – to Boris Johnson, who Rory Stewart once described as the "best liar we ever had".

TICKETS

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Book at adelaidefestival.com.au

Sun 3 Mar

Young Readers' Day

Calling all fans of picture books, graphic novels and epic tween series! The newly named Young Readers' Day welcomes readers aged 2-12 to Adelaide Writers' Week on Sunday.

Our Young Readers' Day program is designed to inspire the next generation of readers and storytellers. The packed all-Australian lineup also includes Adelaide's own Story Trove – join their inventive world of storytelling through participatory performance and creative play which will surely delight your child's imagination.

In the Torrens Tent:

9:30AM | Anna Walker: Snap!

10AM | Story Trove: The Garden at the End of the World

10:30AM | Kirli Saunders: The Incredible Freedom Machines

11AM | Jason Pamment: Ember and the Island of Lost Creatures

11:30AM | Carla Fitzgerald: How to be Prime Minister and Survive Grade Five

12PM | Alison Lester: The Magic Beach

1PM | BREAK

2PM | Catherine Norton: The Fortune Makers

2:40PM | Kirli Saunders: Bindi

3:20PM | Amelia Mellor: The Grandest Bookshop in the World

On the North Stage

This year, we extend our young readers' program to the North Stage. Check out the sessions and be sure to stay for Jessica Townsend's book signing!

1:15PM | Jessica Townsend: Nevermoor

3:45PM | Microstory Competition

5PM | Hear Me Roar!

Microstory Competition

Our microstory competition invites writers aged 18 and under to submit a story of fifty words or less. This year, stories should focus on the following question: what does it mean to be human? The winner will be announced on the North Stage on Sun 3 Mar, 3:45pm. Find out more and enter your story at adelaidefestival.com.au/2024-microstory

Monday 4 March

Breakfast with Papers

8AM / West Stage

Lies My Mirror Told Me – Director's Choice

Wendy Harmer

9:30AM / EAST STAGE

Wendy Harmer's memoir is the extraordinary story of a life lived in public – undaunted by naysayers, sexism and adversity. She shares her story with her dear friend and colleague Richard Fidler.

Consent Laid Bare

Chanel Contos

9:30AM / WEST STAGE

In 2021, Chanel Contos asked young Australian women about their sexual experiences – the responses were horrifying and the demand for change indisputable. She discusses her findings and her book with Katrina Strickland.

Keeping in Touch

Anjali Joseph

9:30AM / NORTH STAGE

Anjali Joseph's fourth novel, *Keeping in Touch*, involves magical lightbulbs, contemporary art and toxic bachelors. Joseph explores the challenges of writing a modern love story with Claire Nichols.

The Best Minds

Jonathan Rosen

10:45AM / EAST STAGE

Jonathan Rosen tells Sarah Kanowski about his book *The Best Minds* – a heartbreaking story of friendship, madness and the tragedy of good intentions.

Genres: Do the rules apply?

Mark Brandi, Una Mannion and Lucy Treloar

10:45AM / WEST STAGE

Are there rules that govern writing historical fiction, crime fiction or coming-of-age stories? Mark Brandi, Una Mannion and Lucy Treloar join Tom Wright for a discussion about the limits and possibilities of genre writing.

History's Angel

Anjum Hasan

10:45AM / NORTH STAGE

Anjum Hasan asks what happens if people cling to the once vaunted qualities of irresponsible dreaming, intellectual pride, ethical doubt or love of language. Hasan and John Zubrzycki talk about the loneliness of the thinking person in present times.

The Power of Love – Director's Choice

Anne Enright and Anne Michaels

12PM / EAST STAGE

A conversation between two dazzlingly inventive writers at the height of their powers about poetry, the passage of time and the function of memory. Anne Enright and Anne Michaels in conversation with Beejay Silcox.

"I don't read for comfort"

Richard Ford

12PM / WEST STAGE

Richard Ford says: "I don't read for comfort. Comfort I source elsewhere. I read only to learn something and to be delighted by it." Ford explains the pleasure of writing and reading short stories to Richard Buckham.

Tomorrow Someone Will Arrest You

Meena Kandasamy

12PM / NORTH STAGE

Poet, novelist and activist Meena Kandasamy has been described as a "one-woman agit prop literary-political movement". She discusses the politics of writing with Roanna Gonsalves.

Yeah, Nah!

William McInnes

1:15PM / EAST STAGE

William McInnes may be known to television audiences for his role in *SeaChange*, but his books have also won him legions of fans. He tells Chris Taylor about his latest work – a celebration of our very particular way with words.

The Grey Zone

Ian Buruma and Julian Jackson

1:15PM / WEST STAGE

The modern view is that we can't judge the actions of others in extremis, so what can we learn from Marshal Petain, Heinrich Himmler's masseuse or the Mata Hari of the Orient? Bob Carr discusses collaboration with writer Ian Buruma (live stream) and historian Julian Jackson.

Black River

Nilanjana S. Roy

1:15PM / NORTH STAGE

Set in a north Indian village, Nilanjana S. Roy's new novel, *Black River*, takes the form of a police procedural to ask larger questions about the 'new India'. Roy explores the novel's themes with John Zubrzycki.

A Day in the Life of Abed Salama

Nathan Thrall

2:30PM / EAST STAGE

Drawing on a decade spent as the director of the International Crisis Group's Arab-Israeli Project, Nathan Thrall's new book is an extraordinary micro-history that illuminates the reality of daily life in Palestine. He speaks with Debbie Whitmont.

Change

Édouard Louis

2:30PM / WEST STAGE

Writing about the impoverished village of his childhood and the ramifications of disenfranchisement on his family, Édouard Louis is routinely described as France's literary sensation. In conversation with Ruth Mackenzie.

Fire Bird

Perumal Murugan

2:30PM / NORTH STAGE

In 2015, Perumal Murugan said: "Perumal Murugan the writer is dead. As he is not god, he is not going to resurrect himself. He also has no faith in rebirth. An ordinary teacher, he will live as P. Murugan. Leave him alone." Join Murugan and chair Roanna Gonsalves to find out why he changed his mind.

Sex, Love and Death

Eliza Clark, Patrick deWitt and Jonathan Lethem

3:45PM / EAST STAGE

Three of life's certainties are brought into question by Eliza Clark, Patrick deWitt and Jonathan Lethem in a conversation hosted by Molly Murn.

2024 MUD

Literary Prize

3:45PM / WEST STAGE

The MUD Literary Prize celebrates a debut novel of literary fiction. Past winners have included Trent Dalton and Pip Williams. Hear from the 2024 winner with chair David Sly.

Gender, Caste and Class

Anjali Joseph, Meena Kandasamy, Perumal Murugan and Nilanjana S. Roy

3:45PM / NORTH STAGE

Anjali Joseph, Meena Kandasamy, Perumal Murugan and Nilanjana S. Roy join Roanna Gonsalves for a conversation about the challenge of writing about gender, caste and class within India's rich, complex and diverse literary culture.

Young Rupert

Walter Marsh

5PM / EAST STAGE

Rupert Murdoch has dominated the media for more than half a century. Walter Marsh takes Tom Wright back to his beginnings in Adelaide, when the "boy publisher" took over News Limited and *The News* at the age of twenty-two.

Arab Jews and the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

Avi Shlaim

5PM / WEST STAGE

Historian Avi Shlaim's *Three Worlds: Memoirs of an Arab- Jew* combines a fascinating family story of moving from Baghdad to Israel with a historical account of Iraqi Jews during an especially calamitous period. Shlaim joins via live stream for this conversation with Debbie Whitmont.

2024 Stella Prize Longlist Announcement

5PM / NORTH STAGE

Be among the first to discover the 2024 Stella Prize longlist. Join the Judging Panel – Eleanor Jackson, Cheryl Leavy, Yves Rees and Beejay Silcox – for an illuminating discussion about the best literature produced in Australia.

Insiders

6:30PM / WEST STAGE

For more than twenty years, *Insiders* has been unmissable television for political tragi-comics and anyone wanting to stay up to date on federal politics. Host David Speers returns to Adelaide Writers' Week to speak with the Premier of South Australia, Peter Malinauskas, and a panel of Australia's sharpest minds as they dissect the week in politics. They'll be joined by Mike Bowers and one of the country's finest cartoonists for *Talking Pictures*.

Tuesday 5 March

Breakfast with Papers

8AM / West Stage

Stories of Your Life and Others

Ted Chiang

9:30AM / EAST STAGE

Award-winning short story writer Ted Chiang is often described as a humanist sci-fi writer. Ariel Bogle asks him what that means and why he sees AI as another of "capital's willing executioners". Chiang appears via live stream.

France on Trial

Julian Jackson

9:30AM / WEST STAGE

After his magisterial biography of Charles de Gaulle, Julian Jackson has turned his attention to the trial of Marshall Petain – France's shield or Nazi collaborator? He is joined by Andrew Clark.

Writing Relationships: Authors & Their Editors

Madison Godfrey, Kate Grenville and Anjum Hasan

9:30AM / NORTH STAGE

Join Madison Godfrey, Kate Grenville and Anjum Hasan for an intimate exploration of the other great partnership in life – the author-editor relationship – that takes writing from the deeply personal to the public stage, with Jessica Alice.

Mental Health Matters

Patrick McGorry and Jonathan Rosen

10:45AM / EAST STAGE

Mental illness is stigmatised, economic rationalism determines government funding, and the industry is dominated by big pharma. Natasha Mitchell asks Patrick McGorry and Jonathan Rosen why we continue to fail our most vulnerable citizens.

The Cancer Finishing School

Peter Goldsworthy

10:45AM / WEST STAGE

Only Peter Goldsworthy could write a memoir titled The Cancer Finishing School. He explains to David Marr why cancer makes good copy for a writer.

Ask Me Anything: Book Publishing 101

Miranda France, Vanessa Radnidge and Jeanne Ryckmans

10:45AM / NORTH STAGE

From bidding wars to MFA wunderkinds, publishers see it all. Go behind the scenes with Miranda France, Vanessa Radnidge and Jeanne Ryckmans to answer all your curly questions about the world of writing and publishing, with Jessica Alice.

A Dangerous Business – Director's Choice

Jane Smiley

12PM / EAST STAGE

In a writing life spanning over forty years, Jane Smiley has published seventeen novels, two short story collections, five non-fiction books and eight young adult novels. She tells Jonathan Green why she believes novelists are always working in a time of turmoil.

Has the Author Died, Again?

Kathryn Gledhill-Tucker, Richard King, Kate Mildenhall and Tracey Spicer

12PM / WEST STAGE

Can AI produce literature? Writers are demanding protection against tech companies using their work without permission or compensation. Kathryn Gledhill-Tucker, Richard King, Kate Mildenhall and Tracey Spicer discuss the fate of the author with Ariel Bogle.

Going Gonzo: Immersive Research

Royce Kurlmelovs, Tory Shepherd and Ben Stubbs

12PM / NORTH STAGE

From reporting on the far right to journeys in the Paraguay jungle, join award-winning journalists Royce Kurlmelovs, Tory Shepherd and Ben Stubbs for a deep dive into the risks and rewards of immersive storytelling, with Smriti Daniel.

The Past is Not Another Country

John Lyons, Ilan Pappé, Nathan Thrall and Bruce Wolpe

1:15PM / EAST STAGE

Edward Said described Palestinians as “the victims’ victims”. Walkley Award-winning journalist John Lyons, preeminent Israeli historian Ilan Pappé, Nathan Thrall, author of *A Day in the Life of Abed Salama*, and political insider Bruce Wolpe (live stream) discuss the implications of this historical reality with Debbie Whitmont.

Held

Anne Michaels

1:15PM / WEST STAGE

Anne Michaels, the acclaimed novelist and poet, joins Nicole Abadee for a conversation about writing, structure and the past.

Dress Rehearsals

Madison Godfrey

1:15PM / NORTH STAGE

Madison Godfrey describes their second poetry collection as a document of a decade of performing womanhood. The poems are about music, fandom, gender and desire. Godfrey discusses prose poetry with Sian Cain.

Edenglassie – Director's Choice

Melissa Lucashenko

2:30PM / EAST STAGE

Miles Franklin winner Melissa Lucashenko joins The Book Show's Claire Nichols for a discussion about her new novel, *Edenglassie*, and white Australia's amnesia regarding our collective history.

The Art of Breaking Ice

Rachael Mead

2:30PM / WEST STAGE

Rachael Mead speaks with Sarah L'Estrange about the challenges of turning from poetry to fiction, reflecting on her latest novel, *The Art of Breaking Ice*.

Birds with Personality

Georgia Angus and Darryl Jones

2:30PM / NORTH STAGE

Calling all twitchers for a conversation about *Birds with Personality* between Georgia Angus and Darryl Jones.

Muster Dogs

Lisa Millar

3:45PM / EAST STAGE

When Muster Dogs first hit screens, the lively kelpie pups adopted into farming homes across Australia became instant stars. Lisa Millar tells Amanda Vanstone about her new book, why the TV show resonated with audiences and its impact on her own life.

The Idealist

Nicholas Jose

3:45PM / WEST STAGE

In Nicholas Jose's latest novel, East Timor's fight for independence provides the context for a story about the intersection of the personal and the political. He explores with David Marr the pleasure and anxieties of writing a literary thriller.

In the Air of an Afternoon Almost Past

Peter Goers

3:45PM / NORTH STAGE

The voice of nightly radio for legions of fans, Peter Goers has been called "the critic who ate Adelaide". He discusses his latest book, a memoir about his parents' death in the crash of Pan Am Flight 759, with Rick Sarre.

Penance

Eliza Clark

5PM / EAST STAGE

With the publication of her first book, Eliza Clark was named one of Granta magazine's best British novelists under forty. Her new novel's protagonist is the unreliable narrator of a true crime, reimagined as crime fiction. Clark is joined by Helen Elliott.

Writing the Future

with DreamYard International Poetry Exchange Program

5PM / WEST STAGE

Join chair Ellen Hagan and teen poets from Australia, South Korea and the United States as they compete for the title of International High School Poetry Champions.

Personal Score

Ellen van Neerven

5PM / NORTH STAGE

Racism and sexism continue to plague Australian sporting codes despite multiple reviews, diversity policies and courageous outspoken sports people. Ellen van Neerven explains the impasse to Sian Cain.

The Company She Keeps

Lynette Noni

6:30PM / WEST STAGE

Across her YA series, Lynette Noni has created a host of memorable characters that fans care for deeply. She speaks with Margot McGovern about how to hold a reader's attention and create relationships that can span many years.

Reality Bites

Gary Lonesborough

7:30PM / WEST STAGE

Gary Lonesborough's awardwinning debut, *The Boy From The Mish*, is a powerful coming-of-age story. His follow-up, *We Didn't Think It Through*, offers a nuanced exploration of life inside 'juvie'. Join us at YA night for a conversation between Lonesborough and author Vikki Wakefield.

Wednesday 6 March

Breakfast with Papers

8AM / West Stage

Trump, the Future and Global Influence

Bruce Wolpe

8:15AM / EAST STAGE

Bruce Wolpe has spent years studying America's political culture, leadership and global relationships – from Asia to Israel, Albanese to Putin, and everything in between. Joining John Lyons via live stream, Wolpe explores the national and international tensions now in play.

Me, Me, Me

Martin Flanagan and Polly Toynebee

9:30AM / EAST STAGE

Blake Morrison advises memoirists to remember god is in the details. Richard Buckham tests this advice with Martin Flanagan and Polly Toynebee.

When Authors Took Sides

Anna Funder and Sarah Watling

9:30AM / WEST STAGE

Today the Spanish Civil War is remembered through writers like George Orwell and Ernest Hemingway. Anna Funder and Sarah Watling join Sian Cain to explore the stories of the courageous women who have been written out of this history.

The Bookbinder of Jericho

Pip Williams

10:45AM / EAST STAGE

Pip Williams, best-selling author of *The Dictionary of Lost Words*, tells Jane Howard about her new novel, *The Bookbinder of Jericho* – an encomium to the art and craft of making books.

Dangerous Women

Susanna Moore

10:45AM / WEST STAGE

Susanna Moore joins Lisa Temple via live stream to talk about her new novel, *The Lost Wife*, her memoir and 'that novel' – *In the Cut*.

Restless Dolly Maunder

Kate Grenville

12PM / EAST STAGE

Kate Grenville has been delighting readers since her very first collection, *Bearded Ladies*, was published in 1984. Nicole Abadee takes the opportunity to talk to Grenville about her oeuvre.

In Conversation with Laurie Anderson

11AM / BONYTHON HALL

Innovative artist, musician and inventor Laurie Anderson is known for working at the cutting edge of new arts technologies. During her tenure as the world's first AI Artist in Residence at the University of Adelaide, she created *Scroll*, an AI-generated version of the Bible. This work will be presented in the 2024 Adelaide Festival alongside an exhibition of Anderson's other works titled *I'll Be Your Mirror*.

Anderson will join Adelaide audiences via live stream for a conversation with Tom Hajdu (Professor and Chair of Creative Technologies at the University of Adelaide and Director of the Sia Furler Institute), Anton van den Hengel (Director of Applied Science at Amazon and Director at the Centre for Augmented Reasoning, Australian Institute for Machine Learning) and chair Stephen Whittington in Bonython Hall.

TICKETS

\$39, Friends \$33, Conc \$30, U30 \$30, Student \$25

All in the Mind

Lynne Malcolm

12PM / WEST STAGE

Lynne Malcolm spent many years presenting Radio National's *All in the Mind*. Now she has distilled all she has learned in a book about neuroscience, psychiatry, mental health and human behaviour. She explores the issues with Jo Case.

Killing for Country – Director's Choice

David Marr

1:15PM / EAST STAGE

David Marr confronts uncomfortable truths with his customary courage and acuity in a conversation with Rachel Perkins.

Brooklyn Crime Novel

Jonathan Lethem

1:15PM / WEST STAGE

Jonathan Lethem is a genre agnostic – from sci-fi to detective fiction. He explains to Sarah L'Estrange why he likes books in all their "homely actuality".

The Rocks Remain: Blak Poetry & Story

Brad Darkson, Ali Cobby Eckermann, Dominic Guerrera and Karen Wyld

2:30PM / EAST STAGE

What remains after colonisation? After heartbreak and protest? Like the rocks, First Peoples remain. Ali Cobby Eckermann, Brad Darkson,

Dominic Guerrera and Karen Wyld discuss continuity and the power of story.

Eleven Letters to You

Helen Elliott

2:30PM / WEST STAGE

Helen Elliott, a wonderfully perceptive literary critic, finally decided to write a memoir – a letter to eleven people who influenced her life. She explains why to Beejay Silcox.

Family Meal

Bryan Washington

3:45PM / EAST STAGE

Bryan Washington was named one of the National Book Foundation's five under thirty-five for his debut short story collection, *Lot*. With Jason Steger, he discusses how he crafted his new novel and its themes of sexuality and strained friendships.

One Another

Gail Jones

3:45PM / WEST STAGE

Gail Jones joins J.M. Coetzee for a dialogue about her new novel, *One Another*: a layered tale about Joseph Conrad, and the craft of both reading and writing.

Aphrodite's Breath

Susan Johnson

5PM / EAST STAGE

Susan Johnson is a brave writer. She is also a brave daughter. Johnson tells Anne Pender why and how she decided to bring her elderly mother to live with her on a Greek island.

A Revolution in Poetic Language

Evelyn Araluen, Madison Godfrey, Jill Jones and Ellen van Neerven
5PM / WEST STAGE

Join renowned Australian poets Evelyn Araluen, Madison Godfrey, Jill Jones and Ellen van Neerven with chair Jessica Alice for an exploration of poetry as a tool for resistance and social transformation.

Thursday 7 March

Breakfast with Papers

8AM / West Stage

The History of Hamas

Tareq Baconi

8:15AM / EAST STAGE

Understanding the Middle East conflict requires us to consider the origins of Hamas: the organisation, its political ambitions and relationship to the Palestinian polity. Tareq Baconi, the author of *Hamas Contained*, explains the background and context to Annabelle Quince. Baconi appears via live stream.

Tomorrow Perhaps the Future

Sarah Watling

9:30AM / EAST STAGE

Women have long been written out of history, marginalised and ignored. Tory Shepherd interviews Sarah Watling about the remarkable women writers who went to Spain to fight fascism in the 1930s.

The Rebel's Clinic

Adam Shatz

9:30AM / WEST STAGE

Adam Shatz is the US editor of the *London Review of Books* and his most recent work has focussed on engaged writers. He tells Lucia Sorbera why he chose to write a biography of Frantz Fanon at this moment. Shatz appears via live stream.

An Uneasy Inheritance

Polly Toynbee

10:45AM / EAST STAGE

Polly Toynbee has been a columnist for The Guardian for over twenty-five years. In conversation with Sarah Martin, Toynbee speaks about her new memoir and its exploration of class in Britain, social justice and the effects of privilege.

The Writing School

Miranda France

10:45AM / WEST STAGE

By exploring an episode of her own life in the context of a residential creative writing course, Miranda France examines how and why we tell our own stories in The Writing School. Can writing be taught? Sian Cain joins France to test the proposition.

The Israel/Palestine Question

Ilan Pappé

12PM / EAST STAGE

Ilan Pappé is one of the most influential historians writing today on the history of Israel and Palestine. In conversation with Annabelle Quince, he explains why context matters.

Wifedom

Anna Funder

12PM / WEST STAGE

Anna Funder's Wifedom shines a light on the woman who George Orwell described as his wife thirty-seven times without ever using her name. Eileen O'Shaughnessy has now been written back into history, as Funder explains to Nicole Abadee.

Voices of Place

Jonathan Lethem, Nathan Thrall and Bryan Washington

1:15PM / EAST STAGE

Brooklyn, Jerusalem and Houston are places that have powerfully informed the recent writing of three leading American writers – Jonathan Lethem, Nathan Thrall and Bryan Washington. Join them in conversation with Jo Case.

Cool Water

Myfanwy Jones

1:15PM / WEST STAGE

Myfanwy Jones, the Miles Franklin-shortlisted author of *Leap*, has just published a new novel about fathers, sons and the damage that can ripple through generations. She discusses the writing process with Hannah Kent.

Non-Essential Work

Omar Sakr

2:30PM / EAST STAGE

Omar Sakr is an award-winning poet and novelist. His latest collection, *Non-Essential Work*, confronts issues of gender, race and identity. He explores these concerns with Richard Buckham.

Tell Me What I Am

Una Mannion

2:30PM / WEST STAGE

Una Mannion's second novel, *Tell Me What I Am*, is a superbly literary novel masquerading as a compelling thriller. In conversation with Helen Elliott, Mannion asks how we know who we are.

Frank Moorhouse

Catharine Lumby

3:45PM / EAST STAGE

Author Catharine Lumby knew Frank Moorhouse for many years. A decade before his death in 2022, Moorhouse asked her to be his biographer. In conversation with Jo Case, Lumby shares how this relationship influenced her approach.

Cancelled

Umut Özkirimli

3:45PM / WEST STAGE

In 2017, professors at Evergreen State University were urged to consider students' "emotional commitment" when determining grades. Umut Özkirimli joins Amanda Vanstone via live stream to talk about how we arrived at this point.

Homecoming

Kate Morton

5PM / EAST STAGE

Kate Morton is one of Australia's best-selling authors. A fascination with secrets and their impact has shaped her writing. She explains why to Sarah Martin.

I Do, I Don't

Devorah Baum and Clementine Ford

5PM / WEST STAGE

Is marriage about endless love or is it a life sentence? Philosopher Devorah Baum (live stream) and social critic Clementine Ford explore the limits and the possibilities of the institution with Katrina Strickland.

Support Adelaide Writers' Week

Adelaide Writers' Week is regarded as one of the world's most significant literary festivals, known for its beautiful outdoor setting and free program featuring Australian and international authors.

To ensure Adelaide Writers' Week remains a free and accessible part of Adelaide Festival, we ask for your financial support to help underwrite the costs of staging this much-loved event. Donations of any amount are gratefully received and can be made online at adelaidefestival.com.au/support/donate

Join The Literati

The Literati is a group of dedicated donors who are passionate about continuing the legacy of Adelaide Writers' Week and ensuring it is accessible to all. We invite you to join The Literati and help Writers' Week support Australian authors, bring international writers to the event, encourage young readers and keep the event free. Members of The Literati receive special invitations to Adelaide Writers' Week events and to a monthly Book Club hosted by Louise Adler AM.

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Special thanks to the MUD Literary Club for their support and contribution to Adelaide Writers' Week.

Sustainability

Adelaide Festival is a pioneer of sustainability in the arts. As part of the Festival, Adelaide Writers' Week is committed to reducing our impact on the environment. We also encourage you – our wonderful audiences – to help us reduce our ecological footprint. Here are some easy strategies:

- Program guide reuse: After using this program guide, please recycle it, repurpose it as wrapping, or share it as a gift.
- Eco-commute: Opt to walk, bike, take public transport or coordinate transportation with other attendees.
- Waste wise: Keep the Adelaide Writers' Week site clean by picking up after yourself. Use the venue's three-bin system for proper waste disposal.
- Reusable essentials: Pack a reusable water bottle, napkin and coffee cup. This eliminates the need for single-use items and reduces waste.
- Mindful consumption: Minimise food waste by sharing or taking leftovers back home.