

Speakers

Jill Adams

Jill Adams is a PhD candidate at Central Queensland University, Australia. A qualified Cordon Bleu chef with a Masters from Monash University, she recently completed 10 years at William Angliss Institute in Melbourne as Director of the Coffee Academy. She has been a Creative Consultant for the *Melbourne Food and Wine Festival* and has completed a number of commissioned oral history projects. Currently the national President of the Oral History Association of Australia, her latest book, *A Good Brew: H. A. Bennett and Sons—100 Years of Trading Tea and Coffee in Australia*, will be published in 2013.

Randall Albers

Randall Albers chairs the Fiction Writing Department at Columbia College Chicago and is Founding Producer of the Story Week Festival of Writers. His fiction and nonfiction have appeared in *Prairie Schooner*, *F Magazine*, *Writing in Education*, *The Writer*, *TriQuarterly* and other publications, including a piece in a new essay collection entitled *Briefly Knocked Unconscious by a Low-Flying Duck*.

Ali Alizadeh

Ali Alizadeh is a Lecturer in Creative Writing at Monash University, where he is the Director of the Centre for Australian and Postcolonial Writing. He was born in Iran, migrated to Australia at 14 and now lives with his wife and son in Melbourne. His books include the collection of poetry *Ashes in the Air*, the creative family history *Iran: My Grandfather* and the novel *The New Angel*. His new novel will be published in 2013.

Pauline Anastasiou

Pauline Anastasiou is Lecturer in Photography at RMIT University. Her teaching and research is focused on image making, both still and moving, within a contemporary social context. She holds a BA in Social Sciences and a BA and MA in Photography from RMIT. Her recent art projects have revolved around the archiving of memory and the influence of new technologies on the telling of stories.

Robyn Archer AO

Robyn Archer AO is a singer, writer, artistic director and public advocate of the arts. She is currently Creative Director of the Centenary of Canberra and Artistic Director of *The Light in Winter*, Federation Square. In 2008 she sang Brecht in his birthplace at the Brecht Festival. She still performs concerts to sell-out crowds. Other recent destinations include Bulgaria, Perth, all points east in Australia, Vancouver, Prague, Seoul, London, Ghent, Glasgow and Yolgnu Land, NT. She writes, thinks and speaks about the arts worldwide with her collected musings, published as *Detritus* (2010).

Judith Armstrong

Judith Armstrong taught in the Russian Department at Melbourne University and is a writer, reviewer and author of several books of fiction and nonfiction. Her most recent book is *War and Peace and Sonya* (2011).

Catina Bacote

Catina Bacote is a Dean's Graduate Fellow in the Nonfiction Writing Program at the University of Iowa and was a recent fellow at the New York State Writer's Summer Institute. Her work has appeared in *The Sun, Heart and Soul*, *Trace: Transcultural Styles* and *Ideas* and the anthology *Black Women's Loving Expressions On The Men They Desire*. She has been a teacher and wrote a guide to the documentary *Banished: America's Ethnic Cleansings*. She is working on a book about her family's experience of living in New Haven, Connecticut when the illegal drug trade exploded, gangs multiplied and violent crimes soared.

Deborah J Barrett

Deborah J Barrett holds a PhD and is Professor of the Practice of Writing and Communication at Rice University, Houston. She teaches graduate courses in creative nonfiction and writing and research across the disciplines as well as undergraduate courses in leadership communication. Her book *Leadership Communication* is in its third edition. She has participated in the Iowa Summer Writing Festival every summer since 2007 and attended the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference in 2010. She is completing a memoir, publishing creative nonfiction essays and researching recent scientific findings on memory and creative nonfiction writing.

Desmond Barry

Desmond Barry is a traveller, writer and teacher of Creative Writing at the University of Glamorgan. His work has appeared in *Granta* and *The New Yorker*. He works with photographer Diego Vidart. He aims to get writing off the page and into other spaces. *The Falkland Diaries* was exhibited at Wales Millennium Centre and at www.falkland-diaries.org.uk. *Diario de un Retrato* was a hybrid of fiction and nonfiction, stills and video, of a journey to the Finnish-Russian border, and was exhibited at the 2011 Montevideo Biennale. He has published three novels in his own name and another under a heteronym.

Mira Bartók

Mira Bartók is a visual artist, NPR commentator and author of *The Memory Palace*, a New York Times bestselling memoir and winner of the 2012 National Book Critics Circle Award for Autobiography. Her work has been nominated for a Pushcart Prize, noted in *The Best American Essays* series and has appeared in many literary journals, magazines and anthologies. She has received grants and awards from organisations such as the Fulbright Program and Pen-American. She runs Mira's List and co-founded North of Radio (a multimedia collaborative website) with her husband, musician Doug Plavin.

Matthew Batt

Matthew Batt is the author of a memoir, *Sugarhouse* (2012). His fiction and nonfiction has appeared in *Tin House*, *Mid-American Review* and *The Huffington Post*. He was a 2010 recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts grant and is an assistant professor at the University of St Thomas in Minnesota.

Craig Batty

Craig Batty is a senior lecturer in Creative and Professional Writing at RMIT University and a screenwriter and script consultant. He has written and co-written five books: *Writing for the Screen: Creative and Critical Approaches*, *Media Writing: A Practical Introduction*, *Movies That Move Us: Screenwriting and the Power of the Protagonist's Journey*, *The Creative Screenwriter: Exercises to Expand Your Craft* and *Screenplays: How to Write and Sell Them*.

Marsha Berry

Marsha Berry is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Media and Communication at RMIT University where she lectures in digital media and creative writing. Marsha supervises postgraduate research students in new media, narrative, design and mobility. She has numerous publications in internationally respected academic journals. Her art practice includes poetry, video art, and new media. Recently she has explored notions of memory, place and displacement through video art, photography and poetry. Marsha's current research investigates social media cultures, perceptions of place and landscape, and poetic expressions.

Vanessa Berry

Vanessa Berry is a writer and artist. She is the author of the memoir *Strawberry Hills Forever* and the zine series *I am a Camera*. In 2011 she was awarded the CAL Western Sydney Writer's Fellowship. She writes two blogs about Sydney: *Biblioburbia*, which documents her explorations of the suburbs through public libraries, and *Mirror Sydney*, an album of unusual spaces and encounters around the city and suburbs. Currently a PhD candidate at Macquarie University, her research is focused on blogging about place.

Felicity Biggins

Felicity Biggins is a lecturer in Communication at the University of Newcastle where she teaches Journalism and Radio. She is enrolled in a PhD in Communication at the University of Canberra. She spent three decades working in the media, starting at the *Newcastle Herald* and then joining the ABC as a reporter. After many years, she returned to her home town of Newcastle where she worked as a producer/announcer at 2NUR-FM and presented the Morning Program for seven years. She has published in the area of journalism education with her colleague, Christina Koutsoukos.

Peter Bishop

Peter Bishop was the creative director of *Varuna* for 17 years and the "midwife" for countless books that engage with ideas and personal stories. In 2010 he was nominated as one of Sydney's 100 most influential people by the *Sydney Morning Herald*.

Mary Clearman Blew

Mary Clearman Blew grew up on a small cattle ranch in central Montana, the site of her great-grandfather's 1882 homestead. Her fiction collection, *Runaway*, won a Pacific Northwest Booksellers Award, as did her memoir *All But the Waltz: Essays on a Montana Family*. Her short fiction has appeared in the O. Henry Prize Collection and *Best American Short Stories*. A novel, *Jackalope Dreams*, won the 2008 Western Heritage Award. Other awards include the Western Literature Association's Lifetime Achievement Award. She teaches creative writing at the University of Idaho.

Hilary Bonney

Hilary Bonney is a barrister and a writer. She is the author of the true crime bestseller *The Society Murders* and the recently released *The Double Life of Herman Rockefeller*. She was the associate producer and story consultant for the ABC drama *Crownies* which centred around the lives of criminal prosecutors. She has taught in law schools and creative writing courses in Australia and the Pacific and brings clarity and wit to a complicated area of nonfiction writing.

Barrie Jean Borich

Barrie Jean Borich is the author of *Body Geographic*, forthcoming in the *American Lives Series* of the University of Nebraska Press. Her previous book, *My Lesbian Husband: Landscapes of a Marriage*, won the ALA Stonewall Book Award. She was the recipient of the 2010 Florida Review Editor's Prize (Essay) and the 2010 *Crab Orchard Review* John Guyon Literary Nonfiction Prize. She was the first nonfiction editor of *Water-Stone Review* and now teaches at Chicago's DePaul University in the MA in Writing and Publishing Program.

Kyla Brettle

Kyla Brettle has produced nonfiction stories across audio, online, screen and print media. She has recorded programs from remote and urban Australia and also from South Africa and Afghanistan. She has had work selected for the Melbourne International Film Festival and won Best New Artist at the Third Coast International Audio Festival in Chicago. Kyla's radio documentaries for ABC Radio National have appeared in collections such as *Global Perspectives* and *Figures in a Soundscape* and have been widely rebroadcast internationally. Kyla is a lecturer in Radio and Communication at RMIT University.

Jennifer Brice

Jennifer Brice is the author of *Unlearning to Fly* and *The Last Settlers*. Her writing has appeared in *Ploughshares*, *The Gettysburg Review*, *River Teeth*, *Manoa*, *Under the Sun*, *The Dolphin Reader* and *American Nature Writing*. She teaches at Colgate University.

Speakers

Donna Lee Brien

Donna Lee Brien is Professor of Creative Industries at Central Queensland University. Donna has an MA and PhD in creative nonfiction, is past President (and current Executive Member) of the Australasian Association of Writing Programs, Special Issues Editor of *TEXT: Journal of Writing and Writing Courses* and a Founding Editorial Board Member of *Locale: the Australasian-Pacific Journal of Regional Food Studies*. She has most recently co-edited the Food issue of the *Australasian Journal of Popular Culture* (2012).

Barbara Brooks

Barbara Brooks is a writer, lecturer and independent scholar. She has published a book of short creative prose and a biography, *Eleanor Dark: a Writer's Life*. Her essays and articles have been published in Australia, Europe, the USA and Asia. Her DCA thesis, 'Verandahs', won the UTS Chancellor's Award in 2010.

Mirranda Burton

Mirranda Burton has forged pathways in independent and commercial animation, drawing, and printmaking since graduating from art school in South Australia. More recently she has devoted herself to the medium of comics, drawing upon her own life experiences. Her stories depict a myriad of moments, from the mountain peaks of Morocco to lettuce invasions, to rare meetings with caterpillar psychiatrists and vacuum cleaner genies. Her first book *Hidden* was published in 2011, for which she received an Aurealis Award for best graphic novel.

Amy Butcher

Amy Butcher is a recent graduate of the Nonfiction Writing Program at the University of Iowa and is the 2012–2013 Olive B O'Connor Fellow in nonfiction writing at Colgate University. She is the former managing editor of *Defunct* and a former intern for *The Gettysburg Review*. Her recent work has appeared in *The Indiana Review*, *The Colorado Review*, *The Rumpus* and *Brevity*, and she is currently working on a book-length essay that meditates on the historic battlefield town of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania and a murder that recently occurred there.

Bernard Caleo

Bernard Caleo makes comic books and performances. He edited and published 9 issues of *The Australian* comics anthology *Tango* from 1997 to 2009, and edited *The Tango Collection* for Allen and Unwin in 2009. He writes and performs bespoke interpretative and site-specific shows for festivals, organisations and cultural institutions. In 2012, he is producing an episodic comics pamphlet *Mongrel*, and is also collaborating (with Daniel Hayward) on a feature documentary, *Graphic Novels! Melbourne!* which will premiere on Thursday 22 November.

David Carlin

David Carlin is a writer and Co-Director of the nonfictionLab in the School of Media and Communication at RMIT University, where he is an Associate Professor. Previous jobs include directing Circus Oz on New York's 42nd St, writing and directing award-winning films and plays and a (short-lived) role as the world's scrawniest department store Santa. He is the author of the critically acclaimed memoir, *Our Father Who Wasn't There* (2010); his essays and memoir writing have been published in *Griffith REVIEW*, *Overland*, *Victorian Writer*, *Text* and *Continuum*. He currently leads an ARC-funded media/design/cultural memory project creating the *Circus Oz Living Archive*.

Michael Cathcart

Michael Cathcart presents radio show, *Books and Arts Daily* for Radio National. He has a background in Australian history and culture, both in writing and teaching. Michael is passionate about the arts and has worked as a theatre director, dramaturge and script editor. He is a regular participant in writers' festivals.

Peter Chilson

Peter Chilson teaches writing and literature at Washington State University. He is the author of the travelogue *Riding the Demon: On the Road in West Africa* and the story collection *Disturbance-Loving Species* which won the Bread Loaf Katherine Bakeless Nason Prize in short fiction. His essays and stories have appeared in *Ascent*, *Audubon*, *The American Scholar*, *Gulf Coast*, *High Country News*, *The Long Story*, *The North American Review*, *North Dakota Quarterly*, *West Africa*, *The SmartSet* and *Best American Travel Writing*.

Danielle Clode

Danielle Clode has a PhD and lectures in English and Creative Writing at Flinders University, South Australia. She teaches science writing and creative nonfiction and her research includes Australian biology and science communication. Her books include *A Future in Flames*, *Prehistoric Giants: The Megafauna of Australia* and *Voyages to the South Seas: In Search of Terres Australes*.

Garnett Kilberg Cohen

Garnett Kilberg Cohen has published two collections of short stories, *Lost Women*, *Banished Souls* and *How We Move the Air*. Her awards include a Lawrence Foundation Prize from Michigan Quarterly Review, the 2004 Crazyhorse National Fiction prize, Notable Essay citation from *Best American Essays 2011* and four awards from the Illinois Arts Council. Her writing has appeared in many journals including *The Antioch Review*, *The Literary Review*, *The Ontario Review*, *TriQuarterly*, *Alaska Quarterly Review* and *American Fiction*. She is currently a professor at Columbia College Chicago, where she directs the Creative Writing–Nonfiction BA Program.

Catherine Cole

Catherine Cole is Professor of Creative Writing and Deputy Dean, Faculty of Creative Arts, Wollongong University, NSW, Australia. She has published three novels, (*Dry Dock, Skin Deep* (1999), *Duffy and Snellgrove* (2002) and *The Grave at Thu Le* (2006) and two nonfiction books, *Private Dicks and Feisty Chicks: An Interrogation of Crime Fiction* (1996) and *The Poet Who Forgot* (2008) She is the editor of the anthology *The Perfume River: Writing from Vietnam* (2010) and co-editor of *Fashion in Fiction: Text and Clothing in Literature, Film and Television* (2009). She also has published poetry, short stories, essays and reviews.

Grayson Cooke

Grayson Cooke is an interdisciplinary scholar and media artist, senior lecturer in the School of Arts and Social Sciences at Southern Cross University and course coordinator of the Bachelor of Media degree. He has exhibited works of new media and photography in Australia and Canada, performed live audio-visual works in Australia, New Zealand, Spain, Italy and the UK, and published academic articles in numerous print and online journals. He is also an associate editor for the online peer-reviewed journal *Transformations*. He holds an interdisciplinary PhD from Concordia University in Montreal.

Stuart Cooke

Stuart Cooke is the author of a full-length collection of poetry, *Edge Music* (2011). His critical work on Indigenous Australian and Chilean poetics, *Speaking the Earth's Languages: a theory for trans-Pacific Indigenous Poetics*, is forthcoming. He is a lecturer in Creative Writing and Literary Studies at Griffith University.

Martina Copley

Martina Copley is an artist and independent curator whose multi-disciplinary practice also spans writing. She has worked as a curator of contemporary art and gallery manager in commercial and public sectors and is the founding curator of MAILBOX141, an independent public art space. With a formal sensibility that tends to be minimal and allows for a meeting of material and abstraction, her work references the conceptual and physical processes involved in drawing. Martina is currently studying a Masters of Contemporary Art at Victorian College of the Arts.

Moya Costello

Moya Costello teaches Writing in the School of Arts and Social Sciences, Southern Cross University. She is the author of two collections of short creative prose and one novella. She has co-edited a number of anthologies and her work has been published separately in a number of literary anthologies and literary and scholarly journals.

Bob Cowser Jr

Bob Cowser Jr won Best Memoir from the Adirondack Center for Writers for *Green Fields* (2010). His first book, *Dream Season*, was a New York Times Book Review Editor's Choice. He is also the author of *Scorekeeping*, a collection of coming-of-age essays. He is the recipient of fellowships from the Vermont Studio Center, the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities. He is Professor of English at St Lawrence University and an Honored Visiting Graduate Faculty Member with Ashland University's Low-Residency MFA. He is associate editor of *River Teeth: A Journal of Narrative Nonfiction*.

Anne Cranny-Francis

Anne Cranny-Francis is Professor of Cultural Studies and Director of the Transforming Cultures Research Centre at the University of Technology Sydney. She has published books and many book chapters and journal articles on feminist writing, gender studies, popular fiction, multimedia and new technologies. She has a long-standing interest in the writing of Jack Lindsay, who inspired her PhD research on William Morris, and currently has an Australian Research Council Discovery Grant to explore how Jack Lindsay's work exemplifies interdisciplinarity.

Judith Crispin

Judith Crispin has worked in Berlin and, as Director of Canberra's Manning Clark House. Judith Crispin is a musicologist, composer, poet and artist. She holds a doctorate in music from the ANU and has held postdoctoral fellowships from the DAAD and the Humboldt Foundation. She has won international prizes for her music, including the Vienna Masterworks International Composition Prize for Opera. Her artworks are regularly published and exhibited across Australia and Europe and her poems are published in Australian and German literary journals. She is currently an adjunct fellow at the ANU, a research affiliate of the University of Sydney and an associate composer at The Australian Music Centre.

Alison Croggon

Alison Croggon is an Australian poet, playwright, fantasy novelist and librettist. Her first volume of poetry, *This is the Stone*, won the Anne Elder Award and the Mary Gilmore Prize. Her novella *Navigatio* was commended in the 1995 The Australian/Vogel's Literary Award and all four novels in her fantasy genre series, Pellinor, have been published. She edits the online writing magazine *Masthead* and writes theatre criticism. She has written libretti for Michael Smetanin's operas *Gauguin* and *The Burrow* and her plays have been produced by the Melbourne Festival, The Red Shed Company and ABC Radio.

Speakers

John Dale

John Dale is the author of six books including *Huckstepp*, two crime novels and a memoir, *Wild Life*, an investigation into the fatal shooting of his grandfather in Tasmania in the 1940s. He has edited two anthologies, *Out West* and *Car Lovers*, and co-edited a third, *Best on Ground*, about AFL. His most recent novel, *Leaving Suzie Pye*, was translated into Turkish. His essays, reviews and nonfiction have appeared in a variety of journals and newspapers. He is Head of Creative Practices at University of Technology, Sydney.

Paul Daley

Paul Daley is a Canberra-based author and journalist who writes a weekly column for Fairfax. His most recent book Canberra has just been released as part of UNSWP's acclaimed 'City Series'. He is also the author of *Beersheba: A Journey Through Australia's Forgotten War* (2009), which was shortlisted for the 2010/11 Prime Minister's Australian History Prize and won special mention in the Manning Clark House Cultural Awards, *Collingwood: A Love Story* (2011), and *Armageddon* (2011). He has worked as a political writer for *The Sunday Age*, as a foreign affairs and defence correspondent for *The Age*, as a London correspondent for Fairfax and as national affairs editor for *The Bulletin*. He has won the Walkley Award for Investigative Journalism and the Paul Lyneham Award for Press Gallery Journalism.

Adrian Danks

Adrian Danks is a senior lecturer and Director of Contextual Studies (including Cinema Studies) in the School of Media and Communication, RMIT University. He is co-curator of the Melbourne Cinémathèque and co-editor of *Senses of Cinema*. He has published widely in a range of books and journals and is currently writing several books including a monograph devoted to the history and practice of home moviemaking in Australia and an edited collection on the work of Robert Altman.

Hanifa Deen

Hanifa Deen is an award-winning author who writes narrative nonfiction and lives in Melbourne. Currently she is an Honorary Fellow at the National Centre for Excellence in Islamic Studies, University of Melbourne and editor of the online magazine *Sultana's Dream*. Her books include *Caravanserai: A Journey Among Australian Muslims*, *Broken Bangles* and *The Crescent and the Pen*. In 2008, *The Jihad Seminar* was short-listed for The Australian Human Rights Commission Literature Nonfiction Award. Her latest book, *Ali Abdul vs. The King*, was published in 2011.

Mary Delahunty

Mary Delahunty has set up a philanthropic writers retreat in Victoria and, as National Director of Writing Australia, has led the establishment of a nationwide network of residential places for writers. She has just returned from La Muse international retreat in France.

Sherre DeLys'

Sherre DeLys' radio documentary and acoustic art has been commissioned, exhibited and awarded internationally. An interest in collaboration has seen her also develop sound sculptures for glasshouses with artist Joan Grounds, sonic fictions with writer Rick Moody, theatre sound designs with pianist Chris Abrahams, improvised music performance texts, and a platform for online collaboration at ABC. Sherre's currently Documentary Producer at RN, where she's also been lucky to work with diverse artists and formats—from producing Lou Reed's *Sydney Shuffle* inspired by historical DJ Radio, to openly exploring radio form at *The Listening Room* with acoustic artists the world over.

Maria DiBattista

Maria DiBattista is a professor of English and Comparative Literature at Princeton University and has written widely on modern literature and film culture. Her most recent books are *Fast Talking Dames*, a study of American film comedy of the thirties and forties, *Imagining Virginia Woolf: An Experiment in Critical Biography* and *Novel Characters: A Genealogy*. She is currently co-editing *The Cambridge Companion to Autobiography* and *The Cambridge Companion to Modernist Autobiography*.

Stephen Downes

Stephen Downes has worked as a journalist in Australia and overseas, including many years writing for *The Age*. He set up a specialist Middle-East news service for Agence France-Presse and was the first Australian journalist to win a place on the Paris-based Journalists in Europe program. He has won many prizes for his books *Advanced Australian Fare*, *To Die For* and *Paris on a Plate*. His latest book, *Gut Reaction* (2011), is a memoir. His next book is about America's best pianist and the Melbourne cosmetic salesman who proved his genius.

Peter Doyle

Peter Doyle is the author (with Caleb Williams) of *City of Shadows: Sydney Police photographs, 1912–1948*, which, like its successor *Crooks Like Us* (2009), was based on extensive research into the Forensic Photography Archive at Sydney's Justice & Police Museum. He lectures in Media at Macquarie University and is the author of a number of novels, including *The Devil's Jump*. In 2010 he was the recipient of a Ned Kelly Lifetime Achievement Award for his contribution to Australian crime writing.

Mieke Eerkens

Mieke Eerkens is a dual Dutch–American citizen who has conducted research in France and the Netherlands. She was the recipient of a Stanley Award for International Research in 2011, which she used to access the archives at the Institute for War Documentation in Amsterdam. Her work has appeared in *Best Travel Writing 2011*, *Creative Nonfiction*, *The Sun magazine* and *Norton's Fakes: An Anthology of Pseudo-Interviews, Faux-Lectures, Quasi-Letters, 'Found' Texts, and Other Fraudulent Artifacts*. She is a teacher and MFA candidate at The University of Iowa's Nonfiction Writing Program.

Marilie Fernandez-Ilagan

Marilie Fernandez-Ilagan is a theatre artist, director, actor, choreographer, trainer, researcher and writer. She is the co-founder of Kaliwat Theater Collective. Her research, teaching and writing themes include cultural orientation and production organisation, specialising in women and indigenous people. She was a research assistant for *Women's Intercultural Performance*, which explores contemporary feminist performance in the contexts of current intercultural practices. She has published articles on indigenous women and indigenous people's claim for their ancestral domain as well accounts of community theatre practices in Mindanao and is now working on her MA in Theatre Arts at the University of the Philippines.

Elizabeth Finkel

Elizabeth Finkel has a PhD in Biochemistry from the University of Melbourne. She has been a science writer and is a correspondent for the American magazine *Science* and co-founder and contributing editor for the popular science magazine *Cosmos*. In 2005 her book, *Stem Cells: Controversy at the Frontiers of Science*, won the Queensland Premier's Literary Award, was short-listed for a Victorian Premier's Literary Award and was a finalist in The Australian Museum Eureka Prizes. Her second book *The Genome Generation* was published in January 2012. She edited *Best Australian Science Writing 2012*.

Rebecca Fish Ewan

Rebecca Fish Ewan has an MLA from Berkeley and an MFA in Creative Writing from Arizona State University and is program coordinator and associate professor of landscape architecture at ASU. Her merged-genre work explores the interconnections between people, place and the art of making. The first draft of her book, *A Land Between*, was written outside along the dry Owens River and from the top of Mount Whitney. She has been published in *Landscape Architecture*, *Brevity* and on the London-based blog *The New Nature*. She is currently working on a poetry manuscript and a collection of lyric essays, and blogs about urban nature.

Patricia Foster

Patricia Foster has an MFA from the Iowa Writers Workshop and a PhD from Florida State University and is a professor in the MFA Program in Nonfiction at the University of Iowa. She is the author of the memoir *All the Lost Girls* (PEN/Jerard Fund Award), a book of essays, *Just beneath My Skin*, and a novel, *Girl from Soldier Creek* (Fred Bonnie Award). She is the editor of *Minding the Body* and *Sister to Sister* and co-editor of *The Healing Circle* and *Understanding the Essay* and the recipient of a Florida Arts Council Award, a Dean's Scholar Award and an Alabama Voices Award.

Andrew Fowler

Andrew Fowler has been a reporter for ABC's *Four Corners*, headed the ABC's Investigative Unit (2002–2009) and is a reporter for *Foreign Correspondent*. He has presented programs on human rights, political and foreign policy issues and has won several awards including the United Nations Media Peace Prize, the Human Rights Award and New York Festival silver and gold medals. He has been chief of staff and acting foreign editor of *The Australian* and a reporter with SBS *Dateline* and Channel 7. His book *The Most Dangerous Man in the World* (2011) is an investigation of WikiLeaks and Julian Assange.

Celeste Geer

Celeste Geer is an independent filmmaker based in a small bush town just outside Melbourne. Throughout incarnations as a lawyer, academic and mother the one constant in Celeste's working life has been her desire to tell powerful stories. A graduate of the VCA, School of Film and TV (1999), Celeste also worked at AFTRS. Her documentaries are intimate, character based films that explore the complexities and frailties of the human condition; *Mick's Gift* (ABCTV 2002), *Veiled Ambition* (SBS 2006) and *Then The Wind Changed* (2011). She is currently working on the acclaimed online digital stories project *Big Stories Small Towns*.

Ross Gibson

Ross Gibson is Professor of Contemporary Arts at the University of Sydney. As part of his research he makes books, films and art installations and encourages postgraduate students in similar pursuits. His main interests are environmental consciousness and cross-cultural negotiations in colonial history, particularly in Australia and the Pacific. His work spans several media and disciplines. Recent works include the books *26 Views of the Starburst World* (2012) and *The Summer Exercises* (2009), the video installation *Street X-Rays* (2005) and the minimalist blog *Accident Music*.

Stephanie Elizondo Griest

Stephanie Elizondo Griest is the author of *Around the Bloc: My Life in Moscow, Beijing, and Havana*, *Mexican Enough: My Life Between the Borderlines* and *100 Places Every Woman Should Go*. Her work has appeared in the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *The Believer*, *Texas Monthly* and *Poets & Writers*. She has won a Henry Luce Scholarship to China, a Hodder Fellowship to Princeton, a Margolis Award for Social Justice Reporting and a Lowell Thomas Travel Journalism Gold Prize. She is the 2012–2013 Viebranz Visiting Professor of Creating Writing at St Lawrence University.

Speakers

Steve Grimwade

Steve Grimwade was Director and CEO of the Melbourne Writers Festival from 2010 to 2012. He was curator of *The Independent Type: Books & Writing* in Victoria exhibition and general editor of the anthology *Literary Melbourne* (2009). For ten years he co-hosted 3RRR's books and writing radio show *Aural Text* and was co-editor of the Australian lit-mag *Going Down Swinging*. He has also been a freelance book editor, Program Director of the Victorian Writers Centre, Director of the Emerging Writers Festival and Artistic Director of Express Media.

Olivia Guntarik

Olivia Guntarik has published in the areas of memoir, creative nonfiction and short story. She was a recipient of an Australian Society of Authors mentorship in 2010 and completed her PhD in historical studies at the University of Melbourne. Her academic writing explores the interplay of mainstream and marginal or misrepresented landscapes, identities and communities, and has appeared in literary and cultural studies journals in Australia and internationally. She teaches in the School of Media and Communication at RMIT University.

Chris Hammer

Chris Hammer has worked as a journalist since 1985, dividing his time between covering politics in Canberra and working as a foreign correspondent. He has reported from more than 30 countries for SBS's Dateline. His first book, *The River: A Journey through the Murray-Darling Basin*, was short-listed for the Walkley Book Award and won the ACT Book of the Year Award in 2011. His new book, *The Coast: A Journey along Australia's Eastern Shores*, was published this year. He recently returned to the Canberra Press Gallery to produce video material for Fairfax mastheads including *The Age* and *Sydney Morning Herald*.

Xenia Hanusiak

Xenia Hanusiak is an opera singer, essayist, playwright, librettist and artistic director. She has performed on four continents. Engagements include the Next Wave Festival, Brooklyn Academy of Music, Singapore Arts Festival, Aarhus Festival, Beijing Music Festival and the major concert halls. Her written works for the stage have been performed by the New York Children's Chorus, Australian String Quartet, the Melbourne International Arts Festival, Sydney Festival, Adelaide Festival of Arts and the Beijing Music Festival. Her most recent play, *Ward B*, won a RE Ross Trust Award. She is a cultural essayist and columnist for *The Age* and a Doctorial candidate.

Melinda Harvey

Melinda Harvey lectures on contemporary fiction and nonfiction at Monash University. She has held lectureships at the University of Sydney, Australian National University, RMIT University and the European College of Liberal Arts, Berlin. Her reviews have appeared in *The Age*, *Sydney Morning Herald*, *Canberra Times*, *The Australian*, *Australian Book Review*, *Australian Literary Review* and on ABC Radio National.

Lynda Hawryluk

Lynda Hawryluk is a lecturer in Literary and Cultural Studies at CQ University, where she teaches undergraduate creative writing subjects and supervises Masters of Letters and PhD students. She has been coordinating the Idiom 23 Writers' Workshops on North Keppel Island since 2005 and has facilitated many writing workshops in the Central Queensland region. She is Deputy Chair of the Australasian Association of Writing Programs and has been published in a variety of academic and creative publications.

Jim Hearn

Jim Hearn is a researcher, writer and chef. He has written and produced four films and worked on the screenplay for *Chopper* and an adaptation of Andrew McGahan's novel *Last Drinks*. Jim teaches writing and cultural studies in the School of Arts and Social Sciences at Southern Cross University, and is currently enrolled in a PhD within the Transforming Cultures Research Centre at the University of Technology, Sydney. His first book, *High Season*, a memoir about his lived experiences as a chef, was published this year.

Robin Hemley

Robin Hemley is the winner of a Guggenheim Fellowship for his work on *DO-OVER!* He has published ten books, and his stories and essays have appeared in the *New York Times*, *New York Magazine*, *Chicago Tribune* and many literary magazines and anthologies. He is the editor of *Defunct* magazine. He received his MFA from the Iowa Writers Workshop, and currently directs the Nonfiction Writing Program at the University of Iowa.

Judy Horacek

Judy Horacek is an Australian cartoonist, artist, writer and children's book creator. Her cartoons have been pinned up on doors and walls all over the world. Since knocking on doors for cartooning work when she was in her 20s, she has published thousands of cartoons all over the world and had seven collections published in book form. Her work appears on greeting cards, aprons, tea towels and t-shirts. She has written and illustrated four children's books on her own and two with Mem Fox, including the very popular *Where is the Green Sheep?*

Shane Hulbert

Shane Hulbert is a senior lecturer in Fine Art and Program Director of the BA (Fine Art) programs at RMIT University. He is Chair of the RMIT Photo Imaging Research Network and a practicing artist, specialising in photographic representations of Australian national identity through landscape and place. Recent exhibitions include *Expedition* at the Centre for Contemporary Photography, Melbourne and *Lumens Festival: Curating the Ancient City* in Suzhou, China.

Lee Z Hunt

Lee Z Hunt is a Townsville-born, Melbourne-based writer with a Masters in Creative Writing from RMIT University. She is currently working on her first book of narrative nonfiction/memoir, *Happy To Be Dancing*, inspired by her long-term connection with Indigenous Australia. Her work has appeared in *The Australian* and online. She is the founder and Director of Committed Artists, a not-for-profit company dedicated to making a difference in the lives of Indigenous youth.

Bonifacio P Ilagan

Bonifacio P Ilagan is a playwright and screenwriter and has won awards including Don Carlos Palanca Awards for Literature, the Cultural Center of the Philippines Literary Contest, Palihang Aurelio V Tolentino, CCP Centennial Honors for the Arts, Catholic Mass Media Awards, Philippine Movie Press Club Star Awards, Film Academy of the Philippines, Filipino Academy of Movie Arts and Sciences, Golden Screen Awards and Gawad CCP. He has also received a Gawad Balagtas Lifetime Achievement Award. His screenplays include *Dukot* (2009), *Sigwa* (2010), *Deadline* (2011) and *Migrante* (2012). Two of his plays are acclaimed in *CCP Encyclopedia of Philippine Art* as major works in Philippine theatre.

Concettina Inserra

Concettina Inserra is a contemporary artist with a long interest in photographic portraiture. In 2008 she was the co-recipient of the William and Winifred Bowness Photography Prize awarded by the Monash Gallery of Art for *Portrait of Mother and Daughter (after Mikra)*. She was a finalist for the National Portrait Prize in 2005 and 2009 and her work has been shown at Centres for Contemporary Photography in Melbourne and Sydney, and the National Portrait Gallery in Canberra. She holds a MFA from Monash University.

Sreedhevi Iyer

Sreedhevi Iyer is a double hyphen aware of fluid identities, as insider and outsider. As an Indian-Malaysian living in Australia, she wrote a column, 'Regards, Sree', for the *Malaysian Sunday Mail* for three years. With a double-degree in Law and Creative Industries, she focused her MPhil thesis on the postcolonial idea of home for migrants. Her fiction has been nominated for a Pushcart Prize, with publications in *Hotel Amerika*, *Drunken Boat*, *Syntax* and *Mascara Literary Review*. She is finishing a novel through an MFA at City University Hong Kong and is a legal research officer at University of Queensland's Law Faculty.

Noëlle Janaczewska

Noëlle Janaczewska writes for radio, print, and performance. The recipient of 5 AWGIE Awards (2 for nonfiction), her plays have won the Griffin Playwriting Award, the Playbox-Asialink Playwriting Competition (Songket) and the Queensland Premier's Literary Award (Mrs Petrov's Shoe). Recent works include: *Random Red* and *Weeds Etc* for ABC Radio National, *Eyewitness Blues* for the BBC, the performance essay *The Hannah First Collection, 1919–1949* for the Zendai Museum of Modern Art in Shanghai, and poems in a number of journals and anthologies. Noëlle is currently working on *The Book of Thistles*. Find out more at <http://noelle-janaczewska.com>

Georgia Janetzki

Georgia Janetzki is a communication designer and illustrator. She has received awards from The Australian Graphic Design Association, Australian Writers and Art Directors Association and the National Print Awards. She has sat on judging panels for the Melbourne Art Directors Club Awards and the Walkley Awards. Having recently completed a Bachelor of Arts in Fine Art at RMIT University, she was a recipient of The Australian Print Workshop's Collie Print Trust Emerging Victorian Printmaker's Scholarship for 2011. She is a lecturer in Communication Design in the Bachelor and Diploma programs at RMIT University.

Jill Jones

Jill Jones has published six full-length poetry collections, most recently *Dark Bright Doors* (2010) and the chapbook *Senses Working Out*. A new full-length book, *Ash Is Here, So Are Stars*, will be published this year. She won the 2003 Kenneth Slessor Poetry Prize for *Screens Jets Heaven* and the 1993 Mary Gilmore Award for *The Mask and the Jagged Star*. She co-edited *Out Of the Box: Contemporary Australian Gay and Lesbian Poets* and is a member of the J M Coetzee Centre for Creative Practice at the University of Adelaide.

Ann-Mari Jordens

Ann-Mari Jordens is a Canberra-based consultant historian whose most recent book, *Hope: Refugees and their Supporters in Australia since 1947* (2012), is based on interviews she recorded for the National Library of Australia. She holds postgraduate degrees from the Universities of Sydney and Melbourne and has published widely on citizenship, immigration, war and society and Australian cultural history. Her previous books are *Alien to Citizen: Settling Migrants in Australia 1945–75* (1997), *Redefining Australians: Immigration, Citizenship and National Identity* (1995) and *The Stenhouse Circle: Literary Life in Mid-nineteenth Century Sydney* (1979).

Sue Joseph

Sue Joseph has been a journalist for more than thirty years, working in Australia and the UK. She began working as an academic, teaching print journalism at the University of Technology, Sydney in 1997. As a senior lecturer, she now teaches and supervises in both journalism and creative writing schools, particularly creative nonfiction writing, in both undergraduate and postgraduate programs. Her third book, *Speaking Secrets*, was published this year.

Evelyn Juers

Evelyn Juers has a PhD in literary biography and the Brontës from the University of Essex. She is an essayist, art and literary critic, co-publisher of Giramondo books and author of the collective biography *House of Exile*, which won the 2009 Prime Minister's Literary Award for Nonfiction and was highly acclaimed in the USA, UK, France and Spain. Her most recent publication is *The Recluse* (2012), a study of reclusion and the life of Eliza Emily Donnithorne, who lived in the Sydney suburb of Newtown in the nineteenth century and may have been the model for Miss Havisham in *Great Expectations*.

Speakers

Elizabeth Kadetsky

Elizabeth Kadetsky is director of creative writing and visiting assistant professor of creative writing in fiction and nonfiction at Penn State. Her memoir, *First There is a Mountain*, was published in 2004. Her personal essays have appeared in the *New York Times*, *Guernica*, *Santa Monica Review*, *Antioch Review*, *Post Road* and *Agni*. Her short stories have been chosen for a Pushcart Prize, *Best New American Voices* and *Best American Short Stories* notable stories.

Leah Kaminsky

Leah Kaminsky is a physician and Deputy Editor of Poetry & Fiction at the *Medical Journal of Australia*. She is the author of several books and editor of *Writer, M.D.*, an anthology of contemporary doctor-writers (2012). She guest edited Issue #46 (Australia) of *Creative Nonfiction* magazine with Lee Gutkind. The recipient of various grants and fellowships, her work has been published in *Huffington Post*, *Monocle*, *Antipodes*, *Griffith REVIEW*, *The Ampersand Review*, *PANK*, *Quadrant* and *The Examined Life* amongst others. She is completing an MFA in Fiction at Vermont College of Fine Arts.

Seth Keen

Seth Keen teaches New Media at RMIT University in Melbourne, Australia. He holds a MA (by Research) and is currently in candidature on a practice based PhD (Communication). Seth works with video to explore the nexus between documentary practice and new media technologies. His practice is interdisciplinary across media, art and design. He produces video works for exhibition, broadcast, screening and online publication. Interested in social and environmental change, Seth collaborates with organisations on the design of frameworks to create web interactive documentaries, audio-visual archives and tools.

Elmo Keep

Elmo Keep is a writer and broadcaster whose nonfiction work has appeared in *The Awl*, *The Rumpus*, *The Hairpin*, *Meanjin*, *The Big Issue*, *Men's Style* and *The Global Mail*. She was a writer/producer on ABC TV's *Hungry Beast* and digital media producer with Zapruder's Other Films. She lives in Ballarat, Victoria.

Lee Kofman

Lee Kofman emigrated to Australia in 2000 and is the author of three fiction books (in Hebrew). Her creative nonfiction, fiction and poetry in English have been published in such Australian publications as *Australian Best Essays* (2012), *Australian Best Stories* (2007), *Modern Australian Short Stories* (2008) and *Griffith REVIEW*, and in the US, UK, Canada and Scotland. She is the recipient of an Australia Council grant, many writing residencies and an Australian Society of Authors mentorship. She holds an MA of Creative Writing from the University of Melbourne and teaches and mentors writers. Lee's memoir-in-progress, *The Dangerous Bride*, has been short-listed for the Harpers Collins Varuna Award 2012.

Bronek Kozka

Bronek Kozka is a lecturer in photography in the School of Fine Art at RMIT. His commercial photographic practice forms the basis for his art practice and his investigation into his representations of remembered moments. Kozka's work is held in several public and private collections in Australia and internationally. He is represented by Bett Gallery Hobart and MARS Gallery in Melbourne.

Nigel Krauth

Nigel Krauth is Associate Professor and Head of the Writing Program at Griffith University. He has published seven novels, various short stories and essays, and has had dramatic works performed. His awards include The Australian/Vogel's Literary Award and the New South Wales Premiers Award. He is founding co-editor of the international refereed journal *TEXT: Journal of Writing and Writing Courses* and co-editor of *Creative Writing: Theory beyond Practice* (2006). He has published significantly in the creative writing research field.

Carolyn Kremers

Carolyn Kremers writes literary nonfiction and poetry and teaches part-time at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. She has also taught at Eastern Washington University in Spokane. Her books include the memoir *Place of the Pretend People: Gifts from a Yup'ik Eskimo Village*, the anthology *The Alaska Reader: Voices from the North*, and *Upriver*, poetry, forthcoming in February 2013. She has been artist-in-residence at Gates of the Arctic National Park and Denali National Park, and was a US Fulbright Scholar at Buryat State University in Ulan Ude, Russia.

Benjamin Laird

Benjamin Laird is an Honours student in the RMIT University's Bachelor of Media and Communication. He is interested in the role code plays within programmable poetry. He has a Diploma of Professional Writing and Editing (RMIT) and degrees in engineering and computer science.

Benjamin Law

Benjamin Law is a Brisbane-based writer and a frequent contributor to *frankie*, *The Monthly*, *Qweekend* and *Good Weekend*. He has written for over 50 Australian and international publications (including *The Australian Financial Review*, *The Big Issue*, *Smith Journal*, *Sunday Life*, *Crikey* and *Travel and Leisure: South East Asia*) and has been anthologised in *The Best Australian Essays* twice. His debut book *The Family Law* (2010) was short-listed for Book of the Year at The Australian Book Industry Awards (ABIAs). *Gaysia*, his second book, is out now.

Debbie Lee

Debbie Lee teaches literature and writing at Washington State University. She is the author of three books on early nineteenth-century history and literature and is currently working on *Stony Bad Land: a personal and cultural history of the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness*. She divides her time between Moscow, Idaho, and Chicago, Illinois.

James Ley

James Ley has been a freelance literary critic for more than a decade. His work has appeared in many publications including *The Age*, *The Australian*, *The Times Literary Supplement*, *Sydney Morning Herald* and *Australian Book Review*. He has recently completed a PhD at the University of Western Sydney and is working on a book about the fiction of David Foster Wallace to be published in early 2013.

Sara Loewen

Sara Loewen received her MFA in creative writing in 2011 from the University of Alaska Anchorage. Her first book, *Gaining Daylight: Life On Two Islands*, will be published in February 2013. Recent essays have appeared in *River Teeth*, *Literary Mama* and other journals. She teaches at Kodiak College and fishes commercially for salmon each summer with her family.

Bret Lott

Bret Lott is the bestselling author of thirteen books including the nonfiction works *Fathers, Sons and Brothers* and *Before We Get Started: A Practical Memoir of the Writer's Life*. He has served as Fulbright Senior Scholar and writer-in-residence at Bar-Ilan University in Tel Aviv, spoken on Flannery O'Connor at The White House and is a member of the National Council on the Arts.

Alec McAulay

Alec McAulay is a Scottish screenwriter and educator based in Yokohama, Japan. He is an award-winning filmmaker and is currently undertaking a PhD at The Media School, Bournemouth University. His current research is into representations of Japan and the Japanese by non-Japanese screenwriters.

Kent MacCarter

Kent MacCarter is a writer and editor in Melbourne. He is the author of two poetry collections, *In the Hungry Middle of Here* and *Ribosome Spreadsheet* and is lead editor of *Joyful Strains: Expat Writers on Making Australia Home*, a nonfiction collection of diasporic essays from authors now living and writing from Australia. He sits on the executive board of *SPungC: Small Press Network* and is active in Melbourne PEN. He is Managing Editor of *Cordite Poetry Review* and was recently awarded a Fulbright Travel Award to read in Indonesia, promoting Australian and American literature.

Brian McFarlane

Brian McFarlane has had three overlapping careers—teacher, academic and writer—mainly about cinema, particularly British and Australian, and adaptation from literature into film. He is the author of several books, including the memoir *Real and Reel: the education of a film obsessive and critic* (2010).

Siobhan McHugh

Siobhan McHugh has written four books of social history and produced over 60 radio documentaries. Her book, *The Snowy* (1995), about the migrant workforce that built the Snowy Mountains Hydro-Electric Scheme, won the NSW Premier's Literary Award and became a radio series, a television documentary and a children's novel. Her radio work has won Gold and Bronze medals at the New York Radio Festival and been short-listed for the NSW Premier's History Prize, a Walkley Award for Excellence in Journalism, a Eureka Science Prize and a UN Media Peace Prize. She is a senior lecturer in Journalism at the University of Wollongong.

Elizabeth MacFarlane

Elizabeth MacFarlane is a writer and academic at the University of Melbourne. In 2011 she designed the subject Graphic Narratives, and she is currently pursuing research into contemporary Australian autobiographical graphic novels. Her stories and essays have been published in various journals including *TEXT*, *New Scholar*, *New Antigone* and *Space*. Her fictocritical book examining J M Coetzee's recent novels will be published in 2013.

Robert Macklin

Robert Macklin is a journalist and the author of 20 books. They include the biographies *Morrison of China*, *Jacka VC: Australian Hero* and *Fire in the Blood: The epic tale of Frank Gardiner and Australia's other bushrangers*, the military histories *Kill The Tiger, Keep off the Skyline: The Story of Ron Cashman and the Diggers in Korea*, *The Battle of Brisbane* and *SAS Sniper* and the memoir *War Babies*. A new work of military history is coming out this year and he is currently writing a history of Norfolk Island. *The Big Fella*, co-authored with Peter Thompson, won the Blake Dawson Award for Business Literature.

Patrick Madden

Patrick Madden is the author of *Quotidiana* (2010), winner of Independent Publisher and ForeWord Reviews book of the year awards and finalist for the PEN Center USA Literary Award in Creative Nonfiction. His essays have appeared recently in *Southwest Review*, *Fourth Genre*, *Hotel Amerika*, *the Iowa Review*, and the *Best Creative Nonfiction* and *Best American Spiritual Writing* anthologies. He teaches in the MFA programs at Brigham Young University and Vermont College.

Brigid Magner

Brigid Magner completed her PhD on Trans-Tasman literary culture. This prompted her current interest in literary tourism in the Antipodes. She is a lecturer at RMIT University and publishes regularly in arts journals and magazines.

Speakers

Kim Mahood

Kim Mahood is a writer and artist based in NSW. Growing up on the now Aboriginal-owned Tanami Downs station, she has strong connections with the Warlpiri traditional owners and families of the Walmajarri stockmen who worked there. Her work traces her evolving relationship to the Tanami region and her interest in recording Aboriginal knowledge systems of place. Her memoir *Craft for a Dry Lake* won the 2001 NSW Premiers Award and *The Age* Nonfiction Book of the Year. 'Kartiya Are Like Toyotas' was short-listed for the 2011 Calibre Prize, and an excerpt of 'Blow-ins' will appear in *The Invisible Thread* (2012).

Shane Maloney

Shane Maloney is one of Australia's most popular novelists. He is the creator of the popular Australian crime novel series—the Murray Whelan novels: *Stiff*, *The Brush-Off*, *Nice Try*, *The Big Ask*, *Something Fishy* and *Sucked In*. He has been described by *The Age* as "the true voice of national comic futility." His books have been published in the UK, Germany, France, Britain, Japan, Finland and the U.S. In 2004, *Stiff* and *The Brush-Off* were made into movies with David Wenham in the role of Murray Whelan. www.shanemaloney.com

Anne Manne

Anne Manne is a Melbourne writer, essayist and social commentator. She has been a regular columnist for *The Australian* and *The Age*. Her essays on contemporary culture such as child abuse, pornography, loneliness, feminism, gendercide and disability have appeared in *The Monthly*. Her essay, 'Ebony: The Girl in the Room', was included in *The Best Australian Essays: a ten-year collection* (2011). *Motherhood: How should we care for our children* was a finalist in the Walkley Award for Best Nonfiction Book of 2006. She has written a Quarterly Essay, *Love and Money; The Family and the Free Market* and a memoir, *So This is Life: Scenes from a Country Childhood*. She is currently writing a book on narcissism.

Iola Mathews OAM

Iola Mathews OAM was a journalist with *The Age* and is the author of a book on the news media. She has been an industrial officer at the Australian Council for Trade Unions. More recently she wrote *My Mother, My Writing and Me: a Memoir* (2009) and established Glenfern Writers' Studios in East St Kilda.

Steve May

Steve May has won awards for drama, fiction and poetry and has more than 50 credits for the BBC. He heads the Creative Writing Programme at Bath Spa University and is chair of the UK National Association of Writers in Education (NAWE) Higher Education Committee.

Threasa Meads

Threasa Meads is a PhD candidate in Creative Writing at Flinders University. Her work in various genres has been published in anthologies, street press and online journals. Her autobiographical fiction, *Nobody*, was short-listed for The Australian/Vogel's Literary Award in 2008 and awarded a Text/Varuna Publisher Fellowship in 2009. She was Emerging Writer in Residence at the Katharine Susannah Prichard Writers' Centre in 2012 and is currently completing a sequel to *Nobody*: the ekphrastic, magical realist memoir titled *Mothsongs*.

Christopher Merrill

Christopher Merrill is the author of many books, including *Only the Nails Remain: Scenes from the Balkan Wars*, *Things of the Hidden God: Journey to the Holy Mountain* and *The Tree of the Doves: Ceremony, Expedition, War*. He directs the International Writing Program at the University of Iowa.

Rose Michael

Rose Michael is a commissioning editor at Hardie Grant Books, where she is developing a significant nonfiction list. She co-founded Arcade Publications in 2007 to publish unconventional histories. She has lectured in the postgraduate Publishing and Communications program at the University of Melbourne and her first novel, *The Asking Game*, was a Vogel runner-up. Her journalism and short stories have been frequently published.

Adrian Miles

Adrian Miles is a senior lecturer in New Media and Program Director of the Bachelor of Media and Communication Honours research studio at RMIT University. He has also been a senior new media researcher in the InterMedia Lab at the University of Bergen, Norway. His academic research on hypertext and networked interactive video has been widely published and his applied digital projects have been exhibited internationally. His research interests include hypertext and hypermedia, appropriate pedagogies for new media education, digital video poetics and the use of Deleuzian philosophy in the context of digital poetics.

Kathryn Millard

Kathryn Millard is a writer, filmmaker and Professor of Film and Creative Arts at Macquarie University. Her award-winning films include dramas, arts documentaries and hybrid works. She publishes essays and critical writing on topics including film, photography and social psychology and works as a dramaturg for theatre. Her recent film credits include *Random 8* (2012) and *The Boot Cake* (2008). She is currently a Visiting Fellow in Film Studies at Yale University.

Mary Anne Mohanraj

Mary Anne Mohanraj is the author of *Bodies in Motion*, *Aqua Erotica*, *Wet*, *Kathryn in the City* and *The Classics Professor*. She founded the award-winning magazine *Strange Horizons* and has received a Breaking Barriers Award from the Chicago Foundation for Women and an Illinois Arts Council Fellowship. She has taught at the Clarion SF/F workshop and is Clinical Assistant Professor of fiction and literature and Associate Director of Asian and Asian American Studies at the University of Illinois at Chicago. She serves as Executive Director of both DesiLit and the Speculative Literature Foundation. She is currently working on a nonfiction memoir/travelogue.

Cameron Muir

Cameron Muir writes somewhere between academia and journalism about agriculture, food and the environment. For the next three years he will be a Postdoctoral Fellow at The Australian National University and National Museum of Australia. In previous years he has won the *Griffith REVIEW* Emerging Writers Prize for Nonfiction and an ASA Mentorship. His main writing projects include finishing a book on the history of our modern food system and starting a new book on the pesticide industry and toxins in the food chain.

Meg Mundell

Meg Mundell is a Melbourne-based author, journalist and researcher. Her journalism has appeared in *The Age*, *The Monthly*, *Sydney Morning Herald* and *Brisbane Times*. She is currently working on a PhD on how authors use experiential or sensory methods to research literary sense of place and a memoir about outback trucking, *Angel Gear: The Secret Life of Trucks*, funded by an AusCo grant. Her first novel, *Black Glass* (2011), received wide critical acclaim and her stories have appeared in *New Australian Stories*, *Best Australian Stories*, *Australian Book Review*, *Meanjin* and *Sleepers Almanac*.

Paul Munden

Paul Munden is Director of the National Association of Writers in Education and has worked extensively as a creative writing tutor in schools and universities. A Gregory Award winner, his poetry has appeared in many anthologies and his new collection, *Asterisk**, with photographs of Shandy Hall, was published in 2011.

Bruce Mutard

Bruce Mutard is the author of four graphic novels—*The Sacrifice* (2008), *The Silence* (2009), *A Mind of Love* (2011), *The Bunker* (2003)—and the collection *Stripshow* (2012). He has had short stories in *Overland*, *Meanjin*, *The Australian Book Review* and *Tango* and has illustrated several books for the *Stories From Australia's History* series. He is currently working on a sequel to *The Sacrifice* and is researching the formal properties of the comics' medium for a Masters degree at Monash University.

Christine Nagel

Christine Nagel lives in Melbourne and has worked as feature writer and editor since 1984. She has run writers festivals, coordinated writers centres, acted as a literary agent, a literary panellist and a panel presenter, and is a publisher, manuscript assessor, desktop publisher and professional writing mentor. In more recent years she has taught professional writing and editing at tertiary level, been a television producer, started a blog for aspiring writers and taken up making sourdough bread. She is currently researching material for a nonfiction book-length work. She holds a BA in Creative Writing, Literature and Philosophy.

Margo Neale

Margo Neale is of Aboriginal and Irish descent and is Principal Indigenous Advisor and Senior Curator at the National Museum of Australia and Adjunct Professor at Australian National University. She has worked in education, galleries and museums and private enterprise and written or co-edited books including *Utopia: The Genius of Emily Kame Kngwarreye* (2008), *Oxford's Companion to Aboriginal Art and Culture* (2000) and *Exploring the Legacy of the 1948 Arnhem Land Expedition* (2011). Her current projects include an interdisciplinary collaboration with elders and artists of the Western Desert on the iconic songlines that map our continent.

Toni Nealie

Toni Nealie is an MFA candidate in Creative Nonfiction at Columbia College Chicago. Originally from New Zealand, she essays about diaspora, family ties, racial identity and being thrust into the role of "trailing spouse," a term she interrogates in her work. She worked as a writer, subeditor and editor for numerous magazines including *NZ Home & Building*, *Trends*, *Fashion Quarterly* and *British ELLE*; as a media executive and speech writer for two cabinet ministers in the New Zealand government, and as a public relations advisor for companies including KPMG, Qantas and Westfield. Toni currently teaches in the Television and English Departments at Columbia College Chicago, and is raising two sons and a dog in Oak Park, Illinois.

Pip Newling

Pip Newling is a Doctor of Creative Arts candidate in the Faculty of Creative Arts at the University of Wollongong where she is writing about belonging. Her first book *Knockabout Girl: A Memoir* was published in 2007. She has also written about her travels in Afghanistan. She is a contributor for *The Big Issue* and *Bookseller+Publisher* and her short fiction has been published in the UTS Anthology, *Nine Tenths Below*. *The Reunion*, a short film that she wrote and directed, has won both international and Australian awards.

Speakers

Charmaine O'Brien

Charmaine O'Brien is a culinary writer, historian and educator. Her books include *The Penguin Food Guide to India* (2012), *Flavours of Melbourne: A Culinary Biography* (2008), *Recipes from an Urban Village: A Cookbook from Hazrat Nizamuddin Basti* (2003) and *Flavours of Delhi: A Food Lovers Guide* (2003). She is currently working on *The Devil Sends Cooks*—a story of food in colonial Australia as told by celebrity chefs of the time, which includes recipes. She is a professional cook who specialises in food inspired by nineteenth century cookbooks, and is known for her original themed jellies.

Gina Perry

Gina Perry is an Australian psychologist and writer and works as an online communication manager and a freelance writer in web, print and radio. Her feature articles, columns, and essays have been published in *The Age* and *The Australian*, and her short fiction has been published in *Meanjin*, *Westerly* and *Island*. Her co-production, *Beyond the Shock Machine*, ABC Radio National's documentary about Stanley Milgram's obedience experiments, won the Silver World Medal for a history documentary in the 2009 New York Festivals radio awards. She teaches in the Master of Publishing and Communications at the University of Melbourne.

Leila Philip

Leila Philip is the author of *The Road Through Miyama* (1991, 1992), *Hidden Dialogue: A Discussion Between Women in Japan and the United States* (1992) and the award-winning memoir *A Family Place: A Hudson Valley Farm, Three Centuries, Five Wars, One Family* (2001, 2002, 2009). She has received numerous awards for her writing, including fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, The National Endowment for the Arts and The National Endowment for the Humanities. She is Associate Professor in the Department of English at the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, MA and Honored Visiting Graduate Faculty member with Ashland's low residency MFA program.

Gail Pittaway

Gail Pittaway is a senior lecturer in the School of Media Arts, at Wintec, the Waikato Institute of Technology, in Hamilton, New Zealand. Her research interests include creative writing and the teaching of writing. She has edited two books, is the *Waikato Times* theatre critic and broadcasts on Radio New Zealand. She is a member of the New Zealand Communication Association, Tertiary Writing Network and New Zealand Society of Authors and has been an Executive Member of the Australasian Association of Writing Programs since 2004.

Jeff Porter

Jeff Porter is the author of *Oppenheimer Is Watching Me* and co-editor of *Understanding the Essay*. His essays have appeared in *Antioch Review*, *Isotope*, *Northwest Review*, *Shenandoah*, *Missouri Review*, *Hotel Amerika*, *Wilson Quarterly*, *Contemporary Literature* and *Blackbird*. His film and radio work includes *The Men Who Dance the Giglio*, *Herby Sings the Blues* and *The Angel of History*. He is an Associate Professor in English at the University of Iowa, where he specialises in contemporary literature and culture, radio, film and new media studies and literary nonfiction. His current book project examines the cultural history of radio literature.

Liz Porter

Liz Porter is a journalist who began her career in Hong Kong and then worked in Sydney, London and Stuttgart before returning to Melbourne to work for *The Age*. She has won the Victoria Law Foundation Legal Reporter of the Year award twice, and published a novel and two books on forensic science. *Written on the Skin* was joint winner of the 2007 Ned Kelly award for best true crime book and *Cold Case Files* (2011) won the 2012 Davitt award for best true crime book and was short-listed for the 2012 Ned Kelly true crime book award.

Sean Prentiss

Sean Prentiss is an assistant professor of English at Norwich University in Vermont. He is co-editing *The Far Edges of the Fourth Genre*, an anthology that explores the ideas that keep creative nonfiction writers awake at night. It will be published in 2013. He has had essays, poems, and stories published in *Brevity*, *Sycamore Review*, *ISLE*, *Ascent*, *Nimrod* and others.

Sian Prior

Sian Prior is a freelance journalist and broadcaster. She teaches journalism and nonfiction at RMIT and has taught nonfiction for Writers Victoria, the Northern Rivers Writers Centre and the Ubud Writers And Readers Festival. Her travel writing has been published by Fairfax and in *Habitat* and *The Bulletin*. Her essays have been published in *Meanjin* and her short stories have been published by *Visible Ink*, *Sleepers Almanac* and *The Age*. She recently contributed a chapter to the *Women of Letters* anthology (2011) and is currently working on a memoir about shyness for a PhD in Creative Writing at RMIT University.

John Proctor

John Proctor is an active reader on the New York City spoken word scene and has written memoir, fiction, poetry, criticism and just about everything in the space between them. His work has been published in *Defunct*, *Numéro Cinq*, *McSweeney's*, *Trouser Press*, *Gotham Gazette* and an upcoming anthology on weather. He recently completed his MFA at Vermont College of Fine Arts and teaches academic writing, media studies and communication theory at Manhattanville College.

Alice Pung

Alice Pung is a writer, lawyer, teacher, author of *Her Father's Daughter*, which won the 2012 Western Australia Premiers Award, and *Unpolished Gem* and the editor of *Growing up Asian in Australia*. *Unpolished Gem* won the 2007 Australian Newcomer of the Year award in The Australian Book Industry Awards and was short-listed for the Victorian Premier's Literary Awards and the New South Wales Premier's Literary Awards. She has had stories and articles published in *Good Weekend*, *Meanjin*, *The Monthly*, *The Age*, *The Best Australian Stories 2007* and *Etchings*.

Nicola Redhouse

Nicola Redhouse is a freelance editor, literary scout and writer. She worked for a number of years at *Scribe*, where her interest in creative nonfiction saw her edit authors including David Carlin and Vivienne Ulman. She now works across the genres as an editor and scout for a range of publishers. She has been published in *Meanjin*, *Kill Your Darlings*, *Wet Ink*, *harvest*, *The Big Issue*, *Indigo* and *RealTime*.

Francesca Rendle-Short

Francesca Rendle-Short is a novelist and memoirist. She is the author of *Bite your tongue* that was shortlisted for the 2012 Colin Roderick Literary Award, and the novel *Imago* that won the ACT Book of the Year for 1997. She has published numerous short fictions, photo-essays, exhibition text, poetry for the page and wall in literary journals and magazines, online and in exhibitions. Francesca has a Doctor of Creative Arts from the University of Wollongong and is Program Director of Creative Writing at RMIT. She is also the Co-Director of the nonfictionLab in the School of Media and Communication.

Hephzibah Rendle-Short

Hephzibah Rendle-Short is committed to psychoanalysis to understand her world. Her practice-led PhD from the Painting Department of the Royal College of Art, London, March 2012 unravels her relationship to her painting practice through an interrogation of "the diagram", using fiction to cover over the inevitable and constituent hole, or lack, at the centre of all systems. She is interested in bringing together visual art and writing, both in exhibition form and in teaching, which she continues to do in the role of visiting lecturer in art schools. She is currently a trainee psychoanalyst at the Centre for Freudian Analysis and Research, London.

Catherine Rey

Catherine Rey was born in Saintes, France, in 1956. She studied European literature, grammar and history of the French language at University of Bordeaux III before becoming a high school teacher. Her first novel, *L'Ami Intime (The Intimate Friend)*, was published in 1994, followed by *Les Jours Heureux* and *Eloge de l'Oubli (Praise of Forgetfulness)*. Since moving to Australia in 1997, she has published the novels *Lucie comme les chiens*, *Ce que racontait* and *Les extraordinaires aventures de John Lofty Oakes*. *The Spruiker's Tale* and *Stepping Out* are recent translations. She currently teaches for the Writing and Research Society and lectures in the MA program at the Sydney Consortium, University of Western Sydney.

Matthew Ricketson

Matthew Ricketson is an academic and journalist. He was Media and Communications editor at *The Age*, has worked for *The Australian* and *Time Australia* magazine and won the George Munster prize for freelance journalism. He ran the journalism program at RMIT between 1995 and 2006 and was appointed inaugural Professor of Journalism at the University of Canberra in 2009. He is the author of a biography of Australian author Paul Jennings and a book about feature writing, the editor of an anthology of profile articles and, most recently, the editor of *Australian Journalism Today*. He is currently writing *Navigating True Stories*.

Leslie Carol Roberts

Leslie Carol Roberts was raised in rural Maryland where she spent hours in the woods searching for dead animals, writing books, painting and torching mailboxes. She has worked as a photo editor and a reporter. Her popular book, *The Entire Earth and Sky: Views on Antarctica*, has been described as a "genre-bashing work, packed with wit and a certain sweet smarts". She is an associate professor at California College of the Arts where she chairs the MFA program in Transdisciplinary Design, which she calls Trannie D.

Doug Robinson

Doug Robinson is Chair Professor of English and Dean of Arts at Hong Kong Baptist University. In addition to his many academic books on translation, literature, and writing, including *First-Year Writing and the Somatic Exchange* (2012), he has published the textbook *Lifewriting as Drama*, a novel, short stories and creative nonfiction.

Kate Rossmanith

Kate Rossmanith is an academic and a nonfiction writer. Her essays on subjects including the work of judges, stem cell science, cliff accidents, germ theory and crocodile country have appeared in *The Monthly* and *Best Australian Essays*. She lectures in performance studies and nonfiction writing at Macquarie University, Sydney and has written numerous scholarly articles for national and international journals. She is currently writing a book about remorse in the criminal justice system.

Katherine Sanders

Katherine Sanders is pursuing her MFA in creative nonfiction with a joint concentration in literary translation at Columbia University. She is a member of Harlem Writers' Circle and the founding editor of *Crescendo City*. Her work has appeared in *Bomb* and *Words Without Borders* and is forthcoming in *Apogee Journal*.

Brandon R. Schrand

Brandon R. Schrand is the author of *The Enders Hotel: A Memoir* (2008) and *Works Cited: An Alphabetical Odyssey of Mayhem & Misbehavior* (2013). His work has appeared in *The Dallas Morning News*, *The Utne Reader*, *Tin House*, *The Missouri Review* and *Shenandoah*. He won the Pushcart Prize and Shenandoah's Carter Prize and has been selected for *The Best American Essays* in 2007, 2008, and 2009. He was awarded a residency at Yaddo and teaches at the University of Idaho.

Speakers

Julianne Schultz

Julianne Schultz is the founding editor of *Griffith REVIEW*, the multi-award winning quarterly of fine writing on topical issues. *Griffith REVIEW* uniquely explores complex issues with a mix of essays, reportage, memoir and fiction.

Ronnie Scott

Ronnie Scott has published nonfiction in *The Believer*, *The Big Issue*, *Meanjin*, *Dumbo Feather*, *Thought Catalog*, *The Rumpus* and *Australian Book Review*. He is the comics critic for *Books and Arts Daily* on ABC Radio National. In 2007 he founded *The Lifted Brow*, a freeform arts and culture magazine.

Peggy Shumaker

Peggy Shumaker served as Alaska State Writer Laureate for 2010–2012. Her most recent book is *Gnawed Bones*. Her lyrical memoir is *Just Breathe Normally. Toucan Nest*, a book of poems set in Costa Rica, will be published in 2013. Professor emerita at University of Alaska Fairbanks, she teaches in the Rainier Writing Workshop. She is founding editor of Boreal Books and edits the Alaska Literary Series at University of Alaska Press.

John Silvester

John Silvester has been a Melbourne based crime reporter since the late 1970s. In 2008 he won the Graham Perkin Australian Journalist of the Year and the Victoria Law Foundation Legal Reporter of the Year. He has won six Melbourne Press Club Quill awards, eight Victorian Law Foundation Awards, a Walkley Award, a Ned Kelly Award for true crime writing and a Ned Kelly lifetime achievement award. He is the senior crime reporter for *The Age* and writes a weekly column, 'Naked City', for the *Saturday Age*. He has co-written, edited and published crime books that have sold more than 1 million copies in Australia.

Margaret Simons

Margaret Simons is an award-winning freelance journalist and author. She is also the Director of the Centre for Advanced Journalism and coordinator of the new Masters in Journalism at the University of Melbourne. She writes on media for *Crikey*, and has published ten books. *Malcolm Fraser: The Political Memoirs* (2010), co-written with former Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser, won both Book of the Year and the Douglas Stewart Prize for Nonfiction at the NSW Premier's Literary Awards in 2011. Her most recent work is *Journalism at the Crossroads* (2011). She is working on a biography of the media proprietor, Kerry Stokes.

Sherry Simpson

Sherry Simpson is the author of two collections of essays, *The Way Winter Comes* and *The Accidental Explorer*. She teaches creative nonfiction in the low-residency MFA programs at the University of Alaska Anchorage and Pacific Lutheran University.

Liz Sinclair

Liz Sinclair is American by birth and global by inclination. She divides her time between Bali and Melbourne. She has written for *The Australian*, *worldhum.com*, *The Age*, *The Brunei Times*, *The Big Issue*, *The Washington Post*, *ISLANDS Magazine*, *Traveler's Tales* and others. She also writes feature articles for *The Jakarta Globe*. She got her start winning a Lonely Planet travel writing contest and was Runner-Up in the North American Travel Journalists Association Awards for Best Travel Series in 2007. Her essay, 'Bali Birth' was selected for *The Best Women's Travel Writing 2010*.

Natalia Rachel Singer

Natalia Rachel Singer is the Craig Professor of English at St Lawrence University, where she teaches creative writing and environmental literature. She has taught travel writing in France and India, which is also the setting for her travel memoir-in-progress *On Temple Road*. She is the author of *Scraping by in the Big Eighties*, a memoir, and is currently finishing a novel set in France. She is a contributing editor to *The North American Review*.

Russell Skelton

Russell Skelton is a contributing editor at *The Age* and the 2011 Walkley Book Award winner for his work *King Brown Country*. He is a former deputy editor, foreign editor and foreign correspondent (Japan & Hong Kong). He was also deputy editor of *The National Times on Sunday*. Russell has been reporting regularly on indigenous issues since 2005. He received the prestigious Grant Hattam Quill award for investigative journalism and a United Nations Association Peace award for his reports on Aboriginal disadvantage.

Sydney Smith

Sydney Smith is the author of *The Lost Woman* (2012), a memoir about growing up with a mentally ill mother, and a winner of The Age Short Story Competition. Her journalism has been published in *The Age*, and her short fiction and essays have appeared in *Island*, *New England Review* and *Griffith REVIEW*. She founded and coordinates the Victorian Mentoring Service for Writers.

Jeff Sparrow

Jeff Sparrow is the editor of *Overland* literary journal. He is the co-author of *Radical Melbourne: A Secret History*, *Radical Melbourne 2: The Enemy Within* and *Left Turn* and the author of *Communism: a Love Story, Killing: Misadventures in Violence* and *Money Shot*.

Reuben Stanton

Reuben Stanton is an interaction designer and PhD candidate at RMIT University. He has worked for over 10 years as a graphic designer, a web developer and information architect, a researcher as part of The Australian Cooperative Research Centre for Interaction Design and an independent software developer. His primary research interests are examining the contexts in which we use technology to make sense of information, and exploring the effects of new technologies on working and creative practice.

Rebecca Starford

Rebecca Starford is Associate Publisher at Affirm Press. She is the editor and co-founder of *Kill Your Darlings*, a national publication of commentary, essays, fiction, interviews and reviews. She was previously the deputy editor at Australian Book Review. Rebecca's writing has been published in *The Weekend Australian*, *The Age*, *Sydney Morning Herald* and *Overland*.

Lucinda Strahan

Lucinda Strahan is a writer and journalist with an ongoing interest in visual languages and hybrid forms. She has published extensively on visual art and culture in newspapers, magazines and arts journals, and her experimental literary-visual works have been shown in the exhibitions *Girls! Girls! Girls!* (2008) and *Writing Naked* (2009). She holds a MA in Journalism from the University of Technology, Sydney, is a PhD candidate in Creative Writing at the University of Wollongong and a lecturer in the Professional Communication and Creative Writing programs at RMIT University.

Cheryl Strayed

Cheryl Strayed is the author of the memoir *Wild*, a *New York Times* bestseller; *Tiny Beautiful Things*, a selection of her 'Dear Sugar' columns from *TheRumpus.net*; and *Torch*, a novel. Her personal essays have appeared in the *New York Times Magazine*, the *Washington Post Magazine*, *Vogue*, *Allure*, *Self*, *The Missouri Review*, *Brain*, *Child*, *Creative Nonfiction*, *Water-Stone Review* and *The Sun*.

Ira Sukrungruang

Ira Sukrungruang is the author of the memoir *Talk Thai: The Adventures of Buddhist Boy*. His work has appeared in numerous journals including *The Sun*, *Post Road* and *North American Review*. He has been the recipient of the New York Foundation of the Arts Fellowship in Nonfiction Literature, the Arts & Letters Fellowship and the Emerging Writer Fellowship. He teaches at University of South Florida and edits *Sweet: A Literary Confection*.

Jane Sullivan

Jane Sullivan is a novelist and literary journalist. She writes the Saturday 'Turning Pages' column in *The Age*, about books and writing. Her latest novel is *Little People* (2011).

Bonnie Sunstein

Bonnie Sunstein is Professor of English and Education at the University of Iowa, where she directs undergraduate writing and English Education. Before coming to Iowa in 1992, she taught in Massachusetts and New Hampshire. She continues to teach at institutes across the USA and around the world. Her chapters, articles and poems appear in professional journals and anthologies. She has received grants from the Woodrow Wilson Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities and the National Council of Teachers of English and is currently at work on a new book about teaching nonfiction writing.

Melissa Sweet

Melissa Sweet is a journalist who specialises in public health issues. She has written and contributed to several books, established and moderates *Croakey*, a public health/health policy blog and is a founding member of the Public Interest Journalism Foundation. She has an honorary appointment as an adjunct senior lecturer in the Sydney School of Public Health at the University of Sydney. In recognition of her book *Inside Madness* (2006), she was awarded an Ochberg Fellowship from the Dart Center for Journalism and Trauma. She is currently researching Indigenous health and medical ethics as part of a PhD project at the University of Canberra.

Deborah Jackson Taffa

Deborah Jackson Taffa was born for the Keepers of the Water Clan on the Yuma Indian Reservation. She teaches literature and creative writing to aspiring undergraduates in Iowa City. Her essays and poetry have appeared in *Prairie Schooner*, *Brevity*, *Solstice*, *Drunken Boat* and *Best Travel Writing 2011*. She recently entered the world of performance autobiography and working on her first essay collection.

Maria Tumarkin

Maria Tumarkin is a Melbourne-based writer and cultural historian. She is the author of *Traumascapes*, *Courage* and *Otherland*, short-listed for the Victorian and NSW Premier's Awards and *The Age* Book of the Year. Her articles and essays appeared in *Meanjin*, *The Monthly*, *Griffith REVIEW*, *Best Australian Essays 2011*, *Kill Your Darlings*, *The Age*, *The Australian* and *Guilt and Pleasure*.

Sam Twyford-Moore

Sam Twyford-Moore is the editor of *Cutwater* literary anthology and the host of *The Rereaders*, a fortnightly literary and culture podcast. His nonfiction has appeared in the *Los Angeles Review of Books*, *The Rumpus*, *The Reader*, *Meanjin*, *The Big Issue*, *Seizure* and *The Australian*. His debut collection of stories is due in 2012.

Joe Usibelli

Joe Usibelli is a life-long Alaskan who supports writers and writing, as well as other artists. He will give voice to the words of Alaska writers who cannot attend NonfictionNow.

Russell Scott Valentino

Russell Scott Valentino has published eight books, numerous essays and articles, and a variety of translations of fiction, nonfiction, and poetry from Italian, Croatian, and Russian. He is the publisher of *Autumn Hill* Books and Editor-in-chief at *The Iowa Review*. He teaches in the University of Iowa's Translation Workshop.

Caroline van de Pol

Caroline van de Pol is a lecturer in Media and Communication at RMIT University. She is currently completing her PhD in Creative Writing at the University of Wollongong. She has worked as a journalist and in public relations for the *Herald Sun* and as a freelance writer for *The Sunday Age*. She has published two nonfiction health books, including *Handle With Care* (2008), which she co-authored.

Speakers

Laurene Vaughan

Laurene Vaughan is Associate Professor of Design and Communication at RMIT University. In 2012–2013 she is the Nierenberg Chair, Distinguished Visiting Professor of Design, School of Design, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh. She has a penchant for walking, and a passion for exploring the complexities for the making of place. She is a practicing artist, sometimes writer and design researcher. She is Research Leader in the RMIT Design Research Institute, where she is Leader of the Mediated City Flagship. She devotes much of her academic endeavour to working with postgraduate students, and has a particular interest in transdisciplinary investigations through practice.

Rúnar Helgi Vignisson

Rúnar Helgi Vignisson is a graduate of the University of Iowa and a novelist, essayist and translator. He has won many honors for his writing, including the Icelandic Translation Award for his translation of J M Coetzee's *Disgrace*. He has translated books by acclaimed American, Australian, British and South-African authors such as Philip Roth, Amy Tan, Cormac McCarthy, William Faulkner, Ian McEwan and Elizabeth Jolley. He is the author of seven books of fiction and his short stories have been featured in Icelandic, German and Spanish anthologies. He currently directs the Creative Writing Program at the University of Iceland

Sonya Voumard

Sonya Voumard is a Sydney-based journalist, author and academic whose work has been widely published in major Australian newspapers, magazines and literary journals. Her novel *Political Animals* (2008) was based, in part, on her years working as a political reporter for Fairfax newspapers. Sonya now teaches nonfiction writing at UTS where she is doing a Doctorate of Creative Arts on the power dynamics between journalists and their interview subjects. Her extended interview with Helen Garner, titled *The Interviewer and the Subject*, was recently published in *Meanjin*.

Lyndal Walker

Lyndal Walker is a contemporary artist with an interest in portraiture, identity and photography. She has exhibited extensively in Australia and internationally at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Sydney, Pingyao International Photography Festival in China and Monash University Museum of Art. She was a founding member of the influential artist-run initiative 1st Floor Artists and Writers Space in Melbourne and has 20 years' experience as a collaborator with artists and non-artists in group shows and creative projects. She holds an MFA from Monash University.

Ruth Walker

Ruth Walker teaches academic writing at the University of Wollongong, and creative writing at Lou's place, a women's refuge in Kings Cross, Sydney. She is co-editor of the forthcoming books *Zombies in the Academy: Living Death in Higher Education*, and *Transnational Teaching and Learning* as well as *Anatomies of Violence* (2001) and *Masochism* (1999). Ruth is co-convenor of the Kings Cross residents' association and co-chair of the Asia Pacific Forum for Educational Integrity (APFEI). She is currently working on her monograph *Remix Australia: Plagiarism, Appropriation and Cultural Citation*.

Jen Webb

Jen Webb is professor of creative practice at the University of Canberra. She has published widely in poetry, short fiction and scholarly works. Her recent books include *Understanding Representation* (2009), and a co-authored book on the work of Michel Foucault, *Understanding Foucault: a critical introduction* (2012). She is co-editor of the Sage book series, *Understanding Contemporary Culture*, and *Axon: Creative Explorations*, an online journal published out of the University of Canberra. She also likes working with paper, card and glue to make alternative surfaces for photographs and poems.

Amanda Webster

Amanda Webster graduated as a doctor from the University of Western Australia but left medicine to raise a family. She is currently an MFA candidate in City University of Hong Kong's creative writing program. Her work has appeared in *Alimentum*, *Hunger Mountain* (online), *Bacopa Literary Review* and the anthology *The Healing Art of Writing*. Her memoir, *The Boy Who Loved Apples* (2012), exposes the faultlines and strengths that appear in a family when their son develops anorexia. She splits her time between Sydney and the Byron shire. She is married with three tolerant children, four overindulged dogs, two cats and a bad-tempered miniature horse.

Jessica Wilkinson

Jessica Wilkinson is a Melbourne poet and the editor of *Rabbit*, a journal for nonfiction poetry. Her work has been published in books, anthologies and local and international journals including *HOW2*, *Ekleksographia*, *Unusual Work*, *Southerly* and *Overland*. Her first full collection of poetry is *marionette: a biography of miss marion davies* (2012). She holds a PhD from the University of Melbourne and is a lecturer in the Creative Writing program at RMIT University.

Michael Williams

Michael Williams is the director of The Wheeler Centre, the world's first public institution dedicated to the discussion and practice of books, writing and ideas. The centrepiece of Melbourne's designation as a UNESCO City of Literature (2008), the Centre was created in 2009 and runs a year-round programme of talks, workshops and writers' programmes for the industry and general reading public. He has been director since September 2011, and before that was the Centre's inaugural Head of Programming. Prior to that he worked in publishing and broadcasting.

Geordie Williamson

Geordie Williamson has been chief literary critic at *The Australian* since 2008. He has written widely for newspapers and magazines in Australia and the UK, and speaks regularly about books on ABC radio. In 2011 he won the Pascall Prize for criticism—Australia’s only major national prize awarded for critical writing. He studied English literature at the University of Sydney and University College, London.

Gosia Wlodarczak

Gosia Wlodarczak holds a Masters of Fine Art from Poznan Academy of Fine Arts, Poland, and now lives and works in Melbourne. Her work encompasses performance, interactive situations, installation, sound and moving image. Exhibitions include *Between Wander & Settlement*, Western Washington University Gallery (2012); *Frost & Dust*, Sofitel Melbourne (2012); *Between Visit & Migration*, Fehily Contemporary (2011); *Frost Drawing For The Library*, La Trobe University/LUMA (2011); and *Shared Space New York*, Kentler International Drawing Space (2008). Group exhibitions include *Contemporary Australia Women*, GoMA Brisbane (2012); *Drawing Now Paris* (2012); 2011 Singapore Biennale and *Pathway: Drawing In, On, and Through the Landscape*, Drawing Center New York (2011).

Jacinda Woodhead

Jacinda Woodhead is the Deputy Editor of *Overland* literary journal and runs the *Overland* blog. She’s written about politics, culture and technology for *Overland*, *Meanjin*, *ABC Drum*, *Crikey*, *New Matilda* and *Meanland*. She is currently working on a creative nonfiction PhD on the politics of abortion and the political possibilities of narrative nonfiction at Victoria University, where she teaches.

Tony Wright

Tony Wright is one of Australia’s best-loved journalists and columnists, admired by his peers for his ability to produce fine writing even under the tightest of deadlines. He has written two plays and two best-selling books, was named Magazine Feature Writer of the Year twice, has won several UN Media Peace Prizes and has been a Walkley Awards finalist five times. His book include *Turn Right at Istanbul*, later re-issued as *Walking the Gallipoli Peninsula*, and *Bad Ground*. He is currently the National Affairs Editor of *The Age*.

Xu Xi

Xu Xi is the author of nine books of fiction and essays. Her books include *Access: Thirteen Tales* (2011), the novel *Habit of a Foreign Sky* (2010), a finalist for the inaugural Man Asian Literary Prize, and *Evanescant Isles: from my city village* (2008), a collection of nonfiction essays. From 2009–12, she was faculty chair of the MFA in writing at Vermont College of Fine Arts. In 2010 she was named Writer-in-Residence at City University of Hong Kong where she established and directs the world’s first international, low-residency MFA that focuses on writing of Asia.

Lawrence Ypil

Lawrence Ypil is from Cebu, Philippines and is the author of *The Highest Hiding Place: Poems*. His poems and essays have received awards both in the Philippines and abroad. He recently completed an MFA in Poetry at Washington University in St. Louis on a Fulbright fellowship and is now studying at the Nonfiction Writing Program of The University of Iowa. He keeps a weekly column, ‘Dog-ears in the Wrong Notebook’, at Sun Star Weekend Cebu.

Arnold Zable

Arnold Zable is an acclaimed writer, novelist and human rights advocate and president of the Melbourne Centre of PEN International. His books include *Jewels and Ashes*, *The Fig Tree* and three novels, *Café Scheherazade*, *Scraps of Heaven* and *Sea of Many Returns*. His most recent book is *Violin Lesson*, a collection of stories. His novel *Cafe Scheherazade* has been adapted for the stage. He has worked with refugees, immigrants, the homeless, the deaf, Black Saturday bushfire survivors, problem gamblers and other groups using story as a means of self-understanding. He has a doctorate in Creative Arts Melbourne University, where he was recently appointed a Vice Chancellor’s fellow.