## Discover the stories behind the stories.

5 - 7 APRIL 2024





NEWCASTLE WRITERS FESTIVAL

newcastlewritersfestival.org.au

WEDNESDAY 3 APRIL	7.00pm - 9.00pm // Customs House LITERARY TRIVIA HOSTED BY NICK MILLIGAN Our literary trivia night is back! Hosted by Nick Milligan and we welcome teams of up to 8 people. Tickets \$20
FRIDAY 5 APRIL	10.00am - 4.00pm // NUspace, Q Building 211 WORKSHOP: CRAFTING NARRATIVE DRIVE WITH ASHLEY KALAGIAN BLUNT In this workshop, participants will learn why narrative drive is essential to storytelling and discover how properly structured, tension-filled scenes create story momentum. Snacks provided, but bring pen and paper or laptop for writing exercises. Tickets \$165 Limited to 15 places. Snacks provided.
FRIDAY 5 APRIL	10.00am - 2.00pm // NUspace, Q Building 210 WORKSHOP: THE EVERYDAY EPIC - A POETRY WORKSHOP WITH RICO CRAIG This workshop is all about bringing poetic vision to the everyday and learning how to expand a reader's perception of the worlds we share in our poetry. Bring pen and paper or laptop for writing exercises. Tickets \$120 Limited to 15 places. Snacks provided.
FRIDAY 5 APRIL	10.00am - 2.00pm // NUspace, Q Building 209 WORKSHOP: WRITING ROM-COM WITH MELANIE SAWARD Be a part of the rom-com boom by learning the rules of writing romance fiction and how to leverage the genre's tropes to gain the attention of publishers. Bring a pen and paper or laptop for writing exercises. Snacks provided. Tickets \$120 Limited to 15 places.
FRIDAY 5 APRIL	10.00am - 3.00pm // Watt Space Gallery ENTANGLEMENT: A DRAMA WORKSHOP Join Voices of Women artistic director Lliane Clar BOOKED and drama workshop exploring storytelling through spoken word and sound. FREE, bookings essential. Supported
FRIDAY 5 APRIL	1.00pm - 2.00pm // Tomaree Library and Community Centre, 7 Community Close, Salamander Bay THINK GLOBAL, WRITE LOCAL  Authors Joanna Atherfold Finn, Paula Morrow and Claire O'Rourke have spent their careers writing about global environmental topics. They share why they think it's important to contextualise global issues for local audiences and share examples of how their writing has mobilised people into action. Host / Alison Rogers FREE
FRIDAY 5 APRIL	3.00pm - 5.00pm // Back to Back Galleries, Cooks Hill COVERED: NEWCASTLE ARTISTS RESPOND TO FESTIVAL BOOKS Celebrate this annual exhibition, which features 18 Hunter region artists including Anne-Maree Hunter, Jane Kerrigan, Haylee Knight, Paul O'Brian, and Jerry Ray. The artists have responded to the work of authors featured in the 2024 Newcastle Writers festival program. The exhibition runs from 22 March to 7 April. FREE
FRIDAY 5 APRIL	5.00pm for 6.00pm start // Leda Gallery 850 Hunter Street, Newcastle West BOOK LAUNCH: THE NIGHTS BY HELEN HOPCROFT Celebrate the launch of <i>The Nights</i> by Helen Hopcroft with performance by actor Kelly Burke. Host / Dr Deborah Van Heekeren FREE
FRIDAY 5 APRIL OPENING NIGHT	7.30pm - 9.00pm //Newcastle City Hall OPENING NIGHT: NEWS MAKER - AN EVENING WITH LEIGH SALES Leigh Sales will discuss her most recent book Storytellers, about the art and craft of journalism in an increasingly divided world. Host / Indira Naidoo MC Dan Cox. Tickets \$55

## SATURDAY 6 APRIL



**CONSERVATORIUM OF** MUSIC CONCERT HALL

CIVIC PLAYHOUSE

10.00am - 11.00am

KILLING FOR COUNTRY: DAVID MARR IN CONVERSATION

Host / Lyndall BOOKED OUT **NUSPACE X101** 

10.00am - 11.00am

THE PAST AND THE NOW: **MELISSA LUCASHENKO IN** CONVERSATION

Host / Keri Glastonbury FREE

**NUSPACE X321** 

10.00am - 11.00am

STOP THE PRESS

With Daniel Browning, Antony Loewenstein and Louise Milligan. Host / Kylie Morris

Tickets \$30

**NUSPACE X320** 

10.00am - 11.00am

COMING OF AGE

**IN MIDDLE AGE** 

With Emily Perkins, Megan Rogers and Christos Tsiolkas. Host / Ashley Hay

Tickets \$20

**NUSPACE X207** 

10.00am - 11.00am

**NEWCASTLE LIT: CELEBRATING LOCAL AUTHORS** 

With Mea Gatland-Veness, Margaret McBride and Natalie Murray.

Host / Nick Wasiliev

**FREE** 

**NUSPACE X301** 

10.00am - 11.00am SUSTAINABLE LIVING FOR A KINDER FUTURE

With Kirsten Bradley Claire O'Rourke and Thanh Truong. Host / Dan Cox

Tickets \$15

**WATT SPACE GALLERY** 

10.00am - 11.00am

SUNBIRDS: **MIRANDI RIWOE IN** CONVERSATION

Host / Ashley Kalagian Blunt **FREE** 

The Dress **Bookhouse** 

**BOOK LAUNCH: SEED TO SKY BY PAMELA** FREEMAN AND **LIZ ANELLI** 

**OTHER VENUES** 

10.00am - 11.00am

Launched by Melissa Luckman

**FREE** 

11.30am - 12.30pm

MELISSA LUCASHENKO

**CRIME WRITER** IN PINK: SALLY **HEPWORTH IN CONVERSATION** 

Host / Amy Lovat

Tickets \$30 / \$20 livestream

11.30am - 12.30pm

THE RISE OF ROM-COM With Clare Fletcher.

and Saman Shad. Host / Melanie Saward

Jonathon Shannon

Tickets \$30

11.30am - 12.30pm

AUTHOR, ACADEMIC. **ACTIVIST: BRI LEE IN CONVERSATION** 

Host / Bridie Jabour Tickets \$25

**THINGS WE DON'T SPEAK ABOUT: CLASS** 

Peter Polites and Jessie Stephens discuss reckonina with class in fiction.

11.30am - 12.30pm

Host / Beejay Silcox

11.30am - 12.30pm

**WOMEN & CHILDREN: TONY BIRCH IN CONVERSATION** 

Host / Chris Flynn FREE

11.30am - 12.30pm WRITING

THE LIVES OF WRITERS

With Bernadette Brennan, Catharine Lumby and Brigitta Olubas.

Host / Susan Wvndham

Tickets \$30

11.30am - 12.30pm I'D LIKE YOU TO

**MEET: VIDYA MADABUSHI** 

Host / Shankari Chandran

**FREE** 

11.30am - 12.30pm

**ARE WE THERE** YET? IT'S **TIME FOR AN AUSTRALIAN POET LAUREATE** 

With Nam Le, Kirli Saunders, and Michele Seminara Host / Yvette Henry Holt

**FREE** Sponsored by First Nations Australia

10.00am - 11.00am

**NUspace X201** 

**BOOK OF LIFE: DEBORAH CONWAY IN** CONVERSATON

Host / Magdalena Ball Tickets \$30

1.30pm - 2.30pm

**DARK PLACES: CHRIS HAMMER AND LOUISE** MILLIGAN

Host / Dan Cox

Tickets \$30 / \$20 livestream

**SALLY HEPWORTH** 

1.30pm - 2.30pm

**HOW TO CREATE A BETTER** WORLD

With Kirsten Bradley, Hannah Diviney, and Simon Longstaff.

Host / Jane Caro FREE

1.30pm - 2.30pm

THE IN-**BETWEEN: CHRISTOS TSIOLKAS IN** CONVERSATION

Host / David Marr

Tickets \$25

1.30pm - 2.30pm

FREE

**THINGS WE DON'T SPEAK ABOUT: DEATH** 

Nadine J Cohen and Jackie Dent discuss reckoning with death.

Host / Kylie Morris

FREE

1.30pm - 2.30pm

**2023 MILES FRANKLIN WINNER SHANKARI CHANDRAN IN CONVERSATION** 

Host / Ailsa Piper Tickets \$15

1.30pm - 2.30pm

THE RESPONSI-**BILITIES OF WOMEN** 

With Kate Mildenhall, Kylie Needham and Emily Perkins.

Host / Anna Downes Tickets \$25

1.30pm - 2.30pm

WRITING **COUNTRY AND** CONNECTION

With Susie Anderson, Sara M Saleh and Rob Waters. Host / Magdalena Ball

**FREE** 

Writers Network. 1.30pm - 2.30pm

**BOOK LAUNCH: PARIS LIGHT. A PERSONAL PLAN DE PARIS BY JEAN KENT** 

Launched by Judith Beveridge, Host / Linsay Knight

**FREE** 

12.30pm - 1.15pm

**NUspace Courtyard NERDS & MUSIC: FREE** LUNCHTIME **PERFORMANCE** 

FREE



TONY BIRCH















## SATURDAY 6 APRIL



**CONSERVATORIUM OF** MUSIC CONCERT HALL 3.00pm - 4.00pm

THE CASE **AGAINST** MARRIAGE: CLEMENTINE **FORD IN** CONVERSATION

Host / Maeve Marsden

Tickets \$30 / \$20 livestream

**CIVIC PLAYHOUSE** 

3.00pm - 4.00pm

**THINGS WE** DON'T SPEAK **ABOUT: SEX** 

Esme Louise James, Alecia Simmonds and Yumi Stynes discuss sex. taboo and relationships from the past to the present.

**NUSPACE X101** 

3.00pm - 4.00pm

THE PALESTINE LABORATORY: **ANTONY LOEWENSTEIN IN** CONVERSATION

Host / Matt Bevan Tickets \$25

**NUSPACE X321** 

3.00pm - 4.00pm

THE LONG HAUL

Long Covid discussion with Dr Steven Faux and Tracey Spicer.

Host / Rosemarie Milsom

Tickets \$20

**NUSPACE X320** 

3.00pm - 4.00pm

**BRIGHT YOUNG** 

**LIVES: WRITING FIRST NATIONS** YOUTH

With Graham Akhurst. Kirli Saunders and Melanie Saward. Host / Yvette Henry Holt

**FREE** 

**NUSPACE X207** 

3.00pm - 4.00pm

**HAUNTED BY** THE PAST

With Winnie Dunn. Mirandi Riwoe and Lucy Treloar. Host / Cath Keenan

Tickets \$20

**NUSPACE X301** 

3.00pm - 4.00pm

**CLOSING TIME:** A CARER'S **EXPERIENCE OF DEMENTIA** 

With narrator **Ghillian Sullivan** in conversation with poet Karin de Novellis.

FREE

**OTHER VENUES** 

3.00pm - 4.00pm

**Watt Space Gallery** 

**BOOK LAUNCH: FLYING ISLANDS PRESS** 

Celebrate the launch of Tide by Ivy Ireland. Beautiful Flames by Mark Mahemoff and Nibs & Nubs by Josh Stenberg

Host / Magdalena Ball

**FREE** 

**OTHER VENUES** 

4.00pm - 6.00pm

Momo Wholefood

**BOOK LAUNCH: WEAR NEXT, FASHIONING** THE FUTURE BY **BOOKED OUT** CLAPF

KEE

Booking required

4.30pm - 5.30pm

THE TEACHER'S **PET: HEDLEY** THOMAS IN CONVERSATION

Host / Richard Glover Tickets \$35 / \$20

livestream

4.30pm - 5.30pm

Host / Elfy Scott

Tickets \$30

STONE YARD **DEVOTIONAL:** CHARLOTTE **WOOD IN** CONVERSATION

Host / Ailsa Piper Tickets \$30

4.30pm - 5.30pm

**THE RISE** AND FALL OF **TOLERATION** 

Russell Blackford discusses his book How We Became Post-Liberal.

Host / Simon Longstaff

**FREE** 

4.30pm - 5.30pm

LIFE ON THE PAGE

With Jessica Kirkness, Sophie Matterson and Ben Mckelvey. Host / Fiona Murphy

Tickets \$25

4.30pm - 5.30pm

LOVE LANGUAGE: LINDA **MARIGLIANO IN** CONVERSATION

Host / Maddison Connaughton **FREE** 

4.30pm - 5.30pm

ON ART AND DESIRE

With Anna Kate Blair. Bri Lee and Kylie Needham. Host / Amy

Sambrooke Tickets \$25 4.30pm - 5.30pm

SETTLING THE SCORE: ELLEN **VAN NEERVEN IN** CONVERSATION

Host / Beejay Silcox

**FREE** 

4.30pm - 5.30pm

**Watt Space Gallery POETRY SALON** 

An evening of poetry performance featuring Susie Anderson, Deborah Conway and others

Tickets \$15

5.00pm - 8.15pm

The Wollotuka Institute

**GIYI PARA - THE CONVENING OF A GATHERING** 

An evening of community, corroboree and celebration with Uncle Warren Taggart, Rob Waters, Brenda Matthews. Duane Hamacher and Krystal De Napoli.

Tickets \$10

Free for those who identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander but booking is required for catering purposes

6.30pm - 7.30pm

**Performance Arts Culture Cessnock** 

**WENDY HARMER IN** CONVERSATION

Host / Ashley Hay Tickets \$35

7.30pm - 9.30pm

Butcher, Deborah

Conway, Natalie

Damjanovich-

Jim Moginie,

Sunbiirds

Tickets \$50

Napoleon, Dan

Adam Newling.

Flegg and friends,

Nina Romeru and

**WORDS & MUSIC** 

This special event celebrates music. **MELISSA** literature and **KANG IN** the nature of inspiration. Featuring Elijah Moss, Piper

Tickets \$35 / \$20 livestream

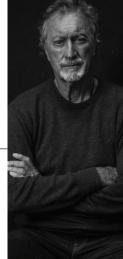
8.00pm - 9.00pm

A BLOODY GOOD **IDEA: BRYAN BROWN IN CONVERSATION** 

6.30pm - 7.30pm

WELCOME TO SEX: YUMI **STYNES AND** CONVERSATION

Host / Maeve Marsden



**BRYAN BROWN** 

6.00pm - 7.00pm

**CELEBRATING MICROLIT** 

With Emma Ashmere, Katharine Coles (USA), Sally Egan, Paul Hetherington, John Kinsella and Hazel Smith.

Host / Cassandra Atherton

**FREE** 



## **SUNDAY 7 APRIL**



**CONSERVATORIUM OF** MUSIC CONCERT HALL

10.00am - 11.00am

RESTLESS DOLLY **MAUNDER: KATE GRENVILLE IN CONVERSATION** 

Host / Ashlev Hav

FREE

Host / Kate Mildenhall Tickets \$30 / \$20 livestream

Charlotte Wood

With Emily Perkins.

Christos Tsiolkas and

CIVIC PLAYHOUSE

10.00am - 11.00am

SH\*TTY FIRST

**DRAFTS: ON** 

**CREATIVE** 

**PRACTICE** 

THE LAST **DAUGHTER: BRENDA MATTHEWS IN** CONVERSATION

10.00am - 11.00am

Host / Melissa Lucashenko

**NUSPACE X101** 

Tickets \$15

**NUSPACE X321** 

FREE

10.00am - 11.00am

WHEN WORLDS **COMBINE: SHELLEY PARKER-CHAN IN CONVERSATION** 

Host / Chris Flynn

**NUSPACE X320** 

10.00am - 11.00am

**36 WAYS OF WRITING A VIETNAMESE POEM: NAM LE IN** CONVERSATION

Host / Michele Seminara

Tickets \$20

**NUSPACE X207** 

10.00am - 11.00am

**EARTH. SEA AND SKY** 

With Krystal De Napoli, Duane Hamacher and Sophie Matterson.

Host / Amy Sambrooke

Tickets \$15

**NUSPACE X301** 

10.00am - 11.00am

**FINDING IT IN** THE FAMILY

With Tony Birch, Andre Dao and Laura Elizabeth Woollett. Host / Bernadette Brennan

Tickets \$15

**OTHER VENUES** 

9.30am - 11.15am

**WORKSHOP: SHORT STORIES** 

WH!P Collective's exhibition.

**BOOKED OUT** ang this

photographic printing process of cyanotype.

**Watt Space Gallery** 

IN CYANOTYPE

In collaboration with photom

workshop on the

FREE Booking required 9.00am - 11.00am

OTHER VENUES

**James Fletcher Hosp** 

**THE JAMES FLETCHER HOSPITAL SITE:** BOOKED OU SOUNDS walking

Tickets \$25

· FAMILY FUN

10.00am - 10.40am NUspace X401

MY HEART: **LOVING OUR** MUMS

Newcastle children's author Katrina McKelvev launches her new book.

**Gold coin donation** 

11.30am - 12.30pm

**KATE GRENVILLE** 

LIES MY **MIRROR TOLD ME: WENDY HARMER IN** CONVERSATION

Host / Jane Caro

Tickets \$33

HANNAH DIVINEY

ADVOCACY. **ACTIVISM AND** COMING-OF-**AGE: HANNAH DIVINEY IN** CONVERSATION

Host / Fiona Murphy

Tickets \$25 / \$15 livestream

11.30am - 12.30pm

#### REIMAGINING COLONIAL

WENDY HARMER

With Sharlene Allsopp, Jane Harrison and John Morrissey. Host / Kirli Saunders

**FREE** 

11.30am - 12.30pm

# **HISTORY**

Charlotte Ree. Host / Yumi Stynes

11.30am - 12.30pm

SHELLEY PARKER-CHAN

#### THE LOVE **LANGUAGE** OF FOOD

With Reece Hignell, Linda Marigliano and

Tickets \$30

11.30am - 12.30pm

NAM LE

#### **AN AFFAIR TO REMEMBER**

With Anna Kate Blair. Madeleine Gray and Amy Lovat.

Host / Maeve Marsden Tickets \$20

11.30am - 12.30pm

#### **THINGS WE DON'T SPEAK** ABOUT: MENTAL **ILLNESS**

JAZZ MONEY

With Elfy Scott, Jessie Stephens and Nick Wasiliev.

Host / Maddison Connaughton

Tickets \$20

11.30am - 12.30pm THE VERSE

ANDRE DAO

#### **MEMOIR: ENGAGING WITH TRAUMA THROUGH POETRY**

With Magdalena Ball and ali whitelocke. Host / Jenny Blackford

**FREE** 

11.45am - 12.45pm **Watt Space Gallery** 

#### ON REMEMB-**ERING. ON FORGETTING: A POETRY PERFORMANCE**

With Jazz Money, Ellen van Neerven. Sara M Saleh, Rob Waters and Iona Winter.

**FREE** 

1.30pm - 2.30pm **Watt Space Gallery** 

#### **BOOK LAUNCH:** JIM MOGINIE

Celebrate the BOOKED OUT **r**amily Made And Found.

FREE Booking required

10.00am - 10.40am NUspace X402

#### THE FRUIT NERD

Join Thanh "The Fruit Nerd" Truong as he talks you through fruit and veg with your very own fruitmatching game!

Gold coin donation

1.30pm - 2.30pm

#### **BRIGHT SHINING: MAN-MADE: JULIA BAIRD IN** CONVERSATION

Host / Cath Keenan Tickets \$33

1.30pm - 2.30pm

**TRACEY** SPICER IN **CONVERSATION** 

Host / Beejay Silcox

Tickets \$30 / \$20 live stream

1.30pm - 2.30pm

### I'D LIKE YOU TO MEET: **ANDRE DAO**

Host / Nam Le **FREE** 

1.30pm - 2.30pm

#### LIFE. **INTERRUPTED**

With Steph Lentz. Ben Mckelvey and Jeanne Ryckmans. Host / Anna Downes

Tickets \$25

1.30pm - 2.30pm

#### **RAGE AND RESISTANCE**

With Daniel Browning, Sara M Saleh and Lucy Treloar.

Host / Jackie Dent Tickets \$20

1.30pm - 2.30pm

#### COMPLEX COMMUNITIES

With Amal Awad. Peter Polites and Laura Elizabeth Woollett.

Host / Winnie Dunn FREE

1.30pm - 2.30pm

**BOY CONOUERS UNIVERSE: BHARAT NALLURI IN** BOOKED OUT Tickets \$20

10.50am - 11.30am **NUspace X401** 

#### **IDEAS EVERYWHERE**

Read, draw and imagine with children's author and illustrator Sara Acton.

**Gold coin donation** 

### SUNDAY 7 APRIL



**CONSERVATORIUM OF** MUSIC CONCERT HALL

3.00pm - 4.00pm

**BEST WISHES:** RICHARD **GLOVER IN** CONVERSATION

Host / Dan Cox

4.30pm - 5.30pm

LISTENING LIVE

IF YOU'RE

**BEVAN** 

**WITH MATT** 

The ABC's award-

TV show If You're

Listening returns to

the festival with a live

event, looking at the

historical context of

current news events.

With Matt Bevan.

winning podcast and

Tickets \$30

**CIVIC PLAYHOUSE** 

3.00pm - 4.00pm

**FAMILY, FAME AND FINDING** WHO YOU ARE: **PIA MIRANDA IN CONVERSATION** 

Host / Elfy Scott

Tickets \$30 / \$20 livestream

RICHARD GLOVER

**NUSPACE X101** 

3.00pm - 4.00pm

**BITING BACK: HANNAH FERGUSON IN CONVERSATION** 

Host / Maddison Connaughton

Tickets \$25

**NUSPACE X321** 

3.00pm - 4.00pm

**BLURRING** GENRE. **BUILDING WORLDS** 

With Sharlene Allsopp, Kate Mildenhall and Shelley Parker-Chan. Host / Chris Flynn

Tickets \$25

PRACTICE:

**NUSPACE X320** 

3.00pm - 4.00pm

**LAUGH OR** YOU'LL CRY: WRITING FOR PAGE. STAGE **AND SCREEN** 

With Nadine J Cohen, James Colley and Jane Harrison. Host / Nick Milligan

Tickets \$25

**NUSPACE X207** 

3.00pm - 4.15pm

**TEXT MESSAGES** FROM THE **UNIVERSE WITH** RICHARD JAMES **ALLEN** 

Join us for this immersive, hybrid, interactive screening of the multi-awardwinning film.

**FREE** 

**NUSPACE X301** 

FREE

3.00pm - 4.00pm

**DATE WITH A DEBUT AUTHOR** 

With Rosemary Lewis, John Morrissey and Megan Rogers. Host / Nick Wasiliev

**OTHER VENUES** 

1.30pm - 2.30pm

**The Press Book** 

**BOOK LAUNCH: ZENY GILES** 

Dael Allison will launch Castellorizo to Woolloomooloo by Zeny Giles.

**FREE** 

House

· FAMILY FUN

10.50am - 11.30pm

NUspace X402

**OTHER VENUES** 

**BRINGING A FOREST TO LIFE** 

Join in as awardwinning illustrator and writer team Liz Anelli and Pamela Freeman describe and draw a scene from the Daintree rainforest.

**Gold coin donation** 

11.40am - 12.20pm **NUspace X401** 

**FOOD WISE** WITH LUCY BELL

Join author Lucy Bell to learn simple ways you can be a food-waste warrior, become a whiz in the kitchen and try out some fun ways to Gold coin donation experience food.

11.40am - 12.20pm **NUspace X402** 

**EWW GROSS WITH DAN MARSHALL** 

Get busy illustrating your own disgusting facts with author and illustrator Dan Marshall.

4.30pm - 5.30pm **POETICS AND JAZZ MONEY IN** CONVERSATION

Join Jazz Money as they speak about their poetry, practice and contribution to Newcastle Art Gallery's upcoming collection publication. Host / Peter Johnson

FREE

Supported by Newcastle Art Gallery



RICHARD JAMES ALLEN



**Gold coin donation** 

**FREE** 

## THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS





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PIA MIRANDA

ENIGMA

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