

A poster for the Auckland Writers Festival is displayed on a brick wall. The poster features a white background on the left and a large orange triangle on the right. The text 'AUCKLAND WRITERS FESTIVAL' is at the top in black. The main title 'FIND THE RIGHT WORDS' is in large, bold, black letters. Below it, the dates '13-17 MAY 2015, AOTEA CENTRE' and the website 'WRITERSFESTIVAL.CO.NZ' are printed. The background of the entire image is a blurred street scene with people walking and pigeons on the ground.

AUCKLAND WRITERS FESTIVAL

# FIND THE RIGHT WORDS

13-17 MAY 2015, AOTEA CENTRE  
[WRITERSFESTIVAL.CO.NZ](http://WRITERSFESTIVAL.CO.NZ)

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# WELCOME TO THE 2015 AUCKLAND WRITERS FESTIVAL

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## A WORD FROM THE FESTIVAL DIRECTOR

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It is a huge privilege to present this Festival each year, and 2015 is no exception as we unveil one of the most potent lists of literary talent yet.

Across the programme, writers grapple with what it is to be human, exploring interior and exterior worlds, light and shade, the local and the global, with imagination and flair.

Literary geniuses **Haruki Murakami**, **Tim Winton**, **Carol Ann Duffy**, **Ben Okri**, **C.K. Stead**, **Amy Bloom**, **David Mitchell** and **Daniel Mendelsohn** lead an astonishing line-up of the best and brightest.

**Atul Gawande**, **Nick Davies**, **Helen Garner**, **Ken Auletta**, **Sir Peter Williams QC** and **Philip Ball** challenge our understanding of the world and the ways in which we chart our path through medicine, science, the justice system and the media.

**David Walliams** and **Captain Underpants** report for young readers' duty alongside **Anthony Horowitz**, **Sally Sutton**, **Morris Gleitzman**, **Donovan Bixley** and **Philippa Werry**.

**Alan Cumming**, **Helen Macdonald**, **Witi Ihimaera**, **Helena Brow** and **Damian Barr** unpick stories of love, loss and family.

**Roger Hall**, **Rebecca Vaughan**, **Fiona Samuel**, **Michael Hurst**, **Rachel House**, **Tiny Ruins** and **David Long** remind us why theatre and performance continue to thrive, and of the writing that underpins those disciplines.

**Stephanie Alexander** celebrates the place of food in our lives; **Grahame Sydney** and **Jim Allen** the place of art; and **Peter FitzSimons** the place of sport.

Writers in the ascendant including **Zia Haider Rahman**, **Anna Smaill**, **Emily St. John Mandel** and **Kim Thúy** bring us stories from vibrant worlds real and imagined.

**Natalie Haynes** and **Antonia Murphy** generate laughter as they search for meaning from the classical world to 21st century New Zealand; **Xinran**, **Edwin Thumboo**, **Bill Hayton** and **Jaspreet Singh** direct our gaze to places and people beyond our shores.

And that's just a sample of the 150+ guest line-up. Literary salons, storytelling, late night concerts, theatrical performance, debate, conversation, readings ... we've got it all.

Our writers have put down their pens for a moment; I urge you to do the same and get yourselves to the Aotea Centre for what will be one of the most vibrant and inspiring experiences of the year.

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**Anne O'Brien**

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## CONTACT DETAILS

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Email: [info@writersfestival.co.nz](mailto:info@writersfestival.co.nz)  
Website: [writersfestival.co.nz](http://writersfestival.co.nz)

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## FESTIVAL TRUST BOARD

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Carole Beu  
Erika Congreve  
Josephine Green  
Nicola Legat  
Phillipa Muir (Chair)  
Delina Shields  
Mark Russell  
Peter Wells

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## FESTIVAL TEAM

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Anne O'Brien, Festival Director  
Eleanor Congreve, Associate Director  
Tessa Yeoman, Marketing  
& Development Manager  
Catherine Braoudakis,  
Festival Administrator  
Nik Janiurek, Production Manager  
Penny Hartill, Publicist  
Morgan Sweeney, Marketing Assistant

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# CELEBRATING THE WRITTEN WORD

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## A WORD FROM THE MAYOR

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Welcome to the Auckland Writers Festival 2015. For the 15th year, our annual literary festival has a stunning line-up of world-class local and international writers whose talks, debates and readings will stimulate, invigorate and entertain your minds. The writers and audiences the Auckland Writers Festival attracts are testimony to the organisers, the Festival's track record and Auckland's reputation as an events city. The Festival is a key part of Auckland's annual arts and entertainment calendar and, like all our festivals, lends a real buzz to the social and economic life of our region. And once again, there are free events and the schools programme to enable everyone to experience the wonders of the written word. I hope you enjoy the line-up.

Mayor Len Brown

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## A WORD FROM THE CHAIR

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Nau mai ki te Hui Taurima Kaituhi o Tāmaki Makaurau. The 2015 Auckland Writers Festival will bring together some of the best writers and thinkers from New Zealand and around the world. We are delighted to be joined by over 150 writers for a stimulating and entertaining five day event in beautiful Auckland. The Festival will open with a sold out Schools Programme (now in its 7th year), which attracts more than 4,000 students over two days. This is then followed by a diverse and exciting three day programme that we hope will inform, entertain and challenge you. The bookend to the Festival on Sunday May 17, will be a session to honour one of New Zealand's great writers, C.K. Stead. I'm privileged to work with a talented group of professionals on the Board who bring skill and dedication to the governance of the Festival and support our small, but wonderful staff, led so capably by Anne O'Brien. The core team expands to over 70 volunteers for the Festival week – we are very grateful to them all. I would also like to acknowledge Dr Sarah Sandley, who retired from the Board after last year's Festival. Sarah was a founding trustee and served for 13 years on the Board, including the past seven years as Chair. During that time the Festival has flourished and we thank Sarah for her significant contribution. Finally, on behalf of the Board, I would like to express gratitude to our audience, our writers and our loyal sponsors, funders and supporters. Thank you and enjoy!

Pip Muir

---

# SUPPORT THE FESTIVAL

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**Our supporters help make this Festival a world-class cultural event. They are investors in the future of the event, providing funding that is essential to our ability to attract the most exciting and inspiring writers and thinkers from all over the world to the Auckland stage. Help us to ensure the world of books and ideas remains open to as many people as possible by supporting our programme of events and activities.**

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## SPONSORSHIP

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The Auckland Writers Festival is one of this country's premiere cultural events and its largest and most successful literary event, hosting world-leading commentators and writers in Auckland every year. The Festival is a highlight of New Zealand's cultural calendar, with annual attendances of more than 50,000 at over 150 events and it continues to grow. Based on your company's current objectives, we can work with you to tailor a sponsorship package that provides maximum benefit.

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## BEQUESTS

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If literacy, books and ideas are important to you, please consider making a bequest to The Auckland Writers Festival Charitable Trust.

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## BECOME A PATRON

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### CHAMPION THE FESTIVAL AND HELP SECURE ITS FUTURE

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Join as a Patron or Friend of the Festival before you book your tickets to make the most of your membership and help ensure the future of the Festival. To thank them for their crucial support, our Patrons:

enjoy free access to many Festival events (access varies dependent on membership level)

sit in the front row

relax in the exclusive Patrons' Lounge (access varies dependent on membership level)

buy tickets at special prices

receive invitations to one-off events and private parties

benefit from a priority booking period

use a dedicated booking line

are acknowledged at the Festival and in the programme.

*Please note: A substantial portion of your Patronage donation is tax deductible.*

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## JOIN AS A FRIEND NOW

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### TO MAKE THE MOST OF THE FESTIVAL

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Membership is \$70 (inc. GST).  
You'll receive:

front row seats at all ticketed Aotea Centre events

priority VIP booking and dedicated booking line

news of visiting authors

events and special offers year-round.

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# OUR 2015 PATRONS

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## PLATINUM PATRONS

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Judy Jordan & Trevor Bayly  
Amber Knowsley  
Carol-Ann & Max Lamb  
Stella Milsom  
Nicky Ryan & John Dixon  
Miranda Spary  
Peter Vial

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## CONTACT US

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To find out more about becoming a Patron, Friend or Sponsor, or to discuss a bequest, please contact: Tessa Yeoman, Marketing & Development Manager  
Phone: (09) 376 8074, ext. 3  
Email: [tyeoman@writersfestival.co.nz](mailto:tyeoman@writersfestival.co.nz)

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# HOW TO FIND THE RIGHT WORDS FOR LESS

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## A BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO SEEING MORE AND SAVING MONEY AT THE FESTIVAL

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### BUY CONCESSION PASSES

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**Save:** Concession passes provide savings of up to \$5 per standard ticket.

**Share:** Use for up to ten different sessions or share with a friend or your Book Club across one or more sessions.

**No limit:** You can purchase as many concession passes as you wish.

**How:** Upon purchase you will receive a promotional code, which will allow you to exchange your pass for session tickets. Sessions are subject to availability so we advise you to redeem early. Please note, if purchasing a Concession Pass online you will be emailed your code and will be able to access the discount after 24 hours.

**Take 10 Concession Pass**  
\$150 before 9am 13 May  
or \$200 after 9am 13 May

**Take 5 Concession Pass**  
\$80 before 9am 13 May  
or \$100 after 9am 13 May

### BOOK EARLY

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Book your tickets NOW and save \$5 off standard ticket price. But hurry, the earlybird discount finishes 9am, Wednesday 13 May. (Excludes special events and workshops).

Many of the Festival's key writers sell out early. Book now to secure your place to see your favourites.

### ACCESS STUDENT DISCOUNT

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\$50% on standard tickets with ID (subject to availability, excludes workshops and special events)


### BECOME A FESTIVAL FRIEND OR PATRON TO BENEFIT FURTHER

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Festival Friends and Patrons receive extensive benefits, including a dedicated booking line, guaranteed premium seating, special ticket prices and access to the exclusive Patrons' Lounge. For more information see [writersfestival.co.nz](http://writersfestival.co.nz)

### FOLLOW THE CONVERSATION

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 Follow the conversation on Twitter [@aklwritersfest](https://twitter.com/aklwritersfest) [#awf15](https://twitter.com/awf15)

 Like us on Facebook [Facebook.com/akwrfest](https://www.facebook.com/akwrfest)

 Instagram [@aklwritersfest](https://www.instagram.com/aklwritersfest)

### BOOK TICKETS

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Ticketmaster  
0800 111 999  
[ticketmaster.co.nz](http://ticketmaster.co.nz)

THE 2015  
FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

# FIND THE RIGHT WORDS

#AWF15  
WRITERSFESTIVAL.CO.NZ

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**PRESENTING 150  
OF THE WORLD'S  
BEST WRITERS AND  
THINKERS IN MORE  
THAN 120 UNMISSABLE  
CONVERSATIONS**

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**ATUL GAWANDE  
AMY BLOOM  
BEN OKRI  
ANTHONY HOROWITZ  
CAPTAIN UNDERPANTS  
PETER FITZSIMONS  
DANIEL MENDELSON  
XINRAN**

**LIFE**

**PAST**

**HARUKI MURAKAMI  
ALAN CUMMING  
HELEN GARNER  
NICK DAVIES  
RENÉE  
PETER WILLIAMS QC  
DAVID MITCHELL  
KIM THÚY**

**FUTURE**

**DEATH**

**TRUTH**

**BODY**

**JOY**

**CAROL ANN DUFFY  
DAVID WALLIAMS  
C.K. STEAD  
TINY RUINS  
TIM WINTON  
GRAHAME SYDNEY  
STEPHANIE ALEXANDER  
KEN AULETTA**

**EAST**

**FACT**

**LIES**

**SOUL**

**GRIEF**

**BOOK BEFORE  
MAY 13 FOR  
EARLYBIRD  
DISCOUNT**

**TICKETMASTER.CO.NZ  
0800 111 999**

**FICTION**

**WEST**

## WHAT'S ON

## SCHOOLS PROGRAMME

WEDNESDAY MAY 13 & THURSDAY 14 MAY  
9.45AM-2.45PM, AOTEA CENTRE

The Auckland Writers Festival presents two days of sessions celebrating the word in all its forms with 4000 school students. Firing up the next generation of readers and writers are international authors **Anthony Horowitz** (UK), **Morris Gleitzman** (AUS), **Laurie Halse Anderson** (US), and **Natalie Haynes** (UK). With them are New Zealand writing stars **Bernard Beckett**, **Rachael Crow**, **Whiti Hereaka**, **Raymond McGrath**, **Ant Sang**, **Grace Taylor**, **Hollie Fullbrook** (aka Tiny Ruins), **Zak Waipara** and **Philippa Werry**. *Supported by Freemasons Foundation.*

The 2015 programme is now sold out, but make sure your school has registered their details with the Festival to ensure they secure seats early for next year. Information on this year's programme is available at [writersfestival.co.nz/2015-schools-programme](http://writersfestival.co.nz/2015-schools-programme)

## PUBLIC PROGRAMME

WEDNESDAY MAY 13 – SUNDAY MAY 17  
AOTEA CENTRE, AUCKLAND ART GALLERY,  
WINTERGARDEN, SEAFARERS CLUB  
AND SAILS RESTAURANT

For five days Auckland central fizzes with ideas as the Festival presents more than 150 speakers – novelists, poets, scientists, historians, musicians, filmmakers, actors, journalists, commentators and performers – in more than 100 events. From debates to readings, conversations, lectures and live shows, there's something for everyone in a not-to-be missed investigation of our world. For the full programme see pages 11-34.

## PUBLIC BOOK LAUNCH

THURSDAY MAY 14 – 5.00-6.30PM  
ALLELUYA CAFÉ, ST KEVIN'S ARCADE

Auckland University Press invites all Festival goers to the launch of *Whale Years*, the new poetry collection of Wellington poet, essayist, artist and curator Greg O'Brien.

## NIGEL COX UNITY BOOKS AWARD

The Nigel Cox Unity Books Award was founded by Unity Books Auckland owner Jo McColl and Susanna Andrew to commemorate Nigel's love of writing and reading. The award is given to a New Zealand writer unknowingly selected for the prize based on their 'exceptional way with words'. The recipient receives a \$1000 Unity Books voucher to spend as they wish. This year the award will be presented at the Auckland Writers Festival to one of the New Zealand writers appearing in the programme.

## FAMILY DAY PROGRAMME

SUNDAY MAY 17  
HERALD THEATRE, AOTEA CENTRE

Family Day returns with five 30 minute sessions for children aged 5-10, and another five short story-reading sessions for the under-5s. Presenters include **Donovan Bixley**, **Trish Gribben** & **Judy Millar**, **Raymond McGrath**, **Jenny Palmer**, **Sally Sutton**, **Zak Waipara** and **Philippa Werry**. Sessions are free but ticketed and booked through Ticketmaster. For the full programme see Page 30. *Supported by Freemasons Foundation.*

In addition, we present two special events in the ASB Theatre for our younger audience: **Awful Auntie's David Walliams** 9-10am on Saturday, and **Captain Underpants** 9-10am on Sunday. Free but ticketed for children aged 12 and under; student and adult ticket prices apply. Tickets available from Ticketmaster. Book early to avoid disappointment.

## TUESDAY 12 MAY

01  
SPECIAL EVENT

## DAMIAN BARR'S LITERARY SALON



TUESDAY MAY 12 – 6.00-8.30PM  
SEAFARERS, BRITOMART

Host of the trending-now London literary salon, **Damian Barr** brings his wit to town for the first New Zealand edition of his literary salon. Joining him for a complimentary Johnnie Walker cocktail, conversation and readings in the handsome surrounds of the Seafarers Club members' lounge are: **Emily St. John Mandel**, author of novel *Station Eleven* and staff writer for online literary magazine *The Millions*; **Ben Okri**, novelist, essayist poet and author of the Booker Prize-winning novel *The Famished Road*; and **Zia Haider Rahman**, author of the novel *In the Light of What We Know*. *A British Council Series event.*

*Standard \$40; Patrons \$32.*

## WEDNESDAY 13 MAY

02  
SPECIAL EVENT

## EVERYONE HAS THE ABSOLUTE RIGHT TO OFFEND

THE UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND  
FESTIVAL DEBATE



WEDNESDAY MAY 13 – 8.00-9.30PM  
ASB THEATRE, AOTEA CENTRE

In a year where freedom of expression is being severely tested, we ask whether the right to offend is absolute? What constraints, if any, should be imposed on this human right, and by whom? Establishing the parameters of the motion by presenting affirmative and negative positions are two internationally successful debaters from The University of Auckland Debating Society. Responding to their arguments are: *The New Yorker* media correspondent **Ken Auletta**; UK investigative journalist **Nick Davies**; English comedian and classicist **Natalie Haynes**; and Indian/Canadian novelist and scientist **Jaspreet Singh**. Audience votes taken beginning and end. Keeping things democratically on track will be chair **Linda Clark**.

*Earlybird \$35; Standard \$40;  
Patrons \$32; Students \$20.*

## THURSDAY 14 MAY

03  
SPECIAL EVENT

## LUNCH WITH STEPHANIE ALEXANDER



THURSDAY MAY 14 – 12.00-2.15PM  
SAILS RESTAURANT, WESTHAVEN MARINA

Food queen and face of an Australian 60 cent stamp **Stephanie Alexander** joins a lucky few at Sails Restaurant to talk of cooking, as well as the now-global kitchen garden movement she kick-started to encourage children to grow and cook their own food. Enjoy a two-course meal with complimentary glass of Te Kairanga wine while overlooking the marina at one of Auckland's leading restaurants. Early booking essential. *Supported by Platinum Patrons Mary & Peter Biggs CNZM, and presented in association with Dunedin Writers & Readers Festival.*

*Standard \$99; Patrons \$80.*

04

SPECIAL EVENT

## DALLOWAY



THURSDAY MAY 14 – 2.00-3.25PM  
WINTERGARDEN, CIVIC

*Austen's Women's* Rebecca Vaughan returns with her latest hit: a stage adaptation of Virginia Woolf's *Mrs Dalloway*, that Modernist mapping of interior states in the aftermath of World War One. This five-star Edinburgh 2014 success has been hailed as accomplished and incredibly moving. Adapted and directed by Elton Townend Jones. *A Dyad Production. One of four performances.*

*Earlybird* \$30; *Standard* \$35;  
*Patrons* \$28; *Students* \$17.50.

05

SPECIAL FREE EVENT

## SHAKESPEAREAN SPINACH

THE UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND  
FREE PUBLIC LECTURE: PETER HOLLAND



THURSDAY MAY 14 – 5.00-6.00PM  
CLOCK TOWER 039, 22 PRINCES STREET

What do Popeye, the Dude, R2-D2 and Quentin Tarantino have in common? That would be The Bard of Avon. Notre Dame University professor Peter Holland – the University of Auckland's 2015 Alice Griffin Fellow in Shakespeare Studies – is fascinated by the burgeoning world of Shakespearean spin-offs, mash-ups, dramatisations and novelisations, not to mention the success authors are having turning cult films into dramas using something approximating blank verse. With hidden codes, unlikely heroes, complex puns and a gentle pillorying of scholarly efforts, these riffs lend an intriguing dimension to pop culture's engagements with Shakespeare.

*Free entry.*

06

SPECIAL EVENT

## NEW ZEALAND LISTENER GALA NIGHT

TRUE STORIES TOLD LIVE:  
STRAIGHT TALKING



THURSDAY MAY 14 – 7.00-8.30PM  
ASB THEATRE, AOTEA CENTRE

A riotous and engaging showcase jump-starts three days of public programming. Eight writers deliver a seven-minute true story, proless and scriptless, inspired by the theme **Straight Talking**. Don't miss this annual sellout featuring: NZ comedian and author **Michele A'Court**; lauded US novelist and short story writer **Amy Bloom**; *The Good Wife* star and memoirist **Alan Cumming**; former Wallaby, sports columnist and author **Peter FitzSimons**; Australian public intellectual and writer **Helen Garner**; Waitangi Tribunal member, lecturer and co-author of seminal book *Tangata Whenua: An Illustrated History* **Aroha Harris**; Melbourne-based New Zealand short story writer **Nic Low**; and Booker Prize winning Nigerian novelist **Ben Okri**.

*Earlybird* \$35; *Standard* \$40;  
*Patrons* \$32; *Students* \$20.

FRIDAY  
15 MAY

07

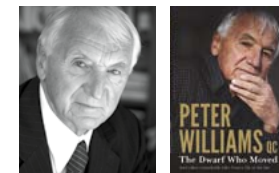
## LUCKY US: AMY BLOOM



FRIDAY MAY 15 – 10.00-11.00AM  
ASB THEATRE, AOTEA CENTRE

Judged by *The New York Times* as a writer of "sharp, sparsely beautiful scenes that excitingly defy expectation" Amy Bloom is a bright light on the American literary scene and the author of three collections of short stories and three novels, the latest of which is *Lucky Us*. Bloom discusses her work and craft with Carole Beu.

08

A LAW LEGEND:  
SIR PETER WILLIAMS

FRIDAY MAY 15 – 10.00-11.00AM  
LOWER NZI ROOM, AOTEA CENTRE

New Zealand's pre-eminent advocate, Sir Peter Williams QC, recalls the people and cases that have defined his remarkable career. Ronald Jorgensen, Arthur Allan Thomas, "Mr Asia", James K Baxter, Winston Peters and many more will be discussed, as will his enduring commitment to justice and penal reform as canvassed in his memoir *Peter Williams: The Dwarf Who Moved*. A celebration of one of this country's legal legends, chaired by Bill Ralston.

09

JUSTICE OBSERVED:  
HELEN GARNER

FRIDAY MAY 15 – 11.30-12.30PM  
ASB THEATRE, AOTEA CENTRE

The quest for justice has seldom been more grippingly documented than in the book *This House of Grief*. The Australian novelist, essayist, screenwriter and journalist Helen Garner witnessed the trial of Robert

Farquharson, charged with murdering his three children by drowning. This is not her first attempt to grapple with complex issues of justice and truth – *Joe Cinque's Consolation* and *The First Stone* canvas equally disturbing territory. The much-awarded, sometimes controversial, Garner talks to Mary Peters. *Supported by Platinum Patrons Frances & Bill Bell.*

10

## LEADING MEN

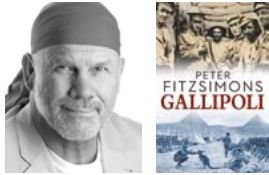


FRIDAY MAY 15 – 11.30-12.30PM  
LOWER NZI ROOM, AOTEA CENTRE

Novelists Graeme Lay and Thom Conroy have written about two figures in New Zealand's colonial past: Captain James Cook, the inspiration for Lay's recently completed fictional trilogy; and Ernst Dieffenbach, the free-spirited German appointed as surgeon and naturalist on the New Zealand Company's ship "Tory", who is at the heart of Conroy's novel *The Naturalist*. The two writers discuss their leading men and the process of mutating fact into fiction with Catriona Ferguson.

11

## GALLIPOLI AND OTHER STORIES: PETER FITZSIMONS

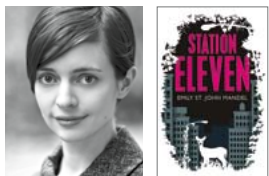


FRIDAY MAY 15 – 1.00-2.00PM  
ASB THEATRE, AOTEA CENTRE

Former Wallaby lock, newspaper columnist, broadcaster and author Peter FitzSimons joins us from Sydney to talk about his latest book *Gallipoli*, alongside other work including his biographies of the Second World War Two spook Nancy Wake and the authority-averse Ned Kelly. He will also expound on his “little theories of life”. The frisky FitzSimons is joined by Graeme Hill. *Supported by Platinum Patrons Betsy & Michael Benjamin.*

12

## STATION ELEVEN: EMILY ST. JOHN MANDEL



FRIDAY MAY 15 – 1.00-2.00PM  
LOWER NZI ROOM, AOTEA CENTRE

Canadian Emily St. John Mandel's fourth novel *Station Eleven* was a finalist for the 2014 National Book Awards. In it, the world is decimated by influenza and a Shakespearean troupe with the motto “Survival is

insufficient” hits the road to cheer up unlucky survivors. Exploring notions of art and kinship and the cyclical nature of life, as well as yearning, the apocalyptic work confirms Mandel's status as a star ascendant. She speaks with Jolisa Gracewood.

13

FREE EVENT  
FOUR FOR FIFTY READINGS SESSION

## ASIAN HISTORIES



FRIDAY MAY 15 – 1.00-1.50PM  
LIMELIGHT ROOM, AOTEA CENTRE

Indian-Canadian novelist Jaspreet Singh, Singaporean poet Edwin Thumboo, Vietnamese-Canadian novelist Kim Thúy and NZ poet Chris Tse uncover Asian histories in ten minute readings, introduced by Christine O'Brien.

14

SPECIAL EVENT

## DALLOWAY



FRIDAY MAY 15 – 2.00-3.25PM  
WINTERGARDEN, CIVIC THEATRE

*Austen's Women's* Rebecca Vaughan returns with her latest hit: a stage adaptation of Virginia Woolf's *Mrs Dalloway*, that Modernist

mapping of interior states in the aftermath of World War I. This five-star Edinburgh 2014 success has been hailed as accomplished and incredibly moving. Adapted and directed by Elton Townend Jones. *A Dyad Production. One of four performances.*

Earlybird \$30; Standard \$35; Patrons \$28; Students \$17.50.

15

## BUY ME THE SKY: XINRAN

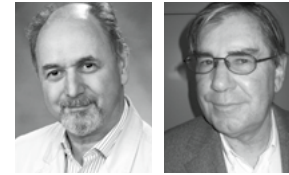


FRIDAY MAY 15 – 2.30-3.30PM  
ASB THEATRE, AOTEA CENTRE

Famed Chinese writer Xinran, author of *The Good Women of China*, introduces her latest book *Buy Me The Sky*, an investigation of the impact of China's one-child policy on those born after 1970. With journalistic nous and novelistic flair, she scrutinises how generations of “one and onlies”, burdened with expectation but reared with scant sense of responsibility, embody the hopes and fears of a nation in flux. In conversation with Stephanie Johnson. *Supported by Penguin Random House and Asia New Zealand Foundation.*

16

## THE ROLE OF THE CRITIC



FRIDAY MAY 15 – 2.30-3.30PM  
LOWER NZI, AOTEA CENTRE

Critics occupy an uncomfortable position, often finding themselves in the firing line from all sides: too harsh, too fawning, not constructive enough. But just what is the job of a critic? What value do they add? And what makes a good or a bad critic? International Shakespeare critic Peter Holland and New Zealand art critic Wytan Curnow man-up for a discussion with Rosabel Tan, editor of the NZ online magazine *The Pantograph Punch*, about the place of the critic in the cultural conversation.

17

FREE EVENT  
FOUR FOR FIFTY READINGS SESSION

## RITE OF PASSAGE

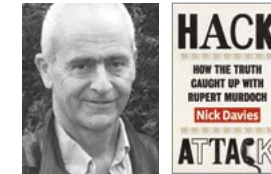


FRIDAY MAY 15 – 2.30-3.20PM  
LIMELIGHT ROOM, AOTEA CENTRE

Poet John Dennison (NZ), YA writer Whiti Hereaka (NZ), memoirist Helen Macdonald (UK) and novelist Catherine Robertson (NZ) read from work that explores rites of passage, introduced by Ian Wedde.

18

## HACK ATTACK



FRIDAY MAY 15 – 4.00-5.00PM  
ASB THEATRE, AOTEA CENTRE

One of the world's leading investigative journalists, Nick Davies broke the phone hacking story in the UK, worked with Wikileaks' Julian Assange to publish classified material in the *Guardian* and has recently authored the bestselling *Hack Attack*. He joins *New Zealand Herald* columnist Toby Manhire to discuss media ethics, journalistic malpractice and more besides. *Supported by Platinum Patrons Rosie & Michael Horton.*

19

## TRANSLATION GYMNASTICS



FRIDAY MAY 15 – 4.00-5.00PM  
LOWER NZI, AOTEA CENTRE

Daniel Mendelsohn and Anna Jackson share an enthusiasm for the classics and for translation. He's an acclaimed US memoirist, critic and translator of the Greek poet CP Cavafy; she's a New Zealand poet whose latest collection *I Clodia and Other Portraits* is indebted to the scandalous Roman aristocrat Clodia, the beautiful addressee of searing and racy poetry by the poet

20

FREE EVENT  
FOUR FOR FIFTY READINGS SESSION

## HISTORY'S SHADOW



FRIDAY MAY 15 – 4.00-4.50PM  
LIMELIGHT ROOM, AOTEA CENTRE

Recent histories provide the searing backdrop for the acclaimed work of Airini Beautrais (NZ), Laurie Halse Anderson (US), Zia Haider Rahman (Bangladesh/England) and Fiona Sussman (South Africa). Readings introduced by 2011 Michael King Fellow Peter Wells.

21

## THE WORLD MADE VISIBLE



FRIDAY MAY 15 – 5.30-6.45PM  
ASB THEATRE, AOTEA CENTRE

Consummate science writer Philip Ball has an extensive beat – he's written books on pattern formation in nature; how we hear music; invisibility; curiosity; colour in art;



and physics in Nazi Germany (for which he was a 2014 Royal Society Winton Prize finalist). And, he's presented a series on nanotechnology for the BBC. He joins Bernard Beckett for a guaranteed-to-be-riveting session on things scientific. The session concludes with the announcement of the Royal Society of NZ Science Writing Prize winner for 2015. *Supported by Royal Society of New Zealand.*

22

## A COOK'S LIFE



FRIDAY MAY 15 – 5.30-6.30PM  
LOWER NZI ROOM, AOTEA CENTRE

Jamie 'Pukka' Oliver calls Stephanie Alexander "a true food hero...frank and honest without compromise". Celebrating a lifelong commitment to good eating and referencing her memoir *A Cook's Life* – praised by that other kitchen doyenne Nigella Lawson for its perfect prose – Alexander talks about roads travelled with Nicola Legat. *Supported by Platinum Patrons Mary & Peter Biggs CNZM, and presented in association with Dunedin Writers & Readers Festival.*

23

FREE EVENT  
FOUR FOR FIFTY READINGS SESSION

## SHORT AND SHARP



FRIDAY MAY 15 – 5.30-6.20PM  
LIMELIGHT ROOM, AOTEA CENTRE

No excerpts here! Complete pieces of work read within ten minutes from the short story, poetry and essay team of Jose Barbosa, Julie Hill, Nic Low and Leilani Tamu, introduced by Rachael King.

24

## GUILD HUNTING



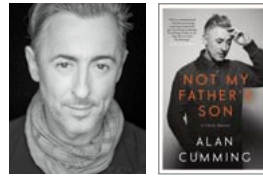
FRIDAY MAY 15 – 7.00-8.00PM  
LOWER NZI ROOM, AOTEA CENTRE

Bestselling paranormal romance author Nalini Singh is one of New Zealand's international writing triumphs, featuring on *The New York Times*, *Publishers Weekly* and *USA Today* bestseller lists. She's been translated into several languages and has won awards including the Sir Julius Vogel Award – twice. Singh is also an articulate and thoughtful speaker who charms audiences wherever she goes. She joins Graham Beattie to talk about her writing career.

25

SPECIAL EVENT

## AN EVENING WITH ALAN CUMMING



FRIDAY MAY 15 – 7.15-8.30PM  
ASB THEATRE, AOTEA CENTRE

The Scottish Manhattan-based actor Alan Cumming is a busy man. He has built a fine career with roles ranging from *Taggart* and *The Good Wife* on TV, to the *X-Men* films, and *Cabaret* and *Macbeth* on the stage. He has had a photo exhibition named "Alan Cumming Snaps!" and developed an award-winning fragrance named "Cumming"; and has been a tireless champion for LGBT civil rights and HIV. Most recently he's turned his attention to family history: in his lauded memoir *Not My Father's Son* he recounts the story of his appearance on the BBC series *Who Do You Think You Are?* and his subsequent examination of family secrets and damaged men. Cumming is in conversation with Michael Hurst. *Supported by Friedlander Foundation.*

*Earlybird \$35; Standard \$40; Patrons \$32; Students \$20.*

26

SPECIAL EVENT

## THE WORLD'S WIFE



FRIDAY MAY 15 – 8.45-10.00PM  
LIMELIGHT ROOM, AOTEA CENTRE  
(CASH BAR)

British Poet Laureate Carol Ann Duffy joins actors Fiona Samuel and Rachel House in a performance of *The World's Wife*, Duffy's poetry collection of the same name in which unappreciated women are given free rein. There's Queen Herod and Frau Freud as well as Queen Kong, the Kray Sisters and Mrs Aesop, who opines that "By Christ, he could bore for Purgatory." David Long provides musical accompaniment to the readings. One of only two performances. *A British Council Series event.*

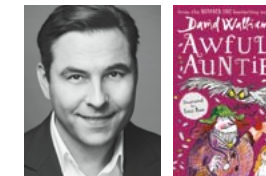
*Standard \$40; Patrons \$32.*

SATURDAY  
16 MAY

27

SPECIAL EVENT  
FREE FOR 12s AND UNDER

## AWFUL AUNTIE: DAVID WALLIAMS



SATURDAY MAY 16 – 9.00-10.00AM  
ASB THEATRE, AOTEA CENTRE

For children and the childlike. Britain's 2014 Number One bestselling children's author David Walliams brings his zany children's tales to the Festival stage in his only Auckland appearance. With seven books, including *The Boy In The Dress*, *Mr Stink*, *Gangsta Grammy* and *Awful Auntie*, Walliams has captured the imaginations of readers around the world. Don't miss one of the magical highlights of the Festival programme. MC-ed by Michele A'Court. *Supported by HarperCollins.*

*Standard \$25; Student \$12.50; Children 12 and Under FREE, but ticket required. Book at TicketMaster.*

28

FREE EVENT

## THE ART OF THE PLAY



SATURDAY MAY 16 – 9.00-10.00AM  
UPPER NZI ROOM, AOTEA CENTRE

In two new Festival forums, we investigate the process of writing for the stage. In our first session, we ask what makes for a good play and marks the successes out from the flops? How do accomplished practitioners approach their craft, and what rules of plot, dialogue and character do they observe? Experts Roger Hall, Victor Rodger and Fiona Samuel join chair Kathryn Burnett. *Supported by Playmarket.*

29

FREE EVENT

## THE FRONT PAGE



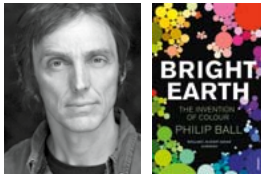
SATURDAY MAY 16 – 9.30-10.15AM  
LIMELIGHT ROOM, AOTEA CENTRE

Start your Festival day with a complimentary coffee and newspaper as *The New Zealand Herald* editor Shayne Currie is joined by Janet Wilson and Nick Davies to discuss the day's front page news stories.

30

WEEKEND GALLERY SERIES

## COLOUR IN ART: PHILIP BALL



SATURDAY MAY 16 – 10.15-11.15AM  
AUCKLAND ART GALLERY AUDITORIUM

From the lapis lazuli of dynastic Egypt to the oranges of Titian in the Venetian Renaissance, the scarlets of the Impressionists to the hues found in digital imagery, UK science whiz Philip Ball tracks how art, chemistry and technology have interacted down the years to produce the colours on our walls and in our galleries and museums. Inspired by his book *Bright Earth: Art and The Invention of Colour*. Supported by Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki and Royal Society of New Zealand.

31

## THE BONE CLOCKS: DAVID MITCHELL



SATURDAY MAY 16 – 10.30-11.30AM  
ASB THEATRE, AOTEA CENTRE

UK author David Mitchell returns to the Festival following the publication of his Booker-longlisted *The Bone Clocks*. In this and other novels such as *Cloud Atlas* and *Black Swan Green* he playfully uses realism, fantasy,

timeshifts and interlocking stories to create some of the most engaging fiction around. Mitchell updates us on his writerly sojourns in conversation with Catherine Robertson. Supported by Platinum Patrons Carol & Gerard Curry.

32

## THE GAMES WE PLAY



SATURDAY MAY 16 – 10.30-11.30AM  
LOWER NZI ROOM, AOTEA CENTRE

Sport dominates culture on both sides of the Tasman. Peter FitzSimons, former Wallaby turned author, joins Greg McGee, one-time junior All Black and playwright of the rugby critique *Foreskin's Lament*, and sports psychologist and writer Karen Nimmo in an examination of the place of sport in national consciousness. Refereed by Alison Mau. Questions fielded at the final whistle.

33

FREE EVENT

## TINY NIUE



SATURDAY MAY 16 – 10.30-11.30AM  
UPPER NZI, AOTEA CENTRE

The uplifted coral atoll Niue, all 260 square kilometres of it, lies in the South Pacific. Far from the main shipping routes, its steep

cliffs rising from the ocean, Cook's "Savage Island" was not an inviting proposition, yet it has a rich history of European contact. As the wife of New Zealand's High Commissioner to Niue, Margaret Pointer spent several years there and has now produced a highly readable 200-year history of Niue up to the establishment of self-government in 1974. Damon Salesa leads the discussion.

34

SPECIAL EVENT

## DALLOWAY



SATURDAY MAY 16 – 10.30-11.55AM  
WINTERGARDEN, CIVIC

*Austen's Women's* Rebecca Vaughan returns with her latest hit: a stage adaptation of Virginia Woolf's *Mrs Dalloway*, that Modernist mapping of interior states in the aftermath of World War I. This five-star Edinburgh 2014 success has been hailed as accomplished and incredibly moving. Adapted and directed by Elton Townend Jones. A Dyad Production. One of four performances.

Earlybird \$30; Standard \$35;  
Patrons \$28; Students \$17.50.

35

FREE EVENT  
SPEAKERS' CORNER

## SHAMEFUL POVERTY



SATURDAY MAY 16 – 11.00-11.30AM  
LIMELIGHT ROOM, AOTEA CENTRE

Academic Jonathan Boston, co-author of *Child Poverty in New Zealand*, contends that child poverty in this country is significant, damaging and unacceptable and calls for urgent action: 20 minutes at the podium, 10 minutes of audience challenge.

36

WEEKEND GALLERY SERIES

## PROFESSOR PENGUIN: LLOYD SPENCER DAVIS



SATURDAY MAY 16 – 11.45-12.45PM  
AUCKLAND ART GALLERY AUDITORIUM

*Professor Penguin* is Lloyd Spencer Davis' homage to the birds who wear tuxedos, can't fly, and split their time between the land and the ocean. Davis journeys from Antarctica to the Galapagos, Argentina to New Zealand, to reveal the soon-to-be-not-so-secret life of the fascinating penguin. Supported by Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki.

37

## BOND AND BEYOND



SATURDAY MAY 16 – 12.00-1.00PM  
ASB THEATRE, AOTEA CENTRE

Anthony Horowitz mines the world of spooks and gumshoes to craft great books. Creator of *The Diamond Brothers*, *Alex Rider* and *The Power of Five* (aka *The Gatekeepers*) series for younger readers, and the author of Conan Doyle estate-approved novels *The House of Silk* and *Moriarty* for grown-ups, he also writes extensively for television including for cosies *Poirot*, *Midsomer Murders* and *Foyle's War*. His latest commission from the Ian Fleming Estate, is a new James Bond novel. A session for all the thrill-seeking family, chaired by Michael Williams.

38

## FAMILY MATTERS



SATURDAY MAY 16 – 12.00-1.00PM  
LOWER NZI ROOM, AOTEA CENTRE

The international award-winning *The Lost: A Search for Six of Six Million* is Daniel Mendelsohn's memoir detailing his dogged search to recover the story of his family lost to the Holocaust; debut writer Helena Wisniewska Brow's *Give Us This Day: A Memoir of Family and Exile*

explores the wartime deportation of her father, one of 732 Polish children offered refuge in New Zealand in 1944. Peter Wells speaks with Mendelsohn and Brow about loss, discovery and heartfelt family matters.

39

FREE EVENT

## SINGAPORE: A WRITER'S PERSPECTIVE



SATURDAY MAY 16 – 12.00-1.00PM  
UPPER NZI ROOM, AOTEA CENTRE

For some of us the Switzerland of the South Seas is not much more than a fleeting stopover for shopping, maybe even a cocktail at Raffles. But, for Edwin Thumboo, Singapore has been home for more than eighty years, and the place where he has forged a career as a writer, academic and the country's unofficial poet laureate. Join him in conversation with Paula Green as he shares insights into this still largely undiscovered nation. Supported by Asia New Zealand Foundation.

40

FREE EVENT  
SPEAKERS' CORNER

## SPEAKING TRUTH TO POWER



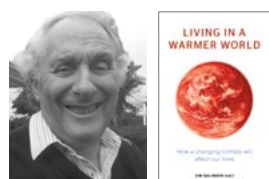
SATURDAY MAY 16 – 12.00-12.30PM  
LIMELIGHT ROOM, AOTEA CENTRE

Following the heated debates around Eleanor Catton's recent comments on power and culture, writer Philip Temple puts the case for why writers should lead the way in public discourse. 20 minutes at the podium; 10 minutes of audience challenge.

41

FREE EVENT  
SPEAKERS' CORNER

## ADJUST OR PERISH



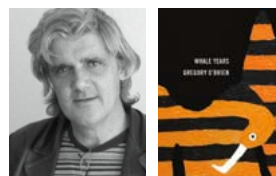
SATURDAY MAY 16 – 1.00-1.30PM  
LIMELIGHT ROOM, AOTEA CENTRE

Editor of *Living In A Warmer World*, Jim Salinger argues that climate change science is indisputable and that we must urgently seek to understand what it will mean for all our futures: 20 minutes at the podium; 10 minutes of audience challenge.

42

WEEKEND GALLERY SERIES

## WHALE YEARS: GREG O'BRIEN

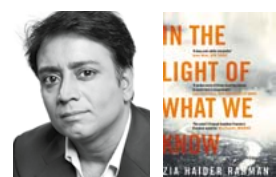


SATURDAY MAY 16 – 1.15-2.15PM  
AUCKLAND ART GALLERY AUDITORIUM

Incorporating poems from his latest collection *Whale Years*, Greg O'Brien melds art works, photographs and moving images to trace an imaginative encounter with the Pacific Ocean, which began with a voyage on HMNZS Otago to Raoul Island in 2011. Supported by Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki.

43

## IN THE LIGHT OF WHAT WE KNOW: ZIA HAIDER RAHMAN



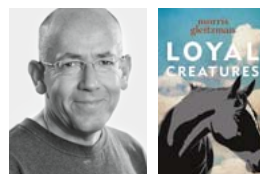
SATURDAY MAY 16 – 1.30-2.30PM  
ASB THEATRE, AOTEA CENTRE

Louise Adler is a fan, as are Joyce Carol Oates and James Wood. Last year, former human rights lawyer Zia Haider Rahman produced his novel *In the Light of What We Know*, a personal and political exploration of the world post-9/11. The Observer's Alex Preston calls it "an extraordinary meditation on the limits and uses of human knowledge, a heartbreaking love

story and a gripping account of one man's psychological disintegration". Rahman is in conversation with *Metro* editor Simon Wilson. Supported by Platinum Patrons Erika & Robin Congreve.

44

## MORRIS GLEITZMAN



SATURDAY MAY 16 – 1.30-2.30PM  
LOWER NZI ROOM, AOTEA CENTRE

Spend an hour in the company of wonderful children's writer Morris Gleitzman talking about and reading from a selection of his much-loved books for 8-12 year olds including *Once, Then, Now, After, Pizza Cake, Extra Time* and *Loyal Creatures*. Come prepared to be delighted and entertained by one of the smartest, funniest writers around.

45

FREE EVENT

## DESIGNING AUCKLAND



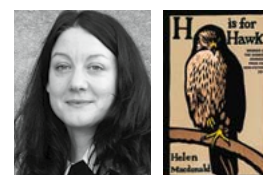
SATURDAY MAY 16 – 1.30-2.30PM  
UPPER NZI ROOM, AOTEA CENTRE

Housing, transport and land use are topics du jour in Auckland, a city with a severe case of arrested development. Join former Auckland Council urban designer Sue Evans, urban designer Garth Falconer, and architectural photographer and

blogger Patrick Reynolds for a discussion on exemplars, blunders, and how many NIMBYs and/or planners it takes to cause paralysis. Chaired by Tommy Honey. Supported by New Zealand Institute of Architects.

46

## H IS FOR HAWK: HELEN MACDONALD



SATURDAY MAY 16 – 3.00-4.00PM  
ASB THEATRE, AOTEA CENTRE

The English historian, poet, naturalist and illustrator Helen Macdonald once bred hawks for Arab sheikhs. She is also the winner of the Costa Award and the Samuel Johnson Prize for Non-Fiction for *H is for Hawk*, a chronicle of her attempt to tame Mabel the goshawk as a means of assuaging grief after the death of her father. "Grief," she writes, "is just love with nowhere to go." Referencing the similar attempts of T. H. White (of *Once and Future King* fame) to master falconry, Macdonald's memoir is described as, pun intended, "a soaring triumph". Chaired by Noelle McCarthy.

47

## SATIRISTS AT LARGE



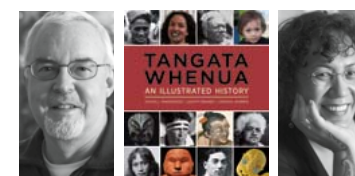
SATURDAY MAY 16 – 3.00-4.00PM  
LOWER NZI ROOM, AOTEA CENTRE

An irreverent and stinging session should be forthcoming as Steve Braunias, author of *Mad Men*, and David Slack, *Metro* contributor, gather with writer and editor Stephen Stratford to discuss satirical writing.

48

FREE EVENT

## TANGATA WHENUA



SATURDAY MAY 16 – 3.00-4.00PM  
UPPER NZI ROOM, AOTEA CENTRE

One of the most important books to be published in Aotearoa New Zealand in 2014, *Tangata Whenua: An Illustrated History* charts Māori history from its origins through to the present day. Written by Atholl Anderson, Aroha Harris and the late Judith Binney, the project took several years and testifies to its authors' dedication and scholarship. Join Anderson and Harris in conversation with Ngarimu Blair as they discuss this compelling narrative of the people and the land.

49

FREE EVENT  
FOUR FOR FIFTY READINGS SESSION

## FAMILY LIFE

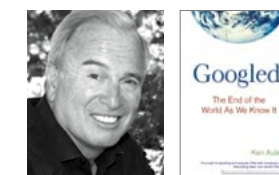


SATURDAY MAY 16 – 3.00-3.50PM  
LIMELIGHT ROOM, AOTEA CENTRE

Actor and memoirist Alan Cumming, London literary salonnière Damian Barr, Māori novelist Witi Ihimaera and writer Elspeth Sandys read from memoirs exploring the tension of family life. Introduced by Catriona Ferguson.

50

## THE MEDIA REVOLUTION



SATURDAY MAY 16 – 4.30-5.30PM  
ASB THEATRE, AOTEA CENTRE

We're witnessing wild times in the world of media when traditional models are besieged by technological advances and decreasing revenues, not to mention spurned by the digital generation. Ken Auletta – "Annals of Communications" writer in *The New Yorker* and author of *Googled: The End of the World as We Know It* – is well placed to fathom it all, from the influence of Netflix to broadsheets and everything in between. Chaired by Shayne Currie. Supported by Westpac Business Bank & Wealth.

51

## BEAUTY OF THE EVERYDAY: KIM THÚY



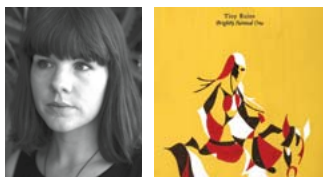
SATURDAY MAY 16 – 4.30-5.30PM  
LOWER NZI, AOTEA CENTRE

Kim Thúy and her family fled Vietnam as boat people, arriving in Canada via a refugee camp when she was ten. With a previous career as a restaurateur and with degrees in law, linguistics and translation, she has now authored two poetic novels: *Ru* which mirrors her refugee experience and *Mãn*, a tale of love, homeland and identity. The vivacious and thoughtful Thúy discusses her work and life with Kate De Goldi. *Supported by Canada Council for the Arts.*

52

FREE EVENT

## TINY RUINS



SATURDAY MAY 16 – 4.30-5.30PM  
UPPER NZI ROOM, AOTEA CENTRE

Critically acclaimed band Tiny Ruins was formed as a solo project by singer-songwriter Hollie Fullbrook in 2009 but has now morphed into an ensemble with bassist Cass Basil and drummer Alexander Freer. They released their second album *Brightly Painted One* in 2014 and have since

toured Australia, the US, Canada and Europe, opening for the likes of Sharon Van Etten, Neil Finn and Calexico. Fullbrook will talk about the craft of song-writing with Julie Hill. Singing is rumoured. *Supported by APRA/AMCOS.*

53

FREE EVENT  
FOUR FOR FIFTY READINGS SESSION

## LOSS AND LOVE

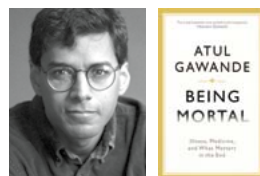


SATURDAY MAY 16 – 4.30-5.20PM  
LIMELIGHT ROOM, AOTEA CENTRE

Four novelists who have crafted stories of people lost and people loved read from their work: New Zealanders Tracy Farr, Laurence Fearnley and Bridget van der Zijpp are joined by Australian National Living Treasure Tim Winton. Introduced by Graham Beattie.

54

## THE END MATTERS: ATUL GAWANDE



SATURDAY MAY 16 – 6.00-7.00PM  
ASB THEATRE, AOTEA CENTRE

Atul Gawande writes profoundly about medicine. He's a surgeon, author, researcher (with a particular

interest in patient safety and care) and staff writer for *The New Yorker*. *Being Mortal* is his fourth book, and in it he wrestles as a clinician and as a son with dilemmas concerning end-of-life care. In conversation with Middlemore Hospital ICU specialist David Galler, Gawande will prompt us to rethink our relationship with medicine, during our life and, most crucially, at its close. *Supported by Summerset.*

55

## DOWN AND DIRTY



SATURDAY MAY 16 – 6.00-7.00PM  
LOWER NZI ROOM, AOTEA CENTRE

Hilariously exposing lifestyle farming whilst delivering a touching portrait of family, Antonia Murphy has written, according to *Eat Pray Love's* Elizabeth Gilbert, an 'impossible to resist' memoir. Born and bred in San Francisco, Murphy, her husband and their two children abandon urban living for the high seas, eventually ending up in Whangarei as artisanal farmers. Propelled by funny and feisty prose, Murphy's memoir *Dirty Chick: Adventures of an Unlikely Farmer* reveals the anything-but-romantic realities of rural living, the challenges of starting over in a new country, and the ways in which community sustains them when their son, Silas, is diagnosed with a learning disability. She discusses all in a high-energy session with Kathy Hunter.

56

FREE EVENT

## MEMORY LOSS



SATURDAY MAY 16 – 6.00-7.00PM  
UPPER NZI ROOM, AOTEA CENTRE

Poet and violinist Anna Smaill's acclaimed debut novel *The Chimes* constructs a world ruled by a large musical instrument, and navigated via a musical language. It's also a place where people are incapable of retaining memories. Bernard Beckett's *Lullaby* envisages a world where memories, like body organs, can be transplanted. Futuristic, philosophical and written in inventive prose, both novels invite readers to consider life's essentials. Smaill and Beckett join Paula Morris for a discussion of fiction and memory.

57

SPECIAL EVENT

## AN EVENING WITH HARUKI MURAKAMI



SATURDAY MAY 16 – 7.30-8.45PM  
ASB THEATRE, AOTEA CENTRE

Japanese novelist Haruki Murakami is at the vanguard of the literary world, responsible for more than 20 titles which marry realism and surrealism,

the everyday with the dreamlike, to spellbinding effect. From *Norwegian Wood* and *The Wind-Up Bird Chronicle* to *1Q84*, *Colourless Tsukuru Tazaki* and *The Strange Library*, Murakami charms and challenges us as readers and global citizens. Don't miss him in his only Australasian appearance in conversation with US editor and writer John Freeman. *Supported by Platinum Patrons Josephine & Ross Green.*

Earlybird \$35; Standard \$40;  
Patrons \$32; Students \$20.

58

SPECIAL EVENT

## POETRY IDOL



SATURDAY MAY 16 – 8.00-10.30PM  
LOWER NZI ROOM, AOTEA CENTRE

Our sell-out slam is back. Having survived the rigours of auditioning with MC Penny Ashton, 10 poets go head-to-head for the Festival Champion crown, and for \$500 to boot. This year's judges include English comedian and classics nut Natalie Haynes, Australian poetry slam champion Zohab Zee Khan and hip-hop musician turned poet Tourettes. Wanna step up? To book an audition on May 10, email the Festival at [info@writersfestival.co.nz](mailto:info@writersfestival.co.nz) by May 7.

Earlybird \$15; Standard \$20. (Tickets are a mix of seated and standing on a first come, first served basis.)

59

SPECIAL EVENT

## THE WORLD'S WIFE



SATURDAY MAY 16 – 9.00-10.15PM  
LIMELIGHT ROOM, AOTEA CENTRE  
(CASH BAR)

British Poet Laureate Carol Ann Duffy joins actors Fiona Samuel and Rachel House in a performance of *The World's Wife*, Duffy's poetry collection of the same name in which unappreciated women are given free rein. There's Queen Herod and Frau Freud as well as Queen Kong, the Kray Sisters and Mrs Aesop, who opines that "By Christ, he could bore for Purgatory." David Long provides musical accompaniment to the readings. One of only two performances. *A British Council Series event.*

Standard \$40; Patrons \$32.

**SUNDAY  
17 MAY**

**60**

**SPECIAL EVENT  
FREE FOR 12s AND UNDER**

**CAPTAIN UNDERPANTS**



**SUNDAY MAY 17 – 9.00-10.00AM  
ASB THEATRE, AOTEA CENTRE**

Ta-dah. Welcome Captain Underpants to the stage for an hour of mayhem as he fights for “Truth, Justice and all that is Pre-Shrunk and Cottony” alongside sidekicks Harold and George. Instantly recognisable – in underpants and red cape with black polka dots – the Captain makes mischief with his legions of fans in this special Festival event. Ticketed but free for 12s and under. Book at Ticketmaster. *Supported by Scholastic.*

*Standard \$25; Student \$12.50; Children 12 and Under FREE.*

**61**

**FREE EVENT**

**THE ART OF THE NOVEL**



**SUNDAY MAY 17 – 9.00-10.00AM  
UPPER NZI ROOM, AOTEA CENTRE**

In the second of our new Festival forums, we turn our attention to the novel. What makes a good one? Accomplished writers share their approaches and some rules of plot, dialogue and character that divide successes from near-misses. Stephanie Johnson, Emily St. John Mandel and David Mitchell join chair Laurence Fearnley.

**62**

**SPECIAL EVENT**

**DALLOWAY**



**SUNDAY MAY 17 – 10.00-11.25AM  
WINTERGARDEN, CIVIC**

*Austen's Women's* Rebecca Vaughan returns with her latest hit: a stage adaptation of Virginia Woolf's *Mrs Dalloway*, that Modernist mapping of interior states in the aftermath of World War I. This five-star Edinburgh 2014 success has been hailed as accomplished and incredibly moving. Adapted and directed by Elton Townend Jones. *A Dyad Production.*

*Earlybird \$30; Standard \$35; Patrons \$28; Students \$17.50.*

**63**

**WEEKEND GALLERY SERIES**

**AT THE BENCH:  
HELEN LEACH**



**SUNDAY MAY 17 – 10.15-11.15AM  
AUCKLAND ART GALLERY AUDITORIUM**

Anthropologist Helen Leach, author of *The Pavlova Story* (2008) and *Kitchens: The New Zealand Kitchen in the 20th Century* (2014), takes the audience on a lively journey through the New Zealand domestic kitchen over the last one hundred years, providing a fascinating insight into changing patterns of culinary traditions and domestic arrangements and revealing who we are through the room at the centre of the house. *Supported by Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki.*

**64**

**AN HOUR WITH  
TIM WINTON**



**SUNDAY MAY 17 – 10.30-11.30AM  
ASB THEATRE, AOTEA CENTRE**

Tim Winton is a leading exponent of short and long form fiction. Most recently the *Guardian* reviewed his novel *Eyrie* as “a superb tale of disillusionment and redemption, loss and beauty” – a description

that could equally apply to his other novels including *Cloud Street*, *Dirt Music*, *The Turning* and *Breath*. Fiction aside, Winton has written on class, hospitals and the “chronically underrated” Western Australian town of Albany. He is in conversation with Jim Mora.

**65**

**ETCHED IN PAIN**



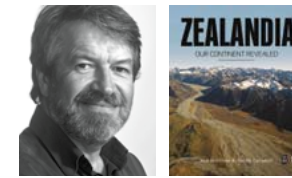
**SUNDAY MAY 17 – 10.30-11.30AM  
LOWER NZI ROOM, AOTEA CENTRE**

A shared circumstance, two different takes. New Zealand writers Deborah Shepard and Stephanie de Montalk are both incapacitated with chronic pain. Each is inspired to write: Shepard produces *Giving Yourself To Life*, a journal of her year; de Montalk works up her academic thesis into *How Does It Hurt?*, about the interplay of writing and pain in our literary history. They speak with Greg O'Brien about their explorations and hard won discoveries.

**66**

**FREE EVENT**

**THE CASE  
FOR ZEALANDIA:  
HAMISH CAMPBELL**



**SUNDAY MAY 17 – 10.30-11.30AM  
UPPER NZI ROOM, AOTEA CENTRE**

Geologist Dr Hamish Campbell stakes the claim for Zealandia to be recognised as a new geological continent, roughly 500 million years old and stretching north from New Caledonia, south beyond the Auckland and Campbell islands, west beyond Australia's Lord Howe Island and east past the Chathams. An illustrated talk about the natural environment of New Zealand and the Pacific.

**67**

**FREE EVENT**

**FORENSICS**



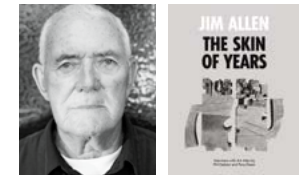
**SUNDAY MAY 17 – 11.30-12.20PM  
LIMELIGHT ROOM, AOTEA CENTRE**

Examinations of the murderous and the criminal abound in these readings by Filipino/Australian poet Ivy Alvarez, NZ novelist Rosetta Allan, Australian writer Helen Garner and NZ author of *Journey To A Hanging*, Peter Wells. Introduced by Jose Barbosa.

**68**

**WEEKEND GALLERY SERIES**

**THE SKIN OF YEARS:  
JIM ALLEN**



**SUNDAY MAY 17 – 11.45-12.45PM  
AUCKLAND ART GALLERY AUDITORIUM**

For more than sixty years the art of Jim Allen, one of Australasia's most influential artists and educators, has explored people and their relationships, inspiring and challenging audiences. Now celebrated in the new book *Jim Allen: The Skin of Years*, Allen's groundbreaking practice and extraordinary career are the focus of a conversation with Senior Curator Ron Brownson, accompanied by images of his unique work. *Supported by Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki.*

**69**

**CAROL ANN DUFFY**



**SUNDAY MAY 17 – 12.00-1.00PM  
ASB THEATRE, AOTEA CENTRE**

Clever, provocative and fun, the work of UK Poet Laureate Carol Ann Duffy is the perfect counter to anyone who would deny the allure of poetry. One of the most influential poets of the day, Duffy writes for children and adults alike, champions language and teaches English at Manchester

University besides. She speaks with John Campbell about her life in letters and reads from her work in what promises to be a life-affirming session. *A British Council Series event.*

70

## TROUBLE IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA: BILL HAYTON

THE MICHAEL KING MEMORIAL LECTURE



SUNDAY MAY 17 – 12.00-1.00PM  
LOWER NZI ROOM, AOTEA CENTRE

Crowned by *The Economist* as one of their books of the year, *The South China Sea: The Struggle for Power in Asia* dissects the complexity, and the absurdity, of the current geo-political struggle and its far reaching implications. Author and BBC journalist Bill Hayton sets out the history of the turmoil and the wide-reaching risks in this little understood dispute.

71

FREE EVENT

## STOP TWEETING ...COMMIT!



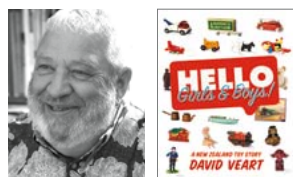
SUNDAY MAY 17 – 12.00-1.00PM  
UPPER NZI ROOM, AOTEA CENTRE

In 2013, *Metro* magazine editor Simon Wilson bemoaned the poor standard of long-form journalism submitted for publication, holding that writers these days preferred to engage on social media platforms. A mild flurry ensued, and partly inspired editors Jolisa Gracewood and Susanna Andrew to publish *Tell You What*, a collection of New Zealand long-form non-fiction. Gracewood, Wilson and Russell Brown slug it out in an exploration of the place for lengthy journalism and the public's appetite for it. Chaired by Janet Wilson.

72

WEEKEND GALLERY SERIES

## SERIOUSLY FUN: DAVE VEART



SUNDAY MAY 17 – 1.15-2.15PM  
AUCKLAND ART GALLERY AUDITORIUM

Grab your shanghai and join Dave Veart for a tear through the history of New Zealand toys, from Māori

voyagers to twenty-first-century gamers. Inspired by his book *Hello Boys and Girls!*, Veart, author of *First Catch Your Weka: A Story of New Zealand Cooking*, will expound on the little things for little and not so little people. Fun Ho! *Supported by Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki.*

73

## AN IRRESISTIBLE CRITIC



SUNDAY MAY 17 – 1.30-2.30PM  
ASB THEATRE, AOTEA CENTRE

“Our most irresistible literary critic,” says *The New York Times Book Review*. Daniel Mendelsohn is an elegant stylistic polymath – a reviewer but also an essayist, memoirist, classical scholar and translator of the Greek poet CP Cavafy. In his memoir *The Lost: A Search for Six of Six Million* he excavates his family history; in his essay collection *Waiting For The Barbarians* he disses *Mad Men* as “melodrama rather than drama”. His new project is a literature-and-life book, recounting the year he spent reading *The Odyssey* with his late father and the revelations of that experience. He speaks with Ian Wedde.

74

## GRAHAME SYDNEY



SUNDAY MAY 17 – 1.30-2.30PM  
LOWER NZI ROOM, AOTEA CENTRE

A Grahame Sydney painting is instantly recognisable for its simplicity, its sense of grandeur and its capturing of the unique vistas of the Otago landscape. Showcasing one of our greatest living painters, the book *Grahame Sydney* was published in 2014 and includes more than 200 reproductions of his work. He speaks with Auckland Art Gallery Principal Curator Zara Stanhope.

75

FREE EVENT

## SARAH BROOM POETRY PRIZE



SUNDAY MAY 17 – 1.30-2.30PM  
UPPER NZI ROOM, AOTEA CENTRE

C.K. Stead won in 2014, and this year another \$12,000 will go to the poet named winner of the Sarah Broom Poetry Prize. Established in honour of the New Zealand poet, the prize recognises an unpublished collection of poems. From an anticipated 300+ submitters, three finalists chosen by Irish poet Vona Groarke will take to

the stage to read their poems, as will Groarke herself, before the winner is announced. [sarahbroom.co.nz](http://sarahbroom.co.nz)

76

FREE EVENT  
FOUR FOR FIFTY READINGS SESSION

## LIFE BEYOND



SUNDAY MAY 17 – 1.30-2.20PM  
LIMELIGHT ROOM, AOTEA CENTRE

Four writers who have created fictional worlds of the future read excerpts: Emily St. John Mandel (*Station Eleven*), Philip Mann (*The Disestablishment of Paradise*), Anna Smaill (*Chimes*) and Phillip Temple (*MiSTORY*). Introduced by Carole Beu.

77

## WAYS TO CHANGE THE WORLD



SUNDAY MAY 17 – 3.00-4.00PM  
ASB THEATRE, AOTEA CENTRE

What does the world look like in 2015? What have we got right? What have we done wrong? And what can we do about any of it anyway? Four eminent Festival guests calibrate the state of play and give their forecasts as well as their preferred courses of action.

78

## A WRITING LIFE: RENÉE



SUNDAY MAY 17 – 3.00-4.00PM  
LOWER NZI ROOM, AOTEA CENTRE

Playwright, novelist, poet, memoirist and blogger Renée has documented New Zealand's social history in the latter part of the twentieth century in acclaimed work including *Wednesday To Come* and *Setting The Table*. Of Scots and Ngati Kahungunu descent, Renée blogs weekly, and publishes her new novel – a trilogy – chapter by chapter online. She talks with Stephanie Johnson.

79

FREE EVENT

## LETTERS TO VERA



SUNDAY MAY 17 – 3.00-4.00PM  
UPPER NZI ROOM, AOTEA CENTRE

Something for those wanting to jog themselves out of epistolary slumber while reading the work of a Russian colossus. *Letters to Vera*,

co-edited and co-translated by the world's leading Nabokov scholar, Auckland University's Brian Boyd, brings together Nabokov's up to now unpublished rapturous letters to his wife Véra over their lengthy marriage. The collection has been feted by *The Times Literary Supplement* as "containing some of the most moving passages [Nabokov] would ever write" and heralded by William Boyd as his 2014 Book of The Year for the *The Guardian*. Excerpts from the letters, read by Michael Hurst, will be interspersed with Boyd's take on the besotted Nabokov in conversation with Jan Cronin.

80

FREE EVENT

## GREAT READS



SUNDAY MAY 17 – 3.00-4.00PM  
LIMELIGHT ROOM, AOTEA CENTRE

Consider this your personal-reading-list-session for the year – apart from all the Festival authors of course. Jordan Bass, executive editor at the US publishing house *McSweeney's*, and John Freeman, former editor of *Granta* and editor of the new literary journal *Freeman's*, give their favourite reads. Who in the literary firmament is up-and-coming, who continues to produce great work and who must you absolutely read before you die? With Noelle McCarthy in the chair.

81

## THE AGE OF MAGIC: BEN OKRI



SUNDAY MAY 17 – 4.30-5.30PM  
ASB THEATRE, AOTEA CENTRE

Not long ago Nigerian poet and novelist Ben Okri caused a stir, writing in the *Guardian* that black and African writers should "not be expected to write about slavery, poverty or racial injustice. The greatest literature comes not from the heaviest subjects but from freedom of thought." Okri has written many poetry, essay and short story collections, as well as ten novels including his Booker-winning *The Famished Road*. His recent novel *The Age of Magic* is imbued with what Okri dubs "dream logic", as well as with sensibility and imagination as he charts the journey of a group of documentary film makers on their way to film a piece on happiness in Arcadia, Greece. He speaks with Paula Morris. Supported by Platinum Patron *The James Wallace Arts Trust*.

82

## A GUIDE FOR MODERN LIVING



SUNDAY MAY 17 – 4.30-5.30PM  
LOWER NZI ROOM, AOTEA CENTRE

English comedian and classicist Natalie Haynes would rather we not see "Ancient Rome as a toga party to which our invitation went astray." *An Ancient Guide to the Modern Life* is her manifesto for the relevance of classics to the 21st century. In a similar vein her novel, *The Amber Fury*, brings teenage and Greek angst together in an Edinburgh classroom. Haynes takes to the stage to give us old tips for modern living. Let's not forget that it was Cicero who said "one nail drives out another". In conversation with Iain Sharp.

83

FREE EVENT

## GREAT KIWI CLASSIC: OWLS DO CRY



SUNDAY MAY 17 – 4.30-5.30PM  
UPPER NZI ROOM, AOTEA CENTRE

Following fierce debate and much wrangling, the Great Kiwi Classic for 2015 has been decided. *Owls Do Cry* was the critically acclaimed first novel of New Zealand's beloved Janet Frame,

a seminal work and a set text for many teenage New Zealanders. Semi-autobiographical, it soared beyond the social realism that dominated much of New Zealand's literature at the time (and perhaps still does), winning the NZ Literary Fund Award for Achievement in 1958 and finding an international audience. Poetic and experimental, *Owls Do Cry* recounts the story of the Withers family gently exploring mental health, poverty and loneliness. The Festival's giant bookclub reconvenes, led by Kate De Goldi, Anne Kennedy, Courtney Sina Meredith and Scotsman Damian Barr, to share readers' responses to this groundbreaking work. Presented in a partnership between the Auckland Writers Festival & the NZ Book Council.

84

FREE EVENT  
FOUR FOR FIFTY READINGS SESSION

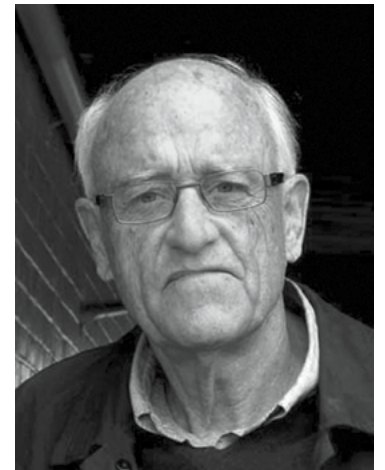
## A GRAPHICS AFFAIR



SUNDAY MAY 17 – 4.30-5.20PM  
LIMELIGHT, AOTEA CENTRE

Four of New Zealand's leading graphics authors take the stage to present stories from their work. Join Rachel Fenton (graphic poetry), Damon Keen (climate change comics), Sam Orchard (LGBT stories) and Ant Sang (*The Dharma Punks*), introduced by Christine O'Brien.

# 2015 HONOURED NEW ZEALAND WRITER



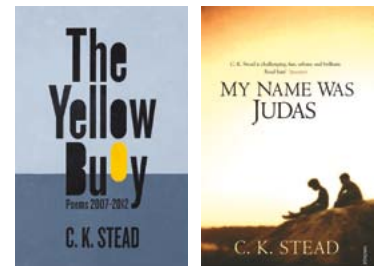
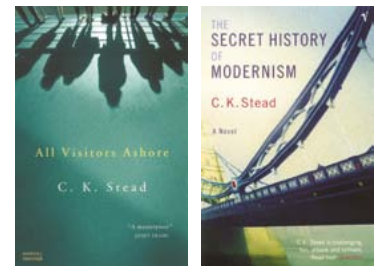
85

FREE SPECIAL EVENT

## C.K. STEAD

SUNDAY MAY 17 – 6.00-7.00PM  
ASB THEATRE, AOTEA CENTRE

C.K. Stead is one of New Zealand's foremost literary figures. A distinguished novelist, literary critic, poet, essayist and Emeritus Professor of English at the University of Auckland, Stead has won many awards and fellowships. He became a Member of the Order of New Zealand in 2007, and is one of only two living writers to hold that honour. Internationally published and reviewed, Stead's major novels include *Smith's Dream*, *All Visitors Ashore*, *My Name Was Judas*, *Mansfield*, *Talking About O'Dwyer*, *The Singing Whakapapa*, and *The Secret History of Modernism*, alongside essays, criticism and major poetry collections. Stead is known for his quick mind and frank views, a confessional voice, and an ease of prose that makes him both accessible and deeply meaningful. His singular place in the cultural life of this country is celebrated in this free session to end the Festival, chaired by Ruth Harley.



**FAMILY DAY  
EVENTS**

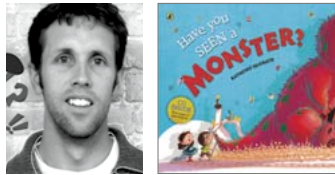
**HERALD THEATRE**

SUPPORTED BY FREEMASONS FOUNDATION

IF TICKETS ARE REQUIRED,  
BOOK AT TICKETMASTER

87

**MONSTER-SIZED:  
RAYMOND MCGRATH**



SUNDAY MAY 17 – 10.25-10.40AM  
HERALD THEATRE FOYER – UNDER 5s  
FREE – NO TICKET REQUIRED

Drawing and storytelling about monster-sized friendships with Raymond McGrath, author of the exuberant picture books *Have You Seen a Monster* and *It's Not a Monster, It's Me!*

89

**CONSTRUCTION:  
SALLY SUTTON**



SUNDAY MAY 17 – 11.25-11.40AM  
HERALD THEATRE FOYER – UNDER 5s  
FREE – NO TICKET REQUIRED

Sally Sutton dons her hi-vis vest and hard hat to read some of her much loved books including *Construction* and *Catch That Plane*.

91

**ANIMAL POEMS:  
JENNY PALMER**



SUNDAY MAY 17 – 12.25-12.40PM  
HERALD THEATRE FOYER – UNDER 5s  
FREE – NO TICKET REQUIRED

Enjoy action rhymes and animal poetry with Jenny Palmer concluding with a reading of the poem *Y for Yeti* and colouring sheets so children can draw their own poem illustrations.

93

**FUNNY TALES:  
DONOVAN BIXLEY**

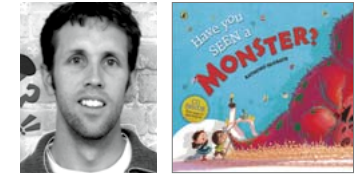


SUNDAY MAY 17 – 1.25-1.40PM  
HERALD THEATRE FOYER – UNDER 5s  
FREE – NO TICKET REQUIRED

Donovan Bixley reads from *Little Red Riding Hood Not Quite*, the very funny follow up to *The Three Bears Sort Of*, which was the children's choice at the 2014 NZ Post Book Awards.

95

**MONSTER-SIZED:  
RAYMOND MCGRATH**



SUNDAY MAY 17 – 2.25-2.40PM  
HERALD THEATRE FOYER – UNDER 5s  
FREE – NO TICKET REQUIRED

Drawing and storytelling about monster-sized friendships with Raymond McGrath, author of the exuberant picture books *Have You Seen a Monster* and *It's Not a Monster, It's Me!*

86

**BEST MATES:  
PHILIPPA WERRY**



SUNDAY MAY 17 – 10.15-10.45AM  
HERALD THEATRE – AGES 5-10  
FREE BUT TICKETED

Philippa Werry takes her audience on a journey to faraway lands as she tells the story of best mates who go to fight at Gallipoli, inspired by her Bob Kerr-illustrated book *Best Mates*.

88

**ALPHABET SOUP:  
JENNY PALMER**



SUNDAY MAY 17 – 11.15-11.45AM  
HERALD THEATRE AGES 5-10  
FREE BUT TICKETED

Jenny Palmer leads an energetic session of poetry crafting, talking animals and the alphabet as the starting point for creating a Festival rhyme live in the theatre.

90

**MONKEY BOY:  
DONOVAN BIXLEY**



SUNDAY MAY 17 – 12.15-12.45PM  
HERALD THEATRE, AGES 5-10  
FREE BUT TICKETED

Award-winning children's illustrator Donovan Bixley takes his young audience on a rollicking ocean-going adventure with Young Jimmy, the youngest member of Nelson's navy, and the hero of his hit comic novel *Monkey Boy*.

92

**MAORI MYTHS:  
ZAK WAIPARA**



SUNDAY MAY 17 – 1.15-1.45PM  
HERALD THEATRE AGES 5-10  
FREE BUT TICKETED

Animator and illustrator Zak Waipara shares Māori myths and legends with a modern twist.

94

**SWELL: TRISH GRIBBEN  
AND JUDY MILLAR**



SUNDAY MAY 17 – 2.15-2.45PM  
HERALD THEATRE AGES 5-10  
FREE BUT TICKETED

Judy Millar's art twists and twirls, swells and swirls. She and writer Trish Gribben will enchant with their delightful pop-up book *SWELL*, an art book for children of all ages.



## WORKSHOPS

WORKSHOPS: \$45 AND LIMITED TO A MAXIMUM OF 40 PARTICIPANTS UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED.

96

SPECIAL EVENT

### EDITOR IN RESIDENCE: JORDAN BASS



FRIDAY MAY 15 – 1.00-4.30PM  
LOCATION TO BE ADVISED

As the executive editor of San Francisco-headquartered McSweeney's Publishing, Jordan Bass has worked on the editing and design of dozens of books, both fiction and non-fiction, and through *McSweeney's Quarterly* has edited Charles Baxter, Wells Tower, Sheila Heti, and Etgar Keret, among hundreds of other notable writers. Five fortunate writers receive a one-on-one with Bass, who after reading 20 pages of a novel or work-in-progress will deliver a 20 minute feedback and advice session. Participants will be chosen on the basis of submitted material. Applicants should email their 20 page submission to the

Festival offices with "Application: Editor In Residence-Jordan Bass" in the subject line, no later than Friday April 17. Successful applicants will be advised by Monday May 4 and will be allocated a 20-minute afternoon slot at the Aotea Centre in Auckland on Friday May 15. Please note that accepted candidates will be required to deposit the payable fee on acceptance or their place will be forfeited. Fees are non-refundable once paid. *Cost: \$75; five participants only.*

97

WORKSHOP: ANT SANG

### COMICS 101



FRIDAY MAY 15 – 9.00-10.30AM  
GOODMAN FIELDER ROOM  
LEVEL 4, AOTEA CENTRE

Ant Sang's graphic novel, *The Dharma Punks*, is a cult classic. He's also the author of *Shaolin Burning* and was a designer on hit TV show, *bro' Town*. Join this comic art master to discuss and draw, exploring the creative process behind creating a graphic novel.

98

WORKSHOP: ELSPETH SANDYS

### WHY WRITE SHORT STORIES?



FRIDAY MAY 15 – 11.30AM-1.00PM  
GOODMAN FIELDER ROOM  
LEVEL 4, AOTEA CENTRE

Given that attention spans appear to be shrinking, are short stories the way forward? Elspeth Sandys presents a workshop, with examples, discussion and exercises, inquiring into the place of the short story and the form's strengths and weaknesses.

99

WORKSHOP: ROGER HALL

### ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT PLAYWRITING



FRIDAY MAY 15 – 2.00-3.30PM  
GOODMAN FIELDER ROOM  
LEVEL 4, AOTEA CENTRE

Master craftsman Roger Hall presents a workshop on the skills required to craft a script for the stage. In particular: dialogue, characterisation, time, plots and sub-plots. Participants will take part in discussion and activities, and should prepare for the session by completing a short piece of written work.

100

WORKSHOP: LAURENCE FEARNLEY

### PACE – KNOWING WHEN TO LINGER



FRIDAY MAY 15 – 4.00-5.30PM  
GOODMAN FIELDER ROOM  
LEVEL 4, AOTEA CENTRE

How do you pace a story? Do you treat scenes equally, no matter how much narrative weight they carry? This workshop will tackle the amount of detail a story needs, and figure out ways to move the plot along or, linger over high-impact scenes, creating tension in your writing. Designed for people whose writing is flat and who need to inject a few bumps and curves.

101

WORKSHOP: AMY BLOOM

### CHARACTER AND STORY



SATURDAY MAY 16 – 9.00-10.30AM  
GOODMAN FIELDER ROOM  
LEVEL 4, AOTEA CENTRE

US novelist Amy Bloom, author of three short story collections and three novels, offers a workshop on the relationship between character and story and the ways in which character leads to story, and events reveal character. Come primed to write.

102

WORKSHOP: VONA GROARKE

### METAPHOR AND SIMILE



SATURDAY MAY 16 – 11.30-1.00PM  
GOODMAN FIELDER ROOM  
LEVEL 4, AOTEA CENTRE

Focussing on metaphor and simile, poet Vona Groarke looks at deploying imagery to energise the language of the everyday, and to wire it for that jolt of surprise that is at the heart of the well-made poem. Participants will examine a range of poems that use metaphor and simile to good and various effect, and will spend some time striking images of their own in a writing exercise. Group discussion included.

103

WORKSHOP: DAVID MITCHELL

### FICTION SEED SOWING



SATURDAY MAY 16 – 1.30-3.00PM  
GOODMAN FIELDER ROOM  
LEVEL 4, AOTEA CENTRE

What can the practice of writing fiction teach you about the theory of writing fiction? David Mitchell offers a personal "playlist" of insights, hints and advice stumbled upon during the writing of his six novels. Creative writing is creative because it's individual and subjective, but nevertheless Mitchell aims to provide

food for thought for all attendees. Participants will be asked to bring along five ideas or observations of their own for a "fiction seed swap" – general, specific, idiosyncratic, or slightly mad. Truth can wear camouflage.

104

WORKSHOP: RENÉE

### YOUR LIFE, YOUR STORY



SATURDAY MAY 16 – 4.00-5.30PM  
GOODMAN FIELDER ROOM  
LEVEL 4, AOTEA CENTRE

"If you haven't recorded your story, then history is not complete." So says veteran NZ writer Renée whose life's work has been to record stories through plays, fiction and memoir. This workshop is for anyone who wants to write their own story, be it for themselves, their families or a wider audience.

105

WORKSHOP: NICK DAVIES

## INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM



SUNDAY MAY 17 – 10.00AM-1.00PM  
GOODMAN FIELDER ROOM  
LEVEL 4, AOTEA CENTRE

Nick Davies' workshop in investigative reporting starts with first principles and moves on to sophisticated tricks of the trade. He aims to teach practical techniques of a kind rarely touched on in conventional courses. Hundreds of press and broadcast journalists have attended similar Davies' sessions, described by a former *Guardian* news editor as "fantastic...thought-provoking, useful and inspiring." \$75; maximum of 25 participants.

106

WORKSHOP: JASPREET SINGH

## THE PAST IS NOT PAST YET



SUNDAY MAY 17 – 1.30-3.00PM  
GOODMAN FIELDER ROOM  
LEVEL 4, AOTEA CENTRE

Novelist Jaspreet Singh takes a workshop about writing based on 'unfinished' histories: the balance between fact and fiction, invention

and truth, what happened and what could have happened? Exploring bringing life to characters caught between the personal and the hyper-remembered, participants will also explore memory, trauma, archive, research, interview, observation and imagination.

107

WORKSHOP: KATHRYN BURNETT

## CREATIVE IDEAS FAST



SUNDAY MAY 17 – 3.30-5.00PM  
GOODMAN FIELDER ROOM  
LEVEL 4, AOTEA CENTRE

Whether you're hunting for a new idea or just need a creative boost, this short, sharp workout will get your ideas fizzing. Workshop participants generate ideas using dynamic writing exercises and then trial their favourites. (Note: sharing optional.)

# THE UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND

proudly supports

## the Auckland Writers Festival

Our staff, students and alumni help form New Zealand's literary landscape



auckland.ac.nz



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**AUCKLAND**  
Te Whare Wānanga o Tamaki Makaurau  
NEW ZEALAND



The Jungle Book



Rudyard Kipling

## OUR PAST SHAPES OUR FUTURE

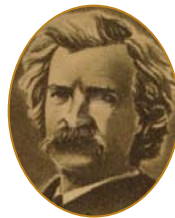
Rudyard Kipling and Mark Twain had at least two things in common. They wrote classic novels that appealed to children and adults alike.

And they were Freemasons.

Whilst literary ability may come naturally to some people, all budding writers, authors, poets and playwrights need tutorship, guidance, support and the opportunity to refine their skills.

The Freemasons are privileged to be supporting the Auckland Writers Festival Schools Programme and the AWF Family Days for 2015. These are initiatives that bring access to the written word and exposure to some of the world's leading writers on a yearly basis. It joins other initiatives that we have successfully partnered in the furtherance of young talent across New Zealand.

Tom Sawyer



Mark Twain



Supporting the University of Auckland's Centre for Brain Research & the North Island portion of the Brain Bee secondary schools competition.



APO Inspire programme encouraging young musicians towards professional careers.



Mt Richmond Special School in Auckland for purchase of special toys used in the education of their young students.

# IS THERE A TYPICAL LISTENER READER?

“Picture someone passionate, well-read and intelligent who wants to read insightful, cage-rattling reporting that cuts through the daily news deluge and tells them what’s really going on. Does that narrow it down? I hope not.”

*Pamela Stirling, Editor, NZ Listener*



The Listener is New Zealand's best-selling current affairs magazine with a per capita circulation higher than The New Yorker, The Spectator and Time.



## Nominate your choice of our finest authors

The Prime Ministers' Awards for Literary Achievement celebrate a lifetime of accomplishment in one of three categories: Non-Fiction, Fiction and Poetry. Please send us your nomination by 5pm on 1 May 2015

Visit [www.creativenz.govt.nz/pmawards](http://www.creativenz.govt.nz/pmawards) for a nomination form and email this form to [pmawards@creativenz.govt.nz](mailto:pmawards@creativenz.govt.nz). Nominations close 5pm 1 May 2015.

ARTS COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND TOI AOTEAROA  
Creative New Zealand is the national arts development agency, developing, investing in and advocating for the arts

# AUCKLAND



## The Show Never Stops

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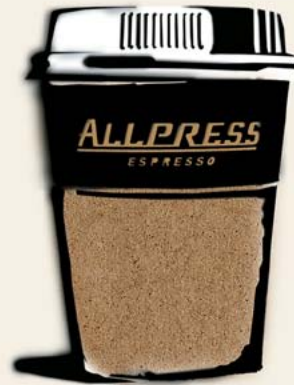
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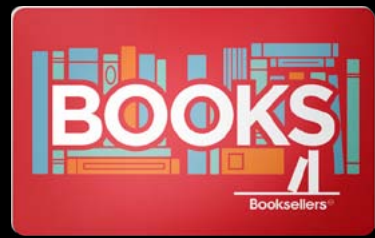
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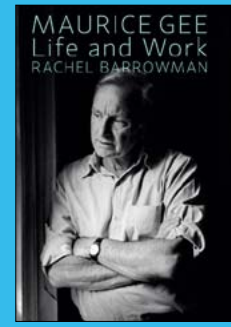
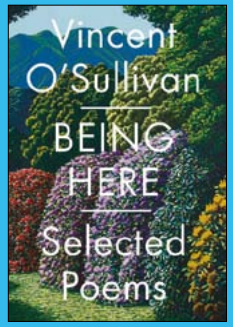
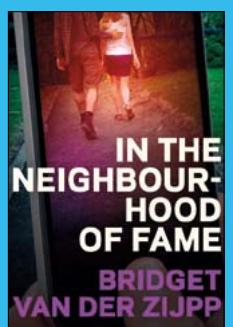


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**MICHELE A'COURT  
NEW ZEALAND**



Winner of the NZ Comedy Guild's Female Comedian of the Decade 2010, Michele A'Court is a veteran of screen and stage. She is a commentator, freelance writer, columnist, guest on *7 Days* and *Nine To Noon* and has just published *Stuff I Forgot To Tell My Daughter*. [micheleacourt.co.nz](http://micheleacourt.co.nz)  
[@MicheleACourt](https://twitter.com/MicheleACourt)

**STEPHANIE ALEXANDER  
AUSTRALIA**



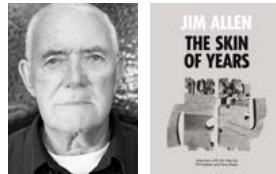
Stephanie Alexander's classic *The Cook's Companion* (1996, 2004, 2014) has sold over 500,000 copies and established her as one of Australia's great food educators. Author of 13 other influential books, including her memoir *A Cook's Life* (2013), and hundreds of articles, she is also the founder of the groundbreaking Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation. *Supported by Platinum Patrons Mary & Peter Biggs CNZM, and presented in association with Dunedin Writers & Readers Festival.* [stephaniealexander.com.au](http://stephaniealexander.com.au)  
[@GrowCookEat](https://twitter.com/GrowCookEat)

**ROSETTA ALLAN  
NEW ZEALAND**



Rosetta Allan's first novel *Purgatory* (2014) is based on the Otahuhu murders of 1865. It follows two published volumes of poetry – *Little Rock* (2007) and *Over lunch* (2010) – and poem inclusion in collections in New Zealand, Australia and the USA, as well as online. [@RosettaAllan](https://twitter.com/RosettaAllan)

**JIM ALLEN  
NEW ZEALAND**



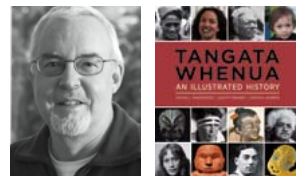
Jim Allen is a hugely influential figure in Australasian art, both as an artist and educator. He was at the forefront of the development of post-object and performance-based art in New Zealand and Australia, and was the founding head of Sydney College of the Arts. He is represented in Auckland by Michael Lett and his contribution to contemporary art is celebrated in a new book *Jim Allen: The Skin of Years*.

**IVY ALVAREZ  
PHILIPPINES / AUSTRALIA**



New Zealand-based Ivy Alvarez is the author of two poetry collections: *Disturbance* (2013) and *Mortal* (2006). Her work has been published internationally, including in *Best Australian Poems*, and she has had poems translated into Russian, Spanish, Japanese and Korean. [ivyalvarez.com](http://ivyalvarez.com) [@IvyAlvarez](https://twitter.com/IvyAlvarez)

**ATHOLL ANDERSON  
NEW ZEALAND**



Emeritus-Professor Atholl Anderson of the Australian National University is a Fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand. He is co-author of the landmark publication *Tangata Whenua: An Illustrated History* which portrays the sweep of Māori history from its Pacific origins to the twenty-first century.

**LAURIE HALSE ANDERSON  
UNITED STATES**



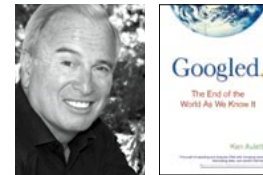
Laurie Halse Anderson is widely celebrated for her significant contribution to young adult literature, characterised by its fearless grappling with contemporary issues. Her latest book, *The Impossible Knife of Memory* (2014) was longlisted for the National Book Award and followed bestsellers including *Speak* (1999) and *Chains* (2008). [madwomanintheforest.com](http://madwomanintheforest.com)  
[@halseanderson](https://twitter.com/halseanderson)

**PENNY ASHTON  
NEW ZEALAND**



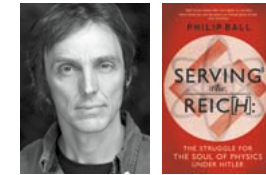
Globe-trotting comedian, poet and improviser Penny Ashton was the originator of the Festival's now fully-grown Poetry Idol which she MCs. She has represented New Zealand in both poetry and Theatresports, is a wedding celebrant, and is currently performing around the world with her solo Jane Austen musical *Promise and Promiscuity*. [hotpink.co.nz](http://hotpink.co.nz)  
[@pennypink](https://twitter.com/pennypink)

**KEN AULETTA  
UNITED STATES**



*The New Yorker's* Ken Auletta has written *Annals of Communications* pieces for the magazine since 1992, profiling the leading figures and companies of the Information Age. He is the author of 11 books, five of which have been *New York Times* bestsellers, including *Googled: The End of the World As We Know It* (2014). [kenaletta.com](http://kenaletta.com)  
[@kenaletta](https://twitter.com/kenaletta)

**PHILIP BALL  
ENGLAND**



Distinguished science writer, broadcaster and lecturer Philip Ball explores an inspiring range of subjects in numerous popular science books, most recently prize finalist *Serving the Reich* (2013), and *Invisible: The Dangerous Allure of the Unseen* (2014). He is also a regular contributor to *Nature*, *New Scientist* and *Prospect*. *Supported by Royal Society of New Zealand.* [philipball.co.uk](http://philipball.co.uk)  
[@philipball](https://twitter.com/philipball)

**JOSE BARBOSA  
NEW ZEALAND**



José Barbosa is a writer, director, reporter and illustrator. He's worked in radio and TV and made a documentary series about the history of censorship in New Zealand for Prime TV. He writes for various websites and draws mostly for fun, but sometimes for cash. [jfbarbosa.com](http://jfbarbosa.com)  
[@milkshakebot](https://twitter.com/milkshakebot)

**DAMIAN BARR  
ENGLAND**



Damian Barr is a writer, journalist, playwright and salonnière. His writing appears in all of the British broadsheets, most regularly in the *Times* and *The Telegraph*. In 2013 he published, *Maggie and Me*, a critically acclaimed memoir about growing up in small-town Scotland during the Thatcher years. *Supported by British Council NZ.* [@Damian\\_Barr](https://twitter.com/Damian_Barr)  
[facebook.com/DamianBarrLiterarySalon](http://facebook.com/DamianBarrLiterarySalon)

**JORDAN BASS  
UNITED STATES**



As *McSweeney's* executive editor, Jordan Bass has helped to edit and design dozens of books, both fiction and non-fiction. He also oversees *McSweeney's Quarterly*, a short-story journal that has published work by George Saunders, David Foster Wallace, Stephen King, Lydia Davis, and hundreds of notable others. *Supported by Creative New Zealand as part of the International Te Manu Ka Tau programme.* [mcsweeneys.net](http://mcsweeneys.net) [@mcsweeneys](https://twitter.com/mcsweeneys)

**GRAHAM BEATTIE  
NEW ZEALAND**



Graham Beattie is a full-time book blogger and reviewer, following a highly successful career as a publisher. Beattie's Book Blog is one of the country's most read blogs, receiving in excess of 12,000 visitors a week. He also writes a specialty food blog, [beattiesbookblog.blogspot.co.nz](http://beattiesbookblog.blogspot.co.nz) @bookmanBeattie

**CAROLE BEU  
NEW ZEALAND**



Carole Beu's life is immersed in the world of books and reading, as owner of The Women's Bookshop, Ponsonby, and board member of the Auckland Writers Festival. She also regularly reviews books on radio and television. [womensbookshop.co.nz](http://womensbookshop.co.nz) @womensbookshop

**NGARIMU BLAIR  
NEW ZEALAND**



Ngarimu Blair (Ngati Whatua) is a Treaty Claims researcher, negotiator and spokesperson for Ngati Whatua o Orakei. He has significant experience and knowledge of Auckland heritage issues, having worked for many years as a heritage and resource manager, and is a board member of Waterfront Auckland. [ngarimublair.co.nz](http://ngarimublair.co.nz)

**BRIAN BOYD  
NEW ZEALAND**



Nabokov expert Brian Boyd is a Distinguished Professor in English, Drama, and Writing Studies at The University of Auckland and has written or edited 19 books and over 250 articles on the author, including *Letters to Vera*, which was a 2014 *Guardian* Book of the Year.

**RUSSELL BROWN  
NEW ZEALAND**



With his long-running website Public Address and 25,000 Twitter followers, Russell Brown lives online more than most journalists. He is also the host of *Media Take* on Māori Television, a member of the Digital Media Trust and a regular writer for the New Zealand Drug Foundation's 'Matters of Substance' magazine. [publicaddress.net](http://publicaddress.net) @publicaddress

**HAMISH CAMPBELL  
NEW ZEALAND**



Hamish Campbell is a renowned GNS Science scientist, a geologist at the National Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa, and a celebrated science communicator. He is the co-author of *Zealandia, Our Continent Revealed* (2014), about New Zealand's true geotectonic nature.

**AIRINI BEAUTRAIS  
NEW ZEALAND**



Airini Beautrais studied ecological science and creative writing and worked for several years as a science teacher. *Dear Neil Roberts* (2014) is her third book of poetry following the award-winning *Secret Heart* (2006) and *Western Line* (2011).

**TOM BISHOP  
NEW ZEALAND**



Professor Tom Bishop teaches in the Faculty of Arts at The University of Auckland. He has written widely on Shakespeare and is the editor of the Internet Shakespeare edition of *Pericles, Prince of Tyre*. He is also a translator of Latin lyric poetry into English.

**AMY BLOOM  
UNITED STATES**



Author of three novels, three collections of short stories, and a nominee for both the National Book Award and the National Book Critics Circle Award, Amy Bloom's stories have appeared in *Best American Short Stories*, *Prize Stories: The O. Henry Awards*, and numerous other anthologies. Her latest novel, *Lucky Us*, was published in 2014. [amybloom.com](http://amybloom.com) @AmyBloomBooks

**STEVE BRAUNIAS  
NEW ZEALAND**



*Madmen: Inside the Weirdest Election Campaign Ever* (2014) is Steve Braunias' latest book, now into its fourth reprint. An award-winning journalist, author and satirist, he writes regularly for *The New Zealand Herald* when he's not crafting award-winning publications. [luncheonsausagebooks.com](http://luncheonsausagebooks.com) @SteveBraunias

**RON BROWNSON  
NEW ZEALAND**



Ron Brownson is Senior Curator of New Zealand and Pacific Art at Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki. He has worked as a professional curator for many years, developing major exhibitions and publishing widely. He is currently developing a project on New Zealand photography.

**JOHN CAMPBELL  
NEW ZEALAND**



Leading current affairs broadcaster John Campbell has worked at TV3 since 1991. He has an honours degree in English Literature and served as the Chief Judge for the 2013 NZ Post Book Awards. @JohnCampbell [campbelllive.co.nz](http://campbelllive.co.nz)

**BERNARD BECKETT  
NEW ZEALAND**



Teacher Bernard Beckett is one of New Zealand's most successful writers for young adults. He has just published *Lullaby*, the third book in a trilogy which, like the earlier and much-celebrated books *Genesis* and *August*, explores a philosophical puzzle. [bernardbeckett.wordpress.com](http://bernardbeckett.wordpress.com)

**DONOVAN BIXLEY  
NEW ZEALAND**



Prolific illustrator Donovan Bixley has created best-selling versions of *The Wheels on the Bus* and *Old MacDonald's Farm*, co-created the *Dinosaur Rescue* series and is the author of the comic book novel *Monkey Boy*. In 2014 *The Three Bears Sort Of*, which he illustrated, won the NZ Post Book Awards Children's Choice Award. [donovanbixley.com](http://donovanbixley.com)

**JONATHAN BOSTON  
NEW ZEALAND**



A Professor of Public Policy in the School of Government at Victoria University of Wellington, Jonathan Boston is a leading contributor to policy debate in New Zealand on a range of issues, including child poverty. He is the co-author of *Child Poverty in New Zealand* (2014).

**HELENA WIŚNIEWSKA BROW  
NEW ZEALAND**



Former journalist Helena Wiśniewska Brow was the 2013 recipient of the Adam Prize in Creative Writing. Her book, *Give Us This Day: a Memoir of Family and Exile* (2014) is the story of her father, Stefan Wiśniewska, one of the 732 exiled Polish children offered refuge in New Zealand in 1944.

**KATHRYN BURNETT  
NEW ZEALAND**



Kathryn Burnett is an accomplished screenwriter, playwright, and columnist whose credits include *Shelved*, *The Cult*, *Amazing Extraordinary Friends*, *The Strip* and *Mike & Virginia*. She also runs creative ideation workshops designed to help people be their creative best. [kathryn-burnett.com](http://kathryn-burnett.com) @kburnettdotcom

**LINDA CLARK  
NEW ZEALAND**



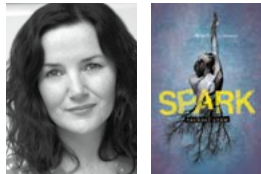
Award-winning journalist turned lawyer Linda Clark forged a successful career as one of New Zealand's most respected political editors and media communicators before switching to law. She is now special counsel in the public law and litigation teams of Kensington Swan.

**THOM CONROY  
NEW ZEALAND**



Thom Conroy is a Senior Lecturer in Creative Writing at Massey University. His historical novel, *The Naturalist*, was published in 2014 and his writing has appeared in various publications including *Landfall*, *Sport*, the *New England Review* and *Best American Short Stories* 2012.

**RACHAEL CRAW  
NEW ZEALAND**



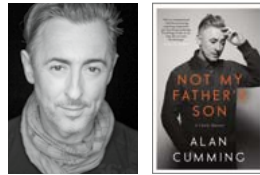
Rachael Crow studied at the University of Canterbury and taught high school English before babies and writing hijacked her life. *Spark* is her debut novel, the first in a YA sci-fi trilogy. [rachaelcrow.com](http://rachaelcrow.com)  
[@RachaelCrow](https://twitter.com/RachaelCrow)

**JAN CRONIN  
IRELAND / NEW ZEALAND**



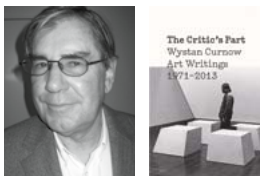
Jan Cronin is a Senior Lecturer in English at The University of Auckland, with a special interest in Irish literature. She is the author of *The Frame Function: An Inside/Out Guide to the Novels of Janet Frame* (2011) and is currently researching in adaptation studies.

**ALAN CUMMING  
SCOTLAND / UNITED STATES**



Acclaimed actor of stage and screen, Alan Cumming OBE is also a writer and a champion of LGBT civil rights. Cumming has won a Tony for his Broadway role as *Cabaret's* Emcee and plays Eli Gold in television series *The Good Wife*, for which he has received Emmy and Golden Globe nominations. His *New York Times* bestselling memoir *Not My Father's Son* was published in 2014. *Supported by Friedlander Foundation.*  
[alancumming.com](http://alancumming.com) [@Alancumming](https://twitter.com/Alancumming)

**WYSTAN CURNOW  
NEW ZEALAND**



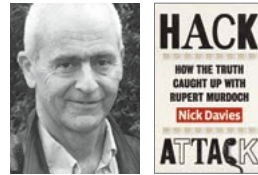
Critic, poet and curator Wystan Curnow is one of New Zealand's leading art critics. He has curated over 30 exhibitions in New Zealand and internationally and his large body of art writing was recently collected into one volume in *The Critic's Part: Art Writings 1971–2012*.

**SHAYNE CURRIE  
NEW ZEALAND**



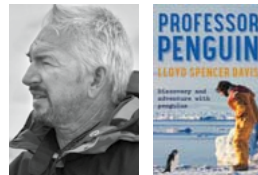
As editor of *The New Zealand Herald*, New Zealand's highest circulation newspaper, Shayne Currie is at the forefront of New Zealand's news gathering. He has won several national journalism awards and worked overseas, including for the *New York Post*. [@ShayneCurrieNZH](https://twitter.com/ShayneCurrieNZH)

**NICK DAVIES  
ENGLAND**



Nick Davies is an award-winning investigative journalist, a widely published author and a documentary maker. He is a special correspondent for the *Guardian* and author of *Hack Attack* (2014), the definitive record of the investigation into Rupert Murdoch's newspaper empire and exposure of the phone hacking scandal. *Supported by Platinum Patrons Rosie & Michael Horton.*  
[nickdavies.net](http://nickdavies.net) [@Bynickdavies](https://twitter.com/Bynickdavies)

**LLOYD SPENCER DAVIS  
NEW ZEALAND**



Lloyd Spencer Davis is the Director of The Centre for Science Communication at the University of Otago and an award-winning author and filmmaker. His latest book, *Professor Penguin* (2014), tracks his involvement with these fascinating animals over 35 years.  
[lloydspencerdavis.com](http://lloydspencerdavis.com) [profpenguin.com](http://profpenguin.com)

**KATE DE GOLDI  
NEW ZEALAND**



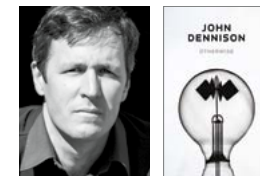
Much loved writer, broadcaster and speaker Kate De Goldi is the author of a number of books, including the internationally acclaimed *The 10PM Question* (2008). Her most recent novel was *The ACB with Honora Lee* (2012), a playful and multi-layered work exploring kindness, patience and ageing.

**STEPHANIE DE MONTALK  
NEW ZEALAND**



Previously a nurse and documentary maker, Stephanie de Montalk is the author of four collections of poems, the biography *Unquiet World* (2001) and a novel, *The Fountain of Tears* (2006). Her latest book, *How Does It Hurt?* (2014), confronts the language of suffering.  
[stephaniedemontalk.co.nz](http://stephaniedemontalk.co.nz)

**JOHN DENNISON  
NEW ZEALAND**



University chaplain John Dennison was born in Sydney in 1978, and grew up in Tawa. His poems have appeared in magazines in the UK, New Zealand and Australia, and were anthologised in *Carcantet's New Poetries V* (2011). Dennison is also the author of *Seamus Heaney and the Adequacy of Poetry* (2015).

**CAROL ANN DUFFY  
SCOTLAND**



Carol Ann Duffy is Britain's Poet Laureate and is both the first woman and the first Scot in the role's 400 year history. She is one of the most significant names in contemporary poetry and the author of books for children, plays and many celebrated poetry collections including *Mean Time* (1993), *The World's Wife* (1999), *Love Poems* (2010) and *The Bees* (2011). *Supported by British Council NZ.*

**SUE EVANS  
NEW ZEALAND**



Sue Evans is a Senior Urban Designer at Housing New Zealand Corporation. Her education spans science, architecture and urban design and she is a contributor to the Auckland Urban Design Panel's recent publication *Inter-View* and active in the Architecture + Women initiative.

**GARTH FALCONER  
NEW ZEALAND**



Author of *Living In Paradox* (2015), Garth Falconer is one of New Zealand's foremost designers and the Director of Reset Urban Design which is working closely with Auckland Council on the Auckland Plan, the blueprint for the city's next 30 years.

**TRACY FARR  
AUSTRALIA / NEW ZEALAND**



Australian-born, New Zealand-based author Tracy Farr's debut novel *The Life and Loves of Lena Gaunt* (2013) was longlisted for the Miles Franklin Literary Award. More recently Farr won the 2014 Sunday Star-Times Short Story Award for her story *Once Had Me*. [tracyfarrauthor.net](http://tracyfarrauthor.net)  
[@hissingswan](https://twitter.com/hissingswan)

**LAURENCE FEARNLEY  
NEW ZEALAND**



Laurence Fearnley is a short story writer, novelist and curator. She has produced several widely acclaimed novels, the latest of which is *Reach*. She has also worked on a number of non-fiction projects ranging around Southern and mountainous landscapes.

**RACHEL FENTON  
NEW ZEALAND**



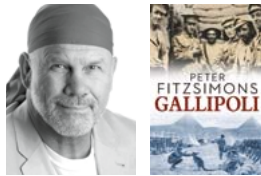
Rachel Fenton is a former winner of AUT's Graphic Fiction Prize and has been a finalist in the Dundee International Book Prize. She recently participated in the NZ Book Council's Graphic Novelists Exchange Residency in Taiwan as part of the Taipei International Book Exhibition where her work was exhibited.  
[snowlikethought.blogspot.co.nz](http://snowlikethought.blogspot.co.nz)  
[@RaeFenton](https://twitter.com/RaeFenton)

**CATRIONA FERGUSON  
NEW ZEALAND**



Catriona Ferguson is the chief executive of the New Zealand Book Council. The Council promotes the love of books and reading among all New Zealanders, and, in particular, aims to introduce communities and readers everywhere to New Zealand's literary wealth.  
[@catnzbc](https://twitter.com/catnzbc)

**PETER FITZSIMONS**  
AUSTRALIA



After successful careers as a rugby player and radio presenter, Peter FitzSimons is now Australia's best-selling non-fiction author and a columnist for the *Sydney Morning Herald*. Most recently publishing *Gallipoli* (2014), his other titles include biographies of Nancy Wake, Ned Kelly, Kim Beazley, Nick Farr-Jones and Steve Waugh. Supported by Platinum Patrons Michael & Betsy Benjamin. [peterfitzsimons.com.au](http://peterfitzsimons.com.au) @Peter\_Fitz

**JOHN FREEMAN**  
UNITED STATES



John Freeman is an author, editor, critic and the former president of the National Book Critics Circle. His books include *How to Read a Novelist* (2013) and *Shrinking the World* (2009). He is the former editor of *Granta*, the editor of *Tales of Two Cities* (2014) and will launch the new literary journal *Freeman's* in 2015. Supported by Creative New Zealand as part of the International Te Manu Ka Tau programme. @FreemanReads

**HOLLIE FULLBROOK (TINY RUINS)**  
NEW ZEALAND



Singer/songwriter Hollie Fullbrook began Tiny Ruins as a solo project in 2009, and for the past three years has been joined by Cass Basil and Alexander Freer on bass and drums. Their second album *Brightly Painted One* was named 2014 Best Alternative Album at the NZ Music Awards. [tinyruins.com](http://tinyruins.com) @tinyruins

**DAVID GALLER**  
NEW ZEALAND



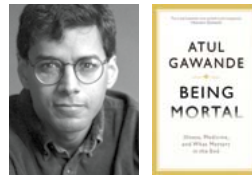
David Galler is in his 24th year as an Intensive Care Specialist at Middlemore Hospital. He is the Clinical Director of Ko Awatea, Programme Director of the APAC Forum on Quality Improvement in Healthcare and a foundation Board member of NZ's Health Quality & Safety Commission. @gauloir

**HELEN GARNER**  
AUSTRALIA



One of Australia's leading public intellectuals, Helen Garner is the award-winning author of non-fiction, novels, short stories, essays and feature journalism. Last year's *This House of Grief* was a 2014 *Times Literary Supplement* Book of the Year and followed *Joe Cinque's Consolation* (2004), *The Spare Room* (2008), *The First Stone* (1995) and other titles. Supported by Platinum Patrons Frances & Bill Bell.

**ATUL GAWANDE**  
UNITED STATES



Renowned surgeon, author and researcher, Atul Gawande, is a staff writer for *The New Yorker* and is the author of four *New York Times* bestsellers: *Complications* (2002), *Better* (2007), *The Checklist Manifesto* (2009), and his latest, *Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End* (2014). [atulgawande.com](http://atulgawande.com) @Atul\_Gawande

**MORRIS GLEITZMAN**  
AUSTRALIA



English-born Morris Gleitzman is one of Australia's most celebrated writers for children and young adults and an international bestselling author. He has written 36 books including the hilarious Toad series, the hugely popular *Once, Then, Now and After* books and *Extra Time*. His latest book, *Loyal Creatures* (2014), reflects the experience of young Australians in WWI. [morrisgleitzman.com](http://morrisgleitzman.com)

**JOLISA GRACEWOOD**  
NEW ZEALAND



Writer, editor and reviewer Jolisa Gracewood is the co-editor (with Susanna Andrew) of *Tell You What: Great New Zealand Nonfiction*, an annual selection of topnotch nonfiction from online and off. She has a PhD in Comparative Literature from Cornell University. [@nzdodo](http://publicaddress.net/busytown)

**PAULA GREEN**  
NEW ZEALAND



Paula Green is a poet, anthologist, book reviewer and children's author who champions poetry for children and adults and runs two poetry blogs: *NZ Poetry Box* and *NZ Poetry Shelf*. Her most recent collection of poems was *The Baker's Thumbprint* (2013). [nzpoetrybox.wordpress.com](http://nzpoetrybox.wordpress.com) [nzpoetryshelf.com](http://nzpoetryshelf.com) @PaulaJoyGreen

**TRISH GRIBBEN**  
NEW ZEALAND



Trish Gribben became a household name in the 1980s for her Dick Frizzell-illustrated books *Pyjamas Don't Matter* and *Nits and other Nasties*. Since then she has produced a number of art books for young people, the latest of which is pop-up book *SWELL*, about the art of Judy Millar.

**CHARLOTTE GRIMSHAW**  
NEW ZEALAND



Novelist Charlotte Grimshaw has won the Katherine Mansfield Award, twice been short-listed for the Frank O'Connor International Prize, won New Zealand's Montana Award, Book of the Year and Book Reviewer of the Year, been a finalist in the NZ Post Book Awards, and won a Qantas Award for journalism. Her new novel will be published in June 2015. [charlottegrimshawauthor.com](http://charlottegrimshawauthor.com)

**VONA GROARKE**  
IRELAND



Award-winning Irish poet Vona Groarke has published six poetry collections including *X* (2014), *Spindrift* (2010), *Juniper Street* (2006), and *Flight* (2002) and has had poems in *The New Yorker*, the *Guardian* and *The Times*. Groarke teaches at the University of Manchester and is judging the 2015 Sarah Broom Poetry Prize.

**ROGER HALL**  
NEW ZEALAND



One of New Zealand's most successful, prolific and award-winning playwrights, Roger Hall's work combines comedy with social observation and has been toured widely, including overseas. Well-known plays include *Glide Time* (which became the television series *Gliding On*), *Middle Age Spread*, *Conjugal Rites* and *Four Flat Whites in Italy*.

**RUTH HARLEY**  
NEW ZEALAND / AUSTRALIA



Dr Ruth Harley CNZM is an executive coach currently living and studying in Sydney. She comes to the field of coaching after 30 years leading media organisations including NZ on Air, The NZ Film Commission and Screen Australia. Harley holds a PhD in literature from The University of Auckland, supervised by C.K. Stead and W.H. (Bill) Pearson.

**AROHA HARRIS**  
NEW ZEALAND



Dr Aroha Harris (Ngāpuhi, Te Rarawa) is a member of the Waitangi Tribunal and lectures in history at The University of Auckland. She is co-author of landmark publication *Tangata Whenua: An Illustrated History* which portrays the sweep of Māori history from its Pacific origins to the twenty-first century.

**NATALIE HAYNES**  
ENGLAND



A past star of the Cambridge Footlights, former comedian and classicist Natalie Haynes is the author of *The Ancient Guide To Modern Life* (2010) and debut novel *The Amber Fury* (2014). She writes for *The Independent* and the *Guardian*, is a regular broadcaster and has judged both the Booker and the Orange Prizes for fiction. [nataliehaynes.com](http://nataliehaynes.com)

**BILL HAYTON  
ENGLAND**



BBC journalist Bill Hayton is the author of two important books on Southeast Asia: *South China Sea: The Struggle for Power in Asia* (2014) which was nominated as one of *The Economist's* top books of last year, and *Vietnam: Rising Dragon* (2010). Hayton has also contributed to the *South China Morning Post*, *National Interest* and *The Diplomat*. [billhayton.com](http://billhayton.com)  
[@bill\\_hayton](https://twitter.com/bill_hayton)

**WHITI HEREAKA  
NEW ZEALAND**



Playwright and novelist Whiti Hereaka has a Masters from the IIML and is an alumnus of the University of Iowa's International Writing Programme. She is the author of *The Graphologist's Apprentice* (2007) and young adult novel *Bugs* (2014). [@WHereaka](https://twitter.com/WHereaka)

**GRAEME HILL  
NEW ZEALAND**



Graeme Hill is the host of *The Weekend Variety Wireless* on Radio Live, an aural smorgasbord of science and arts. He is passionate about NZ wildlife, a noted musician, founding member of the Able Tasmans and a boxing fan. He was part of the infamous *Sports Café* team and has written for *Eating Media Lunch* and the hugely popular *Birdland*.

**JULIE HILL  
NEW ZEALAND**



Julie Hill is a writer, documentary-maker and producer of music programmes for Radio New Zealand. Two of her plays have been nominated for Best NZ Play at the Chapman Tripp Theatre Awards and in 2014 she published the story collection *Shamejoy*.

**PETER HOLLAND  
UNITED STATES**



Renowned Shakespeare scholar and author Peter Holland teaches at the University of Notre Dame and is an internationally recognised expert in performance-based criticism. He is in New Zealand as the 2015 The University of Auckland Alice Griffin Fellow in Shakespeare Studies.

**TOMMY HONEY  
NEW ZEALAND**



Tommy Honey is a director, designer, educational manager, architectural critic, cultural commentator and occasional architect. He writes for *Architecture New Zealand*, is a regular contributor to RNZ's Nine-to-Noon and is the Dean of Whitecliffe College of Art and Design. [@tommyhoney](https://twitter.com/tommyhoney)

**ANTHONY HOROWITZ  
ENGLAND**



Anthony Horowitz's books include two Sherlock Holmes novels – *The House of Silk* (2011) and *Moriarty* (2014) – and the bestselling teen spy series *Alex Rider*. Next up is an Ian Fleming estate-approved Bond novel. Horowitz's writing credits also include *Agatha Christie's Poirot*, *Midsomer Murders* and *Foyle's War* for television. [anthonyhorowitz.com](http://anthonyhorowitz.com)  
[@AnthonyHorowitz](https://twitter.com/AnthonyHorowitz)

**RACHEL HOUSE  
NEW ZEALAND**



Arts Foundation Laureate Rachel House is an accomplished actor and director who has performed in productions from contemporary Māori plays to Shakespeare, in New Zealand and internationally, and appeared in feature films including *Boy*, *Whale Rider*, *White Lies* and *Hope and Wire*.

**KATHY HUNTER  
NEW ZEALAND**



Kathy Hunter has reviewed books, sold books and has recently been writing about books for such NZ institutions as *Metro* and the Booksellers Association. She lives with various animals, teenagers and a motorcycle-obsessed husband on thirteen acres in the Whangaripo Valley, an hour north of Auckland.

**MICHAEL HURST  
NEW ZEALAND**



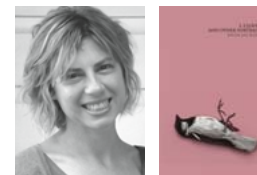
Actor / director Michael Hurst's range extends from Shakespeare to musical theatre and pantomime. He has worked with every major New Zealand theatre company and has screen credits for more than 50 roles, including Iolaus in *Hercules: The Legendary Journey*. [michaelhurst.co.nz](http://michaelhurst.co.nz)  
[@MichaelHurstNow](https://twitter.com/MichaelHurstNow)

**WITI IHIMAERA  
NEW ZEALAND**



One of New Zealand's most celebrated writers, Witi Ihimaera is the bestselling author of 15 novels including *The Matriarch* (1986), *The Whale Rider* (1987) and *Bulibasha* (1994), and seven short story collections. 2014 saw the publication of *Māori Boy: A Memoir of Childhood*, the first volume of his memoir.

**ANNA JACKSON  
NEW ZEALAND**



Associate Professor Anna Jackson teaches English Literature at Victoria University of Wellington and is the author of six collections of poems, the most recent of which, *I, Clodia* (2014), includes poems inspired by the story of Clodia Metelli and her relations with her paramour Catullus.

**STEPHANIE JOHNSON  
NEW ZEALAND**



Stephanie Johnson has published novels, short story collections and poetry, and has also written for the stage and screen. She is a founding trustee of the Auckland Writers Festival. Her new book *The Writers Festival* (2015) follows on from *The Writing Class* (2013).

**DAMON KEEN  
NEW ZEALAND**



Cartoonist and graphic designer Damon Keen is the editor of the New Zealand comic anthology, *Faction*, and co-founder of Earth's End, a boutique graphic novel publishing house. *Faction Comics* has recently released a special comic collection called *High Water*, which explores the challenges of climate change for New Zealand.

**ANNE KENNEDY  
NEW ZEALAND**



Anne Kennedy is a novelist, poet and screenwriter whose work includes the award-winning poetry collection *The Darling North* (2012) and the novel *The Last Days of the National Costume* (2013) which is shortlisted for the 2015 IMPAC Dublin Literary Award. She teaches fiction and screenwriting at the Manukau Institute of Technology.

**ZOHAB ZEE KHAN  
AUSTRALIA**



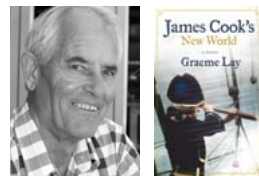
Zohab Zee Khan is the current Australian Poetry Slam Champion, as well as a didgeridoo player, harmonica beat-boxer and hip-hop artist. He has toured Australia, Asia, the Middle East and Europe to sell-out crowds and has just published his first book, *I write – half a decade of slam poetry*. [@Zohabk](https://twitter.com/Zohabk)

**RACHAEL KING  
NEW ZEALAND**



Rachael King is the Literary Director of WORD Christchurch and the author of *Magpie Hall* (2009), *The Sound of Butterflies* (2006) and *Red Rocks* (2012). In between programming literary events, she is writing two novels, one for adults and one for children.

**GRAEME LAY  
NEW ZEALAND**



Writer and editor Graeme Lay is one of our most accomplished crafters of fiction and non-fiction for adults and young adults. His latest fiction project has been a trilogy based on the life of Captain Cook which he completes this year with the publication of *James Cook's Lost World*.

**HELEN LEACH  
NEW ZEALAND**



Helen Leach is an Emeritus Professor of Anthropology at the University of Otago with a particular interest in the evolution of human diet and the history of horticulture. She has written a number of books including *The Pavlova Story* (2008) which was a Montana NZ Book Awards shortlisted title and *Kitchens: The New Zealand Kitchen in the 20th Century* (2014).

**NICOLA LEGAT  
NEW ZEALAND**



Nicola Legat is one of this country's most respected publishers and editors. She is former Publishing Director of Random House (NZ), Chair of the New Zealand Book Awards Charitable Trust Board, Deputy Chair of the Auckland Writers Festival and Manager of the New Zealand architecture exhibition at the 2016 Venice Architecture Biennale.

**DAVID LONG  
NEW ZEALAND**



Composer, producer and musician David Long is currently Composer-in-Residence at the NZ School of Music. He was a founding member of *The Mutton Birds* and composes for contemporary dance and film, including Peter Jackson's films of the last decade. He performed in the 2002 NZIAF production of *The World's Wife*. [davidlong.co.nz](http://davidlong.co.nz)

**NIC LOW  
NEW ZEALAND / AUSTRALIA**



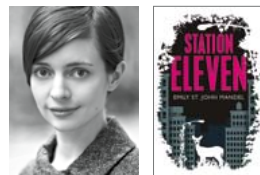
Christchurch-born, Melbourne-based Nic Low is a writer of Ngāi Tahu and European descent whose work has appeared in the *Big Issue*, *Griffith Review* and *Art Monthly*. His first book *Arms Race* (2014) is a collection of short stories. [dislocated.org](http://dislocated.org)

**HELEN MACDONALD  
ENGLAND**



Naturalist and University of Cambridge research scholar Helen Macdonald won the Samuel Johnson Prize and the Costa Book Award in 2014 for her memoir *H is for Hawk*. The book, which recounts the year Macdonald spent training a goshawk in the wake of her father's death, was hailed as a triumph and was a *Sunday Times* bestseller. [fretmarks.blogspot.com](http://fretmarks.blogspot.com) [@HelenJMacdonald](https://twitter.com/HelenJMacdonald)

**EMILY ST. JOHN MANDEL  
CANADA / UNITED STATES**



Emily St. John Mandel is a writer for online magazine *The Millions*, and the author of four novels: *Last Night in Montreal* (2009), *The Singer's Gun* (2010), *The Lola Quartet* (2012) and 2014 National Book Award finalist *Station Eleven*. Her essays and short fiction have been anthologised in many collections. [emilymandel.com](http://emilymandel.com) [@EmilyMandel](https://twitter.com/EmilyMandel)

**TOBY MANHIRE  
NEW ZEALAND**



Toby Manhire writes a weekly column in *The New Zealand Herald*, the *New Zealand Listener's* Internaut column, and contributes to the *Guardian* where he worked from 2000 to 2010. He was the editor of *The Arab Spring: Rebellion, Revolution and a New World Order* (2002). [@toby\\_etc](https://twitter.com/toby_etc)

**PHILLIP MANN  
ENGLAND / NEW ZEALAND**



Science fiction author Phillip Mann set up New Zealand's first Drama Studies position at Victoria University in 1970. He has worked internationally, including at Beijing's New China News Agency, and has published ten novels including the Arthur C Clarke Award shortlisted and IMPAC Dublin Literary Award longlisted novel *The Disestablishment of Paradise* (2014).

**ALISON MAU  
NEW ZEALAND**



Well-known broadcaster Alison Mau is the co-presenter of Radio Live's midday talkback show. Previously she was co-host of nightly current affairs programme *Seven Sharp* and weekly consumer affairs programme *Fair Go*. [@Alisonmau](https://twitter.com/Alisonmau)

**NOELLE MCCARTHY  
IRELAND / NEW ZEALAND**



Irish broadcaster Noelle McCarthy hosts the Summer Noelle show for Radio New Zealand as well as standing in for regular presenters on other RNZ programmes. She is an interviewer-at-large for *The New Zealand Herald's* *Viva* and she writes a books column for *Metro*. [@noellevivien](https://twitter.com/noellevivien)

**GREG MCGEE  
NEW ZEALAND**



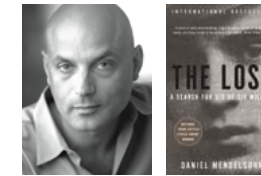
Greg McGee wrote the classic New Zealand play *Foreskin's Lament* (1980), bestselling biography *Richie McCaw: The Open Side* (2012), novel *Love and Money* (2012) and the upcoming title *The Antipodeans*. He has also published as crime writer Alix Bosco.

**RAYMOND MCGRATH  
NEW ZEALAND**



Raymond McGrath is an award-winning animation director, animator, illustrator, designer and writer who has been working in children's television and advertising for nearly 20 years. He is the author of many popular titles including *It's Not a Monster It's Me!* (2012) and *Have You Seen a Monster?* (2014). [theonetrickpony.net](http://theonetrickpony.net)

**DANIEL MENDELSON  
UNITED STATES**



Daniel Mendelsohn, an award-winning memoirist, essayist, and translator, has been described by *The New York Times* as "our most irresistible critic". A frequent contributor to *The New Yorker*, he is the author of bestseller *The Lost: A Search for Six of Six Million* (2006), two essay collections including *Waiting for the Barbarians: Essays From the Classics to Pop Culture* (2012), and an acclaimed two-volume translation of Cavafy's poetry. [danielmendelsohn.com](http://danielmendelsohn.com) [@DMendelsohn1960](https://twitter.com/DMendelsohn1960)

**COURTNEY SINA MEREDITH  
NEW ZEALAND**



Courtney Sina Meredith was the 2011 Bleibtreu Berlin writer-in-residence and launched her first book of poetry at the Frankfurt Bookfair 2012. In 2014 she was invited to the House of Lords by the BBC and her play *Rushing Dolls* was selected for Silo Theatre's 2015 Working Titles programme.

**JUDY MILLAR  
NEW ZEALAND**



Artist Judy Millar represented New Zealand at the 2009 Venice Biennale and has participated in numerous group exhibitions in both New Zealand and Europe, garnering critical acclaim. She has studios in Auckland and Berlin. [judymillar.com](http://judymillar.com)

**DAVID MITCHELL  
ENGLAND / IRELAND**



Two-time Booker shortlisted David Mitchell is the author of novels including *Cloud Atlas* (2004), *Black Swan Green* (2006) and *The Thousand Autumns of Jacob de Zoet* (2010). He was named one of Britain's best young novelists in 2003 and one of *Time's* 100 Most Influential People. His latest novel is the Booker longlisted *The Bone Clocks*. Supported by Platinum Patrons Carol & Gerard Curry. [davidmitchellbooks.com](http://davidmitchellbooks.com) [@david\\_mitchell](https://twitter.com/david_mitchell)

**JIM MORA  
NEW ZEALAND**



Award-winning broadcaster Jim Mora hosts *The Panel* and co-hosts *Checkpoint* for Radio NZ National. He has also presented and co-written everything from documentaries to reality television, including the popular *Massey Ferguson* and *Stains Down Drains* TV series.

**PAULA MORRIS  
NEW ZEALAND**



Paula Morris (Ngati Wai) teaches Creative Writing at The University of Auckland. She is the author of many award-winning books and in March 2015 was shortlisted for the 2015 *Sunday Times* EFG Private Bank Short Story Award. Her next novel for young adults, *The Eternal City*, will be published in 2015. [paula-morris.com](http://paula-morris.com)

**JESSE MULLIGAN**  
NEW ZEALAND



Jesse Mulligan is a writer, comedian and broadcaster. A regular columnist for *Metro* and *Sunday Star-Times*, he is host of TV One's *Best Bits* and presents occasional shows on Radio New Zealand National. He's also a published author with his 2013 book *How to Speak New Zenglish* consistently appearing in clearance bins around the country.

@Jessemulligan

**HARUKI MURAKAMI**  
JAPAN



One of the world's greatest living novelists, Haruki Murakami has been translated into more than 50 languages and sold millions of copies outside his native country with books including *Norwegian Wood* (1987), *The Wind-Up Bird Chronicle* (1994-1995), *Kafka on the Shore* (2002), and *1Q84* (2009-2010). He has been critically acclaimed and honoured, with awards including the Frank O'Connor International Short Story Award (2006), the Franz Kafka Prize (2006), the Jerusalem Prize (2009), and the Welt Literature Prize (2014). His latest novel *Colorless Tsukuru Tazaki and His Years of Pilgrimage* (2014) sold one million copies in a month and is a *New York Times* Bestseller. Supported by Platinum Patrons Josephine & Ross Green. [harukimurakami.com](http://harukimurakami.com)

**ANTONIA MURPHY**  
UNITED STATES / NEW ZEALAND



Antonia Murphy is an award-winning magazine journalist, author and adventurer. A San Francisco native, she and her family sailed off in 2005, eventually settling in New Zealand. *Dirty Chick: Adventures of an Unlikely Farmer* (2015) is her debut memoir. @AntoniaMurphyNZ

**KAREN NIMMO**  
NEW ZEALAND



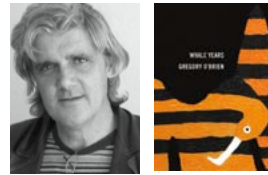
Karen Nimmo is a registered clinical psychologist specialising in high performance sport, seeing both the joys and the carnage. She is a former print media journalist and a regular media commentator. Nimmo has written two books: *My Bum Looks Brilliant In This* (*The One True Secret of Lasting Weight Loss*) and *Fish Pie Is Worse Than Cancer*.

**CHRISTINE O'BRIEN**  
NEW ZEALAND



Christine O'Brien was the marketing manager of Auckland University Press for 14 years and is a champion of New Zealand literature, and poetry in particular. She has an honours degree in English Literature and a law degree, and is a member of the Mangere-Otahuhu Local Board, where her portfolios include libraries.

**GREG O'BRIEN**  
NEW ZEALAND



Poet, essayist, editor, artist and 2015 Stout Memorial Fellow at Victoria University, Greg O'Brien is an energetic presence in art and literature and has published many books. He co-ordinated the 'Kermadec' art exhibition which has toured locally and internationally and is currently at the Tjibaou Centre, New Caledonia.

**BEN OKRI**  
NIGERIA / ENGLAND



Booker Prizewinner Ben Okri OBE is the author of eight novels including *The Famished Road* (1991), *In Arcadia* (2002) and *The Age of Magic* (2014), as well as collections of poetry, short stories and essays. His work has been translated into 26 languages and he has garnered numerous awards and honours. Okri is a Vice-President of the English Centre of International PEN. Supported by Platinum Patron The James Wallace Arts Trust. [benokri.co.uk](http://benokri.co.uk) @benokri

**SAM ORCHARD**  
NEW ZEALAND



Sam Orchard is a queer transman who's been drawing comics since he was a little girl. He draws an autobio webcomic called *Rooster Tails*, and has recently published the first three issues of *Family Portraits* – a collection of short comics about different queer and trans New Zealanders. [roostertailscomic.com](http://roostertailscomic.com) @Sam-Orchard

**JENNY PALMER**  
NEW ZEALAND



Poet and artist Jenny Palmer runs A Little Ink, producing poetry and picture art for young people. She released her first book, *A Little ABC Book*, in 2014 and regularly tours libraries and preschool centres engaging children with rhythm and rhyme. [alittleink.co.nz](http://alittleink.co.nz)

**MARY PETERS**  
NEW ZEALAND



Mary Peters became a Judge of the High Court, New Zealand in 2010. She began practising law in 1985, working overseas for several years before returning to New Zealand in 1995 and was a partner in Russell McVeagh before going to the Bar in 2004.

**DAV PILKEY / CAPTAIN UNDERPANTS**  
UNITED STATES



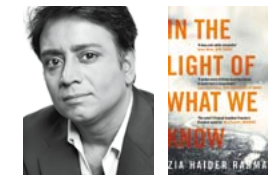
Dav Pilkey is one of the world's bestselling writers and illustrators for children. His *Captain Underpants* series has sold over 70 million copies worldwide. Pilkey is also the creator of numerous other popular series including *Adventures of Super Diaper Baby*, *Adventures of Ook and Gluk*, and *Ricky Ricotta and the Dumb Bunnies*. [pilkey.com](http://pilkey.com)

**MARGARET POINTER**  
NEW ZEALAND



History and geography teacher Margaret Pointer was inspired to document the history of Niue after living there in the 1990s with her husband who was NZ High Commissioner. The ground-breaking result is newly published *Niue 1774-1974* for which she received a Copyright Licensing NZ award in 2013.

**ZIA HAIDER RAHMAN**  
BANGLADESH / ENGLAND



Zia Haider Rahman was born in Bangladesh, educated in the UK, Germany and the US, and has worked as a Wall Street banker and as an international human-rights lawyer. His debut novel, *In the Light of What We Know* (2014) was published to international critical acclaim. Supported by Platinum Patrons Erika & Robin Congreve. @Ziahaiderahman

**BILL RALSTON**  
NEW ZEALAND



Bill Ralston has been a journalist and broadcaster in television, radio, print and online, including as news and current affairs head at Television New Zealand and as editor of *Metro*. He currently runs a communications company and writes a column for the *New Zealand Listener*. @BillyRalston

**RENÉE**  
NEW ZEALAND



Feminist playwright, memoirist, poet, blogger and novelist Renée is one of this country's foremost social history documenters, in work including seminal plays *Setting the Table* (1981) and *Wednesday to Come* (1985). She is currently writing a trilogy of novels and publishes a chapter a week on [WednesdayBusk.com](http://WednesdayBusk.com)

**PATRICK REYNOLDS**  
NEW ZEALAND



Patrick Reynolds teaches at The University of Auckland's School of Architecture and blogs on urban planning website [transportblog.co.nz](http://transportblog.co.nz). He is one of this country's leading architecture and visual art photographers and an exhibiting artist. [patrickreynolds.co.nz](http://patrickreynolds.co.nz) @pv\_reynolds

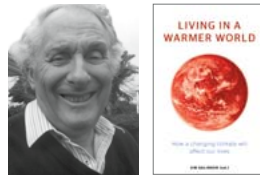


**CATHERINE ROBERTSON  
NEW ZEALAND**



Catherine Robertson has just published her fourth novel, *The Hiding Places* (2015), following three New Zealand #1 bestsellers. She writes monthly contemporary fiction reviews for the *New Zealand Listener*, appears regularly on Radio New Zealand's *The Panel* and chairs the Wellington branch of the New Zealand Society of Authors.

**JIM SALINGER  
NEW ZEALAND**



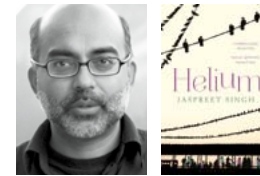
Climate change scientist Dr Jim Salinger has been involved for 35 years in climate change research and analysis. He has won awards for his work, including the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize as a contributor to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. He is editor of *Living in a Warmer World* (2013).

**ANT SANG  
NEW ZEALAND**



Ant Sang is a designer and cartoonist and the author of classic local graphic series *The Dharma Punks* (2014) and *Shaolin Burning* (2011), which spent ten weeks on the Booksellers' Top Ten List. He has also won awards for his work as a designer on the hit animated television series *bro' Town*. [antsang.co.nz](http://antsang.co.nz)

**JASPREET SINGH  
INDIA / CANADA**



Jaspreet Singh's debut novel *Chef* was an international prize finalist and a 2010 *Observer* 'Book of the Year'. *Helium*, his critically acclaimed second novel, was published in 2013. *The Financial Times* called it a 'profound meditation on historical forgetting'. He is currently a Massey University writer-in-residence [jaspreetsinghauthor.com](http://jaspreetsinghauthor.com)

**ANNA SMAILL  
NEW ZEALAND**



Poet and novelist Anna Smail has published one volume of poetry, *The Violinist in Spring* (2005), and has had poems published and anthologised in New Zealand and the United Kingdom. Her debut novel, *The Chimes*, was published internationally in 2015. [@AnnaESmail](https://twitter.com/AnnaESmail)

**STEPHEN STRATFORD  
NEW ZEALAND**



Author, editor and manuscript assessor Stephen Stratford has been a judge of the Wattie, Montana and NZ Post Book Awards. He has written more than a dozen books and has edited many bestsellers and prize-winners. He blogs at [quoteunquotenz.blogspot.co.nz](http://quoteunquotenz.blogspot.co.nz) [@StephenStra](https://twitter.com/StephenStra)

**VICTOR RODGER  
NEW ZEALAND**



Victor Rodger is an award-winning playwright of Samoan and Scottish descent who has been crafting drama since the 1995 play *Sons*. Most recently *Black Faggot* was a sell-out at the 2014 Edinburgh Fringe, and *Girl on a Corner* premiered at the 2015 Auckland Fringe.

**FIONA SAMUEL  
NEW ZEALAND**



Fiona Samuel is an award-winning writer, director and actor whose work for screen and stage includes *Piece of My Heart*, *The Marching Girls*, *Lashings Of Whipped Cream*, *Consent – The Louise Nicholas Story* and *Bliss*. Samuel originated and performed in *The World's Wife* at the NZIAF in 2002. [fionasamuel.com](http://fionasamuel.com)

**IAIN SHARP  
NEW ZEALAND**



Poet and librarian Iain Sharp emigrated from Glasgow when he was eight and works as a manuscripts librarian at the Auckland Central Public Library. He has published four volumes of poetry and books on Charles Heaphy and the treasures of Auckland's libraries.

**NALINI SINGH  
NEW ZEALAND**



Nalini Singh is the *New York Times* bestselling author of the *Psy-Changeling*, *Guild Hunter*, and *Rock Kiss* series. Born in Fiji and raised in New Zealand, she was first published in 2003. Her books have been translated into over twenty languages worldwide, including German, French, Japanese and Turkish. [nalinisingh.com](http://nalinisingh.com) [@nalinisingh](https://twitter.com/nalinisingh)

**ZARA STANHOPE  
NEW ZEALAND**



Zara Stanhope is the Principal Curator at the Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki and Adjunct Professor at AUT University. She has a PhD from the Australian National University and a distinguished background as an art museum curator, art writer and programme manager. [@ZaraStanhope](https://twitter.com/ZaraStanhope)

**FIONA SUSSMAN  
SOUTH AFRICA / NEW ZEALAND**



Fiona Sussman published her debut novel *Shifting Colours* in 2014. Originally from South Africa, she grew up in a publishing family and trained as a doctor, helping to set up Auckland Charity Hospital before leaving medicine to become a full time writer. [fionasussman.co.nz](http://fionasussman.co.nz) [@FionaSussman](https://twitter.com/FionaSussman)

**DAMON SALESA  
NEW ZEALAND**



Associate Professor of Pacific Studies at The University of Auckland, Damon Saleasa was the first person of Pacific Island descent to be a Rhodes Scholar. He is author of the Ernest Scott prize-winning *Racial Crossings* (2012) and was a consultant for the Auckland Museum's Entangled Islands exhibition. [damonsalesa.wordpress.com](http://damonsalesa.wordpress.com) [@DamonSaleasa](https://twitter.com/DamonSaleasa)

**ELSPETH SANDYS  
NEW ZEALAND**



The author of eight novels, including Orange Prize finalist *River Lines* (1995), and two collections of short stories, Elspeth Sandys has written extensively for the BBC and Radio NZ. In 2014 she published her memoir *What Lies Beneath* about the search for her birth parents.

**DEBORAH SHEPARD  
NEW ZEALAND**



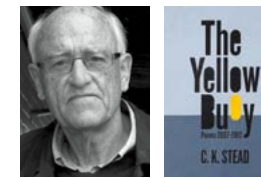
Deborah Shepard is a biographer, life writing mentor and teacher with a PhD in Film Studies. Her books have been critically acclaimed for documenting the contribution of women to the arts in New Zealand. Her latest work is *Giving Yourself to Life: A Journal of Pain, Hope and Renewal* (2015). [thejournal.co.nz](http://thejournal.co.nz)

**DAVID SLACK  
NEW ZEALAND**



David Slack is an author, satirist, radio host, commentator and speechwriter. His creative outlets include [publicaddress.net](http://publicaddress.net), Radio New Zealand's *The Panel*, TV3's *Firstline*, Radio Live and *Metro*. [@DavidSlack](https://twitter.com/DavidSlack)

**C.K. STEAD  
NEW ZEALAND**



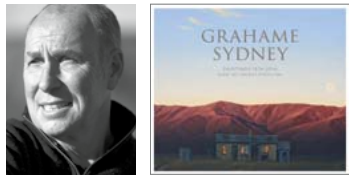
Emeritus Professor C. K. Stead is a poet, novelist, essayist and literary critic, who has been one of New Zealand's leading literary figures for more than half a century. He taught at The University of Auckland for 20 years and, in 2007, was admitted to the Order of New Zealand, this country's highest accolade.

**SALLY SUTTON  
NEW ZEALAND**



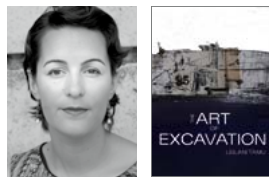
*Roadworks* (NZ Post Book Award winner 2009), *Construction* (2014), and *Catch That Plane* (2014) are just some of the adored books written by Sally Sutton, a children's author who has been widely published since 2006, including in the United Kingdom and the United States. [sallysutton.co.nz](http://sallysutton.co.nz)

**GRAHAME SYDNEY  
NEW ZEALAND**



A major figure in New Zealand art for more than forty years with work held in international and local collections, Grahame Sydney is perhaps best known for his quintessential paintings of Central Otago. He has also authored or been the subject of six books, most recently *Grahame Sydney Paintings 1974–2014*.

**LEILANI TAMU  
NEW ZEALAND**



Leilani Tamu is a poet, social commentator, historian and former New Zealand diplomat. In 2013 she was the Fulbright/Creative New Zealand Writer in Residence at the University of Hawai'i in Mānoa. Her first book *The Art of Excavation* uses poetry as a means to discuss political, historical and contemporary issues of relevance to the Pacific region.  
[@LeilaniTamu](#)

**ROSABEL TAN  
NEW ZEALAND**



Rosabel Tan is founding editor at *The Pantograph Punch*, an online arts and culture publication fostering young New Zealand writers. Her work has been published in *Hue & Cry*, *Sport, Metro*, *Wireless* and *The Spinoff*.  
[pantograph-punch.com](#)  
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**GRACE TAYLOR  
NEW ZEALAND**



Founder of the Rising Voices Youth Poetry Movement and Niu Navigations, Grace Taylor is the author of *Afakasi Speaks* (2014) and the recipient of a Creative New Zealand Arts Pasifika Award. In 2015 she premieres her spokenword poetry piece *My Own Darling* for Auckland Theatre Company.

**PHILIP TEMPLE  
NEW ZEALAND**



Philip Temple is the author of more than 40 works of fiction and non-fiction. His achievements have been recognised by a Prime Minister's Award and an ONZM. He is also an activist in environmental causes and electoral issues and his novel *MISTORY* paints a dystopian view of New Zealand's future.

**EDWIN THUMBOO  
SINGAPORE**



Poet and academic Edwin Thumboo has been a pioneer of English literature in Singapore and is often dubbed Singapore's unofficial poet laureate. He is the author of poetry collections including *Rib of Earth* (1956), *Gods Can Die* (1977), *A Third Map* (1993), *Friend: Poems* (2003) and *Still Travelling* (2008).  
*Supported by Asia New Zealand Foundation.*

**KIM THÚY  
VIETNAM / CANADA**



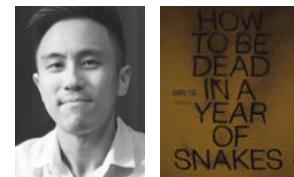
Born in Saigon, Kim Thúy came to Canada as a child refugee in the 1970s. She has worked as a lawyer, interpreter and restaurateur in Canada for many years. Thúy's debut novel *Ru* (2009) won the Governor General Award and sold to more than 20 countries. Her second novel *Mãn* was published in 2014. *Supported by Canada Council for The Arts.*

**TOURETTES  
NEW ZEALAND**



Tourettes is a poet and rapper whose album *Who Said You Can't Dance To Misery?* received four and five star reviews in New Zealand's top music publications. His latest album is *Tiger Belly*. He is currently working on a children's book and a collection of poetry. [tourettesone.bandcamp.com](#)

**CHRIS TSE  
NEW ZEALAND**



Chris Tse's poetry and short fiction has been published in numerous journals, magazines and anthologies including *Sport*, *Landfall*, *the New Zealand Listener* and *AUP New Poets 4* (2011). His first poetry collection, *How to be Dead in a Year of Snakes* (2014) revisits the murder of a Cantonese goldminer in Wellington in 1905.  
[@chrisjtse](#)

**BRIDGET VAN DER ZIJPP  
NEW ZEALAND**



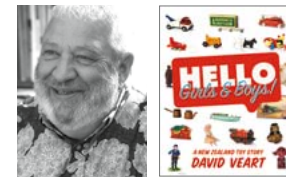
Bridget van der Zijpp's first novel *Misconduct* (2009) was shortlisted for the Commonwealth Writers' Best First Book Prize and the Montana Book Awards Best First Book of Fiction. Her second, *In the Neighbourhood of Fame*, is published in April 2015.

**REBECCA VAUGHAN  
ENGLAND**



Actor and playwright Rebecca Vaughan has appeared in film, television and on stage in the UK and overseas. Her lauded theatre work includes productions of *Austen's Women*, *I, Elizabeth*, *Female Gothic* and *Dalloway*, based on Virginia Woolf's modernist masterpiece *Mrs Dalloway*.  
[dyadproductions.com](#) [@dyadproductions](#)

**DAVE VEART  
NEW ZEALAND**



Writer, presenter and consulting archaeologist Dave Veart trained as an anthropologist and worked as a Department of Conservation historian for more than 25 years. He is an enthusiast in many fields with his third book, *Hello Girls and Boys* (2014) recounting the history of New Zealand toys.

**ZAK WAIPARA  
NEW ZEALAND**



Former *The New Zealand Herald* graphic artist Zak Waipara is on the faculty of Animation College, and has worked as a designer on Māori Television's children's show *Miharo*. He has also illustrated comics and a range of books and created music video animations.  
[zakwaipara.carbonmade.com](#)

**DAVID WALLIAMS  
ENGLAND**



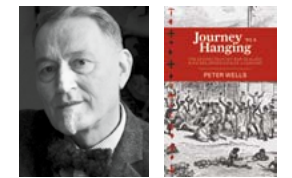
Author, actor and television presenter David Walliams is the biggest UK children's author to debut this century – his books have been translated into 40 languages and have sold over four million copies in the UK alone. They include *Mr Stink*, *Gangsta Granny*, *Ratburger* and *Awful Auntie*. He co-created and starred in *Little Britain* and currently appears as a judge on *Britain's Got Talent* and in *Big School*.  
*Supported by Harper Collins.*  
[worldofdavidwalliams.com](#)  
[@davidwalliams](#)

**IAN WEDDE  
NEW ZEALAND**



Ian Wedde is a widely published poet, novelist, critic and curator, a past Poet Laureate and the former head of art and visual culture at the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa. In 2014, on his return from the Berlin residency, he published the memoir *The Grass Catcher*. [@IanWedde](#)

**PETER WELLS  
NEW ZEALAND**



An acclaimed writer, film writer and director, Peter Wells is a co-founder and trustee of the Auckland Writers Festival. His writing across fiction, non-fiction and screen has won many awards including the New Zealand Book Award for Fiction and the Montana New Zealand Book Award. In 2014 he published *Journey to a Hanging*. [peterwellsblog.com](#)

**PHILIPPA WERRY  
NEW ZEALAND**



Philippa Werry writes for children and young adults and reviews for adults. Her work has been broadcast on National Radio, anthologised and shortlisted for awards, including the New Zealand Post Children's Book Awards (2009 & 2014) and the 2014 LIANZA awards.  
[philippawerry.co.nz](#)

**MICHAEL WILLIAMS**  
AUSTRALIA



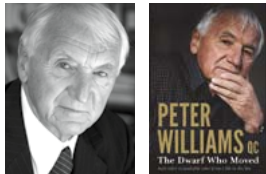
Michael Williams is the director of The Wheeler Centre, Melbourne's Centre for Books, Writing and Ideas which presents over 200 events annually. He has also worked in publishing and broadcasting in both Melbourne and New York. [wheelercentre.com](http://wheelercentre.com) @mmccwill

**SIMON WILSON**  
NEW ZEALAND



Simon Wilson is the editor of *Metro*. He's an award-winning feature writer, a blogger at [metromag.co.nz](http://metromag.co.nz) and a literary and theatre critic. Simon has also been the chief subeditor of *New Zealand Listener* and editor of *Consumer* and *Cuisine*. His novel *The Age of Light* was published in 1994. @simonbwilson

**PETER WILLIAMS**  
NEW ZEALAND



Sir Peter Williams QC is one of New Zealand's pre-eminent barristers. He has appeared in some of the country's most celebrated and controversial trials, including the 'Mr Asia' case, the Arthur Allan Thomas appeals and the Thomas Royal Commission of Enquiry. He is a leading advocate for penal reform and published his memoir *The Dwarf Who Moved* in 2014.

**TIM WINTON**  
AUSTRALIA



Tim Winton's first novel, *An Open Swimmer*, which he wrote at 19, won the Australian/Vogel Award in 1982. Since then he has published 25 books including *Cloudstreet* (1991), *Dirt Music* (2001), *Breath* (2008) and *Eyrice* (2013). He has twice been shortlisted for the Booker Prize and has been translated into 28 languages.

**JANET WILSON**  
NEW ZEALAND



Janet Wilson worked as a journalist for 31 years in radio, newspapers and television in Australia, New Zealand and the UK. These days she runs her own public relations company, Deadline Ltd, with her husband Bill Ralston. @bespokemedia

**XINRAN**  
CHINA / ENGLAND



Xinran is a renowned journalist, author and advocate for women's issues perhaps best known for her book *The Good Women of China* (2002). Originally a popular radio broadcaster in China she now lives and works in London. Her latest book is *Buy Me The Sky* (2015) an examination of the Chinese generation brought up under China's one-child policy. Supported by Penguin Random House and Asia New Zealand Foundation.

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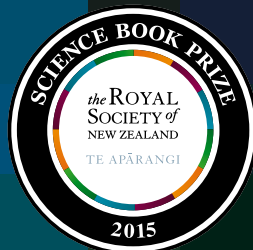
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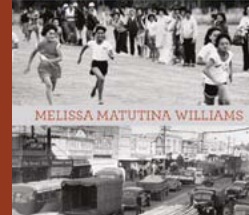
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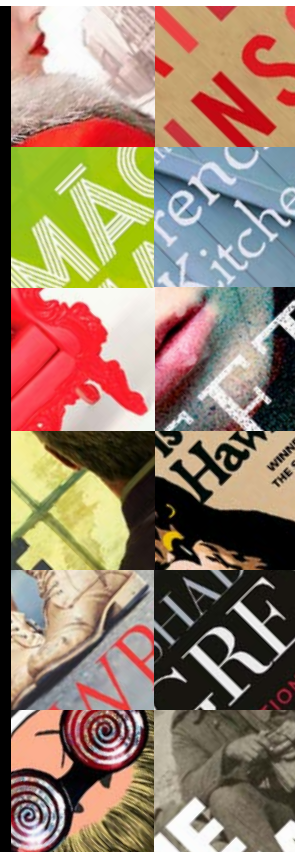


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