SYDNEY



WRITERS' FESTIVAL

SATURDAY 25 MAY

LIVE & LOCAL

LIVE STREAM SCHEDULE 23–26 MAY

SYDNEY WRITERS FESTIVAL LIVE & LOCAL

THURSDAY 23 MAY

10–11AM JULIA BAIRD: *BRIGHT SHINING*

Hear from broadcaster and *Phosphorescence* author Julia Baird, whose latest book, *Bright Shining*, is a beautiful, timely exploration of that most mysterious but necessary human quality: grace. With Jacqueline Maley.

12–1PM VIET THANH NGUYEN: A MAN OF TWO FACES

Hear celebrated author Viet Thanh Nguyen, hailed as "a conscience of American literature" (*The New Yorker*), discuss his new work with writer and broadcaster Benjamin Law.

2-3PM

SUZIE MILLER: PRIMA FACIE

Put the courts on trial with lawyer turned Olivier Award–winning playwright Suzie Miller as she discusses novelising her theatrical triumph about sexual assault cases with Nicole Abadee.

4-5PM

JULIAN BORGER: I SEEK A KIND PERSON

"I seek a kind person who will educate my intelligent boy, aged 11." An extraordinary 1938 personal advertisement that started Julian Borger's quest into his father's past and the story of Holocaust survival.

6-7PM

FANTASTICAL WORLDS

Imagine another world with popular fantasy authors Garth Nix (The Old Kingdom series), Shelley Parker-Chan (The Radiant Emperor duology) and Samantha Shannon (The Roots of Chaos series). Hosted by Aimée Lindorff.

FRIDAY 24 MAY

10-11AM

A.C. GRAYLING: THE MEANING OF LIFE IN A TECHNOLOGICAL AGE

The quest for a life worth living has been the business of philosophers for millennia. How can we pursue answers to life's big questions in an increasingly unstable technological age? Join pre-eminent philosopher A.C. Grayling for this special talk.

12-1PM

THE WAR ON JOURNALISTS

With conflict continuing in Ukraine, and the death toll of journalists in Gaza reaching alarming proportions, we look at the role of journalists in war. Featuring Julian Borger, John Lyons and Alisa Sopova. Hosted by Hamish Macdonald.

2-3PM

ABDULRAZAK GURNAH: *AFTERLIVES*

Explore his writing and unpack the legacies of empire with acclaimed writer Abdulrazak Gurnah, whose 10th novel explores displacement, loss and love during and after German occupation of East Africa. With Sisonke Msimang.

4-5PM

FEMINIST FIREBRANDS

Four waves in, the feminist fight for gender equality is far from over. Writers and activists Hannah Ferguson, Sisonke Msimang and Jennifer Robinson discuss the most pressing issues facing women today. With host Jo Dyer.

10-11AM

CELESTE NG: OUR MISSING HEARTS

Sit down with New York Times—bestselling author Celeste Ng, whose smash hit Little Fires Everywhere was adapted into a miniseries starring Reese Witherspoon. Listen in as she discusses her new dystopian novel with Claire Nichols.

12-1PM

TRENT DALTON: FROM ELI TO LOLA

Trent Dalton, award-winning author of *Boy Swallows Universe* (now a hit Netflix series) returns with *Lola in the Mirror*, a big, beautiful novel about grappling with our past, present, and possible futures.

2-3PM

STORYTELLERS: LEIGH SALES AND LISA MILLAR

ABC legends Leigh Sales (Storytellers) and Lisa Millar (Muster Dogs) unpack the craft of turning real life events into narrative, drawing from their recent books and a combined 65 years in journalism.

SUNDAY 26 MAY

10-11AM

BARRIE CASSIDY AND FRIENDS: STATE OF THE NATION

Relive all the thrills and spills of the year in Australian politics with veteran journo Barrie Cassidy and his hand-picked squad of the country's sharpest pundits: Bridget Brennan, Amy Remeikis, Niki Savva and Laura Tingle.

11.30AM – 12.30PM PLAY LIKE A GIRL

Cheer on the athletes kicking goals for women's sport. Olympic rugby gold medalist Chloe Dalton (*Girls Don't Play Sport*), Australia's most decorated cycling Olympian Anna Meares, and world champion proathlete Jana Pittman (*Enough*) chat with host Tracey Holmes.

1.30-2.30PM

DAVID WENGROW: THE DAWN OF EVERYTHING

Transform your understanding of human evolution with professor of archaeology David Wengrow, whose groundbreaking work with the late David Graeber overturns theories on the origins of farming, cities, democracy, slavery and civilisation itself. In conversation with ABC RN's Richard Fidler.