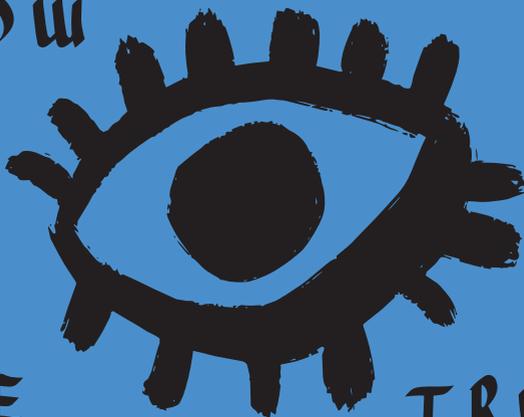


SYDNEY WRITERS'

SHOW

ME



THE

TRUTH

FESTIVAL

MAY 2026

LIVE & LOCAL

LIVE-STREAMED TO THE ROSS FAMILY STUDIO



GLASSHOUSE PORT MACQUARIE



MID NORTH COAST
CO-OPERATIVE
LIBRARY SERVICE

Principal Partner 2026



SYDNEY
WRITERS
FESTIVAL
LIVE & LOCAL

THURSDAY 21 MAY

LIVE & LOCAL

10-10.55AM



THE FUTURE OF DEMOCRACY: FIGHTING AUTHORITARIANISM WITH A.C. GRAYLING

Hear how Professor of Philosophy A.C. Grayling outlines the fragility of democracy in the face of rising authoritarianism in *For The People*, followed by a discussion chaired by Nick Bryant and Rosalind Dixon.

12-12.55PM



YANN MARTEL: SON OF NOBODY

Unravel ancient traditions of storytelling with the Booker Prize-winning author of *Life of Pi*, Yann Martel, as he discusses his new novel, *Son of Nobody*. With ABC Radio National's Claire Nichols.

2-2.55PM



STEPHANIE ALEXANDER: THE COOK'S COMPANION 30TH ANNIVERSARY

Hear from Australia's beloved chef Stephanie Alexander on the 30th anniversary of her essential kitchen resource and one of our favourite cookbooks, *The Cook's Companion*. With chef Adam Liaw.

4-4.55PM



BRINGING THE PAST TO LIFE

Sink into stories from near and far in this Festival favourite event with Robbie Arnott, Yann Martel and Tasma Walton, in conversation with ABC Radio National's Kate Evans.

6-6.55PM

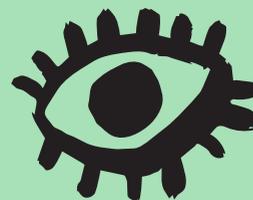


DAVID SZALAY: FLESH

Hear 2025 Booker Prize winner David Szalay trace the evolution of his singular, propulsive novel *Flesh* and the slowly unravelling life of its protagonist. With Michelle de Kretser.



SYDNEY WRITERS'



FESTIVAL 2026

10-10.55AM



BIG HISTORIES

Revisit the past to find solutions for the present and future with bestselling author Amitav Ghosh and existential risk researcher Luke Kemp, with host Clare Wright.

12-12.55PM



SUSAN CHOI: *FLASHLIGHT*

A young girl searches for light after a tragic loss.

The new novel from Susan Choi, multi-award-winning writer including the National Book Award and a Lambda Literary Award, is a sweeping, international family drama that was shortlisted for the 2025 Booker Prize.

Join Susan as she discusses relationships and alienation in her new novel, in conversation with Beejay Silcox.

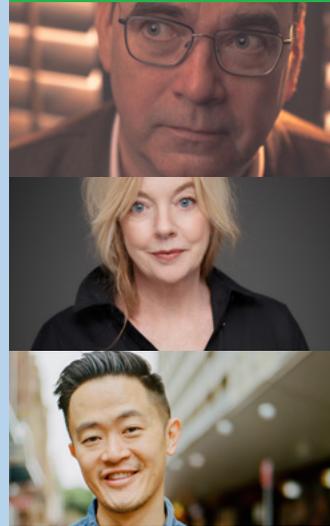
2-2.55PM



TRENT DALTON: *GRAVITY LET ME GO*

Join multi-award-winning writer Trent Dalton to discuss his latest novel, *Gravity Let Me Go*, and its themes of love, family, ambition and deception. In conversation with Cassie McCullagh.

4-4.55PM



GREAT ADAPTATIONS

Get behind-the-scenes insight into adapting stories from page to screen with writers Mick Herron (*Slow Horses*) and Suzie Miller (*Prima Facie*) in conversation with Benjamin Law.

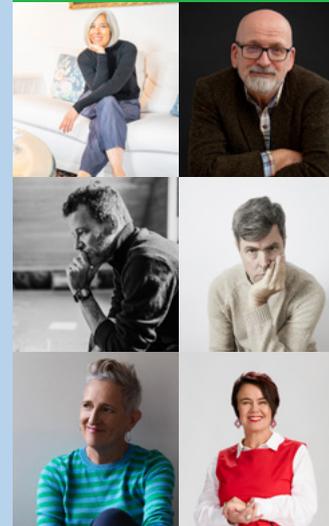
6-6.55PM



FLORENCE KNAPP: *THE NAMES*

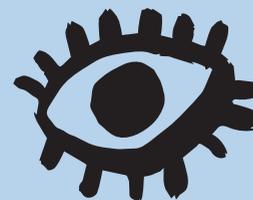
Explore the profound force of family and the life-defining act of naming a child with bestselling debut author of *The Names*, Florence Knapp, in conversation with ABC Radio National's Claire Nichols.

8-9.15PM



STATE OF THE ART: THE BOOKER PRIZE

Hear Booker Prize-winning and shortlisted writers read from their works and reflect on their journey to recognition. With Susan Choi, Roddy Doyle, Yann Martel, David Szalay, Charlotte Wood and host ABC Radio National's Kate Evans.



SATURDAY 23 MAY

LIVE & LOCAL

10-10.55AM



Amitav Ghosh in Conversation

Join acclaimed writer Amitav Ghosh to explore the themes of history, post-colonialism and environmentalism behind his rich body of work, including his new novel *Ghost-Eye*. In conversation with Michael Williams.

12-12.55PM



The Future of Democracy: Trump's America with Jon Soper

Join journalist and writer Jon Soper as he considers how to withstand the forces eroding democracies worldwide, in conversation with Nick Bryant and Rosalind Dixon.

4-4.55PM



Fantastical Worlds

Hear international bestselling writers Lev Grossman, R.F. Kuang and Garth Nix discuss their careers, their enthusiasm for fantasy and the genre's dedicated readers. With host Carody Culver.

6-6.55PM



Roddy Doyle in Conversation

Listen as Irish author of Booker Prize-winning *Paddy Clarke Ha Ha Ha*, Roddy Doyle, discusses his life's work and latest novel, *The Women Behind the Door*. With Kate Evans.

8-9PM



Lily King: Heart the Lover

Revel in this unforgettable story of love, desire, friendship and loss as *New York Times*-bestselling author Lily King discusses her latest novel, *Heart the Lover*, with Melanie Kembrey.



SYDNEY WRITERS'



FESTIVAL 2026

SUNDAY 24 MAY

LIVE & LOCAL

10-10.55AM



The Future of Truth

Join international correspondent Barbara Demick, philosopher A.C. Grayling, Wikipedia founder Jimmy Wales and AI researcher Toby Walsh as they share their perspectives on the value of truth today. With ABC Radio National's Natasha Mitchell.

12-1PM



Power Up with Dav Pilkey

See Dav Pilkey (*Captain Underpants*, *Dog Man*) draw his beloved characters live and hear his inspiring life story. Prepare yourself for some hilarious onstage antics!

2-2.55PM



Antoinette Lattouf: Women Who Win

Reflect on powerful examples of feminist victories throughout history with journalist and human rights advocate Antoinette Lattouf in her latest book *Women Who Win*. In conversation with Jo Dyer.

4-5PM



Mick Herron in Conversation

Listen as Mick Herron reveals the details of the latest instalment in the *Slough House* thrillers, where theft, secrets and blackmail unnerve his band of failed spies. With Michael Williams.

EXCLUSIVE OFFER FOR TICKET HOLDERS



Present your Sydney Writers' Festival ticket or VIP Festival Pass at **Book Face** in Port Central or **Collins Booksellers Port Macquarie** to receive a 10% discount* on books by featured authors in the *Live & Local* Program.

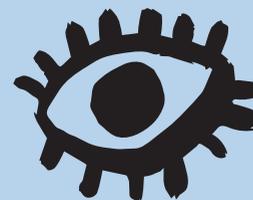
This exclusive offer is valid from 10am Thursday 21 May to 4pm Sunday 24 May, 2026.

*Final discount and qualifying books at the discretion of Book Face and Collins Booksellers management.

 **BOOKFACE**

collins booksellers
PORT MACQUARIE

SYDNEY WRITERS'



FESTIVAL 2026



TICKETS

Single/Bonus Session Ticket

- \$14.00 Adult
- \$9.50 Glasshouse / Library Member
- \$11.00 Concession

Day Pass

A Day Pass includes the first four sessions scheduled on Thu, Fri and Sun: 10am, 12pm, 2pm and 4pm. Day passes are not available on Saturday.

- \$50.00 Adult
- \$32.00 Glasshouse / Library Member
- \$38.00 Concession

Festival Pass

Access to all 20 sessions*
 \$140.00 for Glasshouse & Library Members

*Number of sessions at discretion of SWF and subject to variation and possible cancellations.

GLASSHOUSE Select 2026 THEATRE PROGRAM



MID NORTH COAST
 CO-OPERATIVE
 LIBRARY SERVICE

Principal Partner 2026

The Festival Program is subject to change at short notice. This is at the discretion of the Festival Director and can be attributed to a change in personal circumstances for guest authors and presenters. Where enough notice is provided to the venue, we will make contact to advise of any amendments.

Transaction fees may apply



SYDNEY
 WRITERS
 FESTIVAL
 LIVE & LOCAL

RELAX, REFUEL, CONNECT

Relax in our SWF Lounge between sessions and take the opportunity to chat and meet like-minded people. Tea, coffee, alcoholic beverages and light refreshments will be available for purchase.



TO BOOK

w: glasshouse.org.au

p: 02 6581 8888

e: info@glasshouse.org.au

a: 30 - 42 Clarence Street, Port Macquarie

GLASSHOUSE PORT MACQUARIE

**MEMBERS
SAVE**

MID NORTH COAST
CO-OPERATIVE
LIBRARY SERVICE

OTHER UPCOMING GLASSHOUSE SHOWS WE THINK YOU WILL LOVE!

GLASSHOUSE
Select 2026
THEATRE PROGRAM

AUSTRALIAN HAYDN ENSEMBLE: DIVINE BOHEMIANS

HAYDN, RICHTER, MYSLIVEČEK
& BEETHOVEN

Saturday 25 July, 7pm



**Four world-class musicians.
Exquisite period instruments.
Pure musical brilliance.**

OPERA AUSTRALIA

DON GIOVANNI

Saturday 8 August, 7.30pm



World-class opera, right here in Port Macquarie.

BELL
SHAKESPEARE.

MACBETH

BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE
DIRECTOR PETER EVANS

Tuesday 29 September, 7pm



Another fierce, fearless, unforgettable performance by Bell Shakespeare.