

# } BOUNDLESS {

α **FESTIVAL** of **DIVERSE** *writers*

**BANKSTOWN ARTS CENTRE | SATURDAY 28 OCTOBER 2017**

**5 OLYMPIC PARADE BANKSTOWN | BOUNDLESSFESTIVAL.ORG.AU**

The NSW Writers' Centre and Bankstown Arts Centre are proud to present Boundless, the first-ever festival focused on Indigenous and culturally diverse Australian writers and writing. Join us for a free day of performances, readings, panel discussions, audiovisual experiences, and workshops for children and adults.

Boundless is presented by the NSW Writers' Centre and Bankstown Arts Centre in collaboration with Sweatshop, WestWords, Urban Theatre Projects, Bankstown Youth Development Service, CuriousWorks and Bankstown Poetry Slam.

Better Read Than Dead will have a pop-up bookstore on site and there will be book signings throughout the day.

Presented by:



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THEATRE PROJECTS





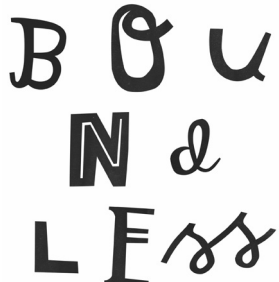
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Time	Theatre	Rehearsal 1
9:30am	<b>Doors Open</b>	
10:00am	<b>Acknowledgment of country</b> by Jennifer Newman. <b>Boundless plains</b> According to our national anthem we have boundless plains to share. Since 1788, Australia has experienced successive waves of immigration, from post-war Europeans to refugees from Africa. Liza-Mare Syron discusses how diverse voices become part of the national story with Hani Abdile, Michael Mohammed Ahmad, Hoa Pham, and Markus Zusak. Presented by NSW Writers' Centre.	
11:30am	<b>Deadly and hectic 11.30am-12.30pm</b> Sweatshop: Western Sydney Literacy Movement presents a critical dialogue between writers from Indigenous backgrounds and writers from migrant backgrounds. With Evelyn Araluen, Maryam Azam, Louisa Badayala, Winnie Dunn, Emma Hicks, Shirley Le, Oscar Managhan, and Stephen Pham.	<b>Root and branch 11.30am-12.30pm</b> BYDS presents excellent writers, poets and digital artists working alongside children and young people from Bankstown to create startlingly imaginative and creative scripts, stories, poems and illustrations with the intention of presenting the work in a theatre and performance setting.
12:30pm		
1:00pm		<b>What needs to be said 1.00-2.00pm</b> What fires you up? How do you write about difficult, uncomfortable issues? Sarah Ayoub, Helen Chebatte, and Roanna Gonsalves discuss these questions in relationship to their work and what people expect them to write about and deal with. Convened by Irini Savvides. Age range: 12-16. Presented by WestWords.
1:30pm	<b>Shaping the horizon 1.30-2.30pm</b> These powerful new voices are reshaping the landscape and literature of Australia and influencing how we see ourselves as a community. Hear excerpts of their work and a discussion of what it is to find your voice. With Michael Mohammed Ahmad, Julie Koh, Benjamin Law (convenor), Peter Polites, and Ellen van Neerven. Presented by NSW Writers' Centre.	
2:00pm		
2:30pm	<b>Who's writing who on stage 2.30-3.30pm</b> When we look at our stages, what do we see reflected back to us? Going beyond white Australia, playwrights from Aboriginal and diverse backgrounds are exploring important conflicts in our society and giving voice to broad experiences. With Andrea James, Sheila Pham (convenor), Disapol Savetsila, and Aanisa Vylet. Curated by Sheila Pham and presented by NSW Writers' Centre.	
3:30pm		<b>All in the family 3.30-4.30pm</b> Families nurture, and at times, restrict us, but either way they never leave us. So how do you write about families without offending your own? With Cathy Craigie, Mireille Juchau, Benjamin Law, Omar Sakr, and Jennifer Wong (convenor).
4:30pm	<b>The locals: writing the west 4.30-5.30pm</b> Commissioned by Urban Theatre Projects and Sweatshop. Join us for a work-in-progress reading of short works by Maryam Azam, Bee Cruse, Winnie Dunn, Shivanjani Lal, Stephen Pham, and Anjali Roberts.	
5:00pm		
5:30pm		
6:30pm		<b>Bankstown Poetry Slam 6.30-9.30pm (doors open 6.15)</b> Australia's largest regular poetry event is renowned for providing a platform for people of all ages to engage with issues through the medium of spoken word poetry. Bankstown Poetry Slam closes the festival with their October slam featuring national spoken word legend Luka Lesson. You will laugh, you will cry, and most importantly you will click your fingers and stomp your feet.
9:30pm		



Rehearsal 2	Studio 3	Gallery	Foyer
			
<p><b>GetSmART: publishing 12.30-1.30pm</b>            Get an insider's look into the world of book publishing with leading publishers Chren Byng (HarperCollins), Ivor Indyk (Giramondo), and Robert Watkins (Hachette). Convened by Jennifer Wong, host of Bookish on ABC iView. Presented by Bankstown Arts Centre and NSW Writers' Centre.</p>	<p><b>Writing your origin story (workshop 10-12yrs) 12.30-1.50pm</b>            Be the hero of your own epic adventure! Join Wai Chim in exploring how to write about your own life. Find out how to pick a real experience to write about and fictionalise it for an exciting tale! You're the hero – are you ready to write your own beginning? Presented by WestWords. Free, but bookings are essential. <a href="mailto:admin@westwords.com.au">admin@westwords.com.au</a></p>	<p><b>Trans-Scribe 10.00am-5.00pm</b>            Bankstown Arts Centre presents a multimedia exhibition of poetry, scripts and other writings by students from Bankstown Public School and Bankstown Girls High School. Including transcribed interviews from the Stories of Strength project by local young people. A partnership between Bankstown Arts Centre, BYDS, and Sydney Story Factory.</p>	<p><b>Better Read Than Dead Bookstore</b>            Open in the foyer throughout the day. Authors will be available to sign their books.</p>
<p><b>CuriousWorks film screenings 1.30-2.30pm</b></p>	<p><b>From potential to publishable (workshop 16-18 yrs) 2.00-3.20pm</b>            Where do ideas come from? And how do you take that seed of an idea and branch it out into a bigger, publishable story? Join journalist and author Sarah Ayoub for some quick tips and tricks on giving your ideas publishing potential. Presented by WestWords. Free, but bookings are essential. <a href="mailto:admin@westwords.com.au">admin@westwords.com.au</a></p>		
<p><b>Writing with community and with power 2.30-3.30pm</b>            A panel discussion featuring four CuriousWorks writers - each writing stories personal to their community, across film, theatre and the visual arts. With Miranda Aguilar, Guido Gonzalez, Daisy Montalvo, S. Shakthidharan (convenor), and Shawn Spina.</p>			
<p><b>CuriousWorks film screenings 3.30-4.30pm</b></p>	<p><b>How to be a professional writer (workshop) 3.30-4.30pm</b>            As the book industry continues to rapidly change, the Australian Society of Authors has some tips to help emerging writers navigate their way around some of the many pitfalls on the way to building a writing career. Presented by Australian Society of Authors CEO, Juliet Rogers. Free, but bookings are essential. <a href="mailto:events@nswwc.org.au">events@nswwc.org.au</a></p>		
			

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**Hani Abdile** is a writer and spoken word poet who fled the civil war in Somalia, made her way to Australia by boat, and spent 11 months on Christmas Island. She has received numerous awards for her community work and achievements. Her first book *I Will Rise* was published in 2016 to critical acclaim. **Miranda Aguilar** is a queer Filipino-Australian writer from Western Sydney. In 2016, her play, *In the Closet*, was selected for the Playwriting Australia New Play Development Program. She is one of the lead writers and showrunner of CuriousWorks' upcoming webseries *Las Rosas en el Capullo*. **Dr Michael Mohammed Ahmad** is the founder and director of Sweatshop: Western Sydney Literacy Movement and award-winning author of *The Tribe*. His forthcoming novel is *The Lebs*. **Evelyn Araluen** is a Bundjalung poet, teacher, and researcher living on Dharug lands. She coordinates Black Rhymes Aboriginal Poetry Night in Redfern and was the 2017 winner of the Nakata Brophy Prize for Young Indigenous Writers. **Sarah Ayoub** is a widely published freelance journalist and author. Sarah teaches journalism at The University of Notre Dame, where she is currently researching the representations of culturally diverse females in Australian YA literature. She is the author of *Hate is Such a Strong Word* and *The Yearbook Committee*. **Maryam Azam** is a Muslim Pakistani-Australian writer from Kellyville. Her debut collection of poems will be launched by Giramondo in 2018. **Louisa Badayala** grew up between Yolngu & Nyoongar land. Her fiction examines the lives and possibilities of women in such lands. **Helen Chebatte** won the CBCA's Aspiring Writers' Mentorship Competition and the inaugural Charlotte Waring Barton award, before publishing her debut YA novel, *BRO*. Helen is also an actor with credits in *All Saints*, *Crownies*, and the feature films, *Cedar Boys* and *Alex and Eve*. **Wai Chim** is the author of *Freedom Swimmer* and most recently *Shaozhen*. She was born to Chinese immigrant parents in New York and now lives in Sydney. **Cathy Craigie** is a Gomerai and Anaiwon woman from northern NSW and has been writing across genres including plays, short stories, children's books and essays. Cathy is currently writing her first novel based around the Seven Sisters story. **Felix Cross** is a composer, lyricist, dramaturge, playwright and theatre director. From 1996-2015 he was the artistic director of Nitro, Britain's oldest black theatre company. In 2012 he was awarded an MBE for services to musical theatre. **Bee Cruse** is a proud Cabrogal woman of the Darug Nation. A born storyteller, she is currently writing a three-part short film series called *The Hunt*. She has worked on productions such as *Redfern Now*, *Cleverman*, National Theatre of Parramatta's *Stolen* and Urban Theatre Projects' *Home Country*. **Winnie Dunn** is a Tongan-Australian writer from Mt Druitt. She is a manager and editor at Sweatshop: Western Sydney Literacy Movement. She has been published in *Sydney Review of Books* and *The Big Black Thing*. Winnie has toured nationally as the keynote presenter for Stella Girls Write Up 2017. **Dr Roanna Gonsalves** is the author of *The Permanent Resident* an acclaimed collection of fiction that is being studied at a number of Australian universities. She is an experienced creative writing workshop facilitator and is a recipient of the Prime Minister's Australia Asia Endeavour Award. **Guido Gonzalez** is a Chilean refugee, who grew up in Cabramatta. Guido has worked as an independent filmmaker with director Khoa Do. In 2010 Guido started working with CuriousWorks and introduced film workshops to his local community. Guido wrote and co-directed *Riz* which screened at the 2015 Sydney Film Festival. **Emma Hicks** is a Sydney based artist and writer. She is currently completing a PhD at Sydney College of the Arts. She was awarded the Dr Charles Perkins AO Memorial Prize 2013 and was a recipient of the Indigenous Writers' Mentorship Program at the NSW Writers' Centre. **Andrea James** is a Yorta Yorta/Kurnai playwright, theatremaker and producer. A graduate of Victoria College of the Arts she was artistic director of Melbourne Workers Theatre from 2001-2008. She is an alumni of the Accelerate Aboriginal Arts Leadership Program and is writing a play about Wiradjuri tennis star Evonne Goolagong. **Mireille Juchau** is a novelist, essayist and critic. She is 2017 writer in residence at the University of Sydney's Charles Perkins Centre. Her most recent novel is *The World Without Us*. **Julie Koh** is the author of *Capital Misfits* and *Portable Curiosities*, which was shortlisted for the Readings Prize for New Australian Fiction, the Steele Rudd Award, and a NSW Premier's Literary Award. Julie is a 2017 *Sydney Morning Herald* Best Young Australian Novelist and a 2018 Stella Prize judge. **Shivanjani Lal** is an artist whose practice has always questioned where she fits through her thematic examination of the body, gesture and home. She works with empathy, photomedia, and sculpture to create video and installation works which are sourced from her own personal history as well as through research. **Benjamin Law** is a journalist, columnist and screenwriter. He's the author of *The Family Law*, *Gaysia: Adventures in*

*the Queer East* and the most recent *Quarterly Essay* on Safe Schools. *The Family Law* is now an AACTA-nominated TV series for SBS, which he created and co-writes. **Shirley Le** is a Vietnamese-Australian writer from Yagoona. She has written for *The Lifted Brow* and *SBS Online*. She has also presented at the Sydney Writers' Festival, the Sydney Festival and the Wollongong Writers' Festival. **Luka Lesson** is an award-winning slam poet, bestselling poetry writer and hip hop performer. With over 10 years experience under his belt, his work is taught in schools and universities around the world and he has performed globally across the United States, Europe, Asia and the Pacific. **Oscar Monaghan** is a scholar and writer from the Guugu Yimithirr people of Far North Queensland. Oscar has lived, worked and studied on Gadigal land since 2009. They are fond of cats, decolonisation, running and feminism. **Daisy Montalvo** is a young writer and film-maker from Mount Druitt. Daisy won the 2017 Blacktown Creative Arts Award for her upcoming series *Las Rosas en el Capullo*, which will be released in 2018. She also delivers workshops for kids in her community. **Hoa Pham** is the author of eight books, a play and numerous short stories. Her latest title is *Lady of the Realm* about a Buddhist clairvoyant in Vietnam. **Sheila Ngoc Pham** is a writer working across radio, digital media, community development and public health. She has had two short plays staged and performed in *Stories Then and Now*, which had seasons at Carriageworks, Casula Powerhouse and the OzAsia Festival. Sheila is a CAL WestWords Western Sydney Emerging Writer Fellow. **Stephen Pham** is a Vietnamese-Australian writer from Cabramatta. He has been published in *Overland*, *The Lifted Brow*, and *Seizure*, and has performed for Sydney Festival and the Sydney Writers' Festival. **Peter Polites** is an associate director of Sweatshop. His first book *Down the Hume* is a queer noir fiction. **Anjali Roberts** is an aspiring writer who also works in community cultural development. Her folklores span India's east (west Bengal) and Sydney's west. In 2015 she co-authored *Handmade* for Palmera, telling stories of survival and loss through food from women in Sri Lanka. **Omar Sakr** is an Arab Australian poet. His poetry has been published in English, Arabic, and Spanish, in numerous journals and anthologies including *Griffith Review*, *Wildness*, *Overland*, *Meanjin*, *Island*, *Cordite Poetry Review*, *The Best Australian Poems 2016*, and *Circulo de Poesia*. His debut collection, *These Wild Houses*, is out now. **Disapol Savetsila** is a Sydney-based writer and theatre-maker. His first full-length play, *Australian Graffiti*, premiered at Sydney Theatre Company. His other theatre credits have included work with Budding Theatre, Tantrum Theatre, Australian Theatre for Young People, Crack Theatre Festival, and You Are Here. **Irina Savvides'** first novel *Willow Tree and Olive*, received several awards including a White Raven in Bologna in 2002, and finalist Sydney Morning Herald Young Writer of the Year. Her book *Sky Legs* won the 2004 Peace Award. She was a judge for the Prime Minister's Literary Awards (2014-16 Young Adult/Children's sections). **S Shakthidharan** is the founder and artistic director of Western Sydney arts company CuriousWorks. In 2015 he was awarded the Phillip Parson's Playwright Award from Belvoir Theatre and in 2011 the Kirk Robson by Australia Council for the Arts, given for work in relation to social justice and community cultural leadership. **Shawn Spina** is a young Sicilian filmmaker from Fairfield. He has worked on both community-based and professional film shoots with CuriousWorks, Fairfield Council and other emerging Western Sydney filmmakers like Maria Tran. He is one of the lead writers on the upcoming webseries *Las Rosas en el Capullo*. **Dr Liza-Mare Syron** is a Birripi woman. She has just completed an emerging writers mentorship with NSW Writers' Centre. Liza-Mare has published numerous academic articles receiving the Marlis Thiersch Prize for excellence for a publication in the field of performance studies. Her short story 'Letterboxgate' was recently accepted for publication with BlackInc Books. **Ellen van Neerven** is a proud Mununjali woman from South East Queensland currently living in Naarm (Melbourne). Her books include *Heat and Light* and *Comfort Food*. She is an associate director of Sweatshop. **Aanisa Vylet** is an actor, writer and auteur from Western Sydney. Her recent work in development *The Girl* was nominated for the Phillip Parsons Playwriting Award and the West Australian Arts Editor Award. **Jennifer Wong** is a comedian, writer, and former bookseller known for her bookishness and love of wordplay. She's performed at arts and comedy festivals around the world, and her interviews with writers and artists can be heard on ABC RN's Books & Arts and seen on Bookish (ABC iview). **Markus Zusak** is the author of five books, including *The Messenger*, and *The Book Thief*, which is translated into more than 40 languages and spent more than a decade on the *New York Times* Bestseller list.