

Live Local Program
CONFIDENTIAL EMBARGOED TILL 15 MARCH 2019

Day	Start	Finish	Title	Presenter/s	Facilitator	Short Copy	Long Copy
Fri 03/05 - L&L Session 1	10.00am AEST	11.00am AEST	Leigh Sales: Any Ordinary Day	Leigh Sales		In a special event, Walkley Award-winning anchor of ABC's 7.30 Leigh Sales sheds light on Any Ordinary Day, her layered exploration of how ordinary people endure unthinkable tragedy.	In {Any Ordinary Day}, ABC {7.30}'s anchor Leigh Sales investigates how ordinary people endure the unthinkable. Her widely acclaimed book weaves together stories of those who have survived everything from natural disasters to terrorism – and even Leigh's own brush with mortality – in an exploration of how people move forward from hardship not just with shock and sadness, but strength, hope and even humour. Join Leigh – a Walkley Award winner and co-host of the {Chat 10 Looks 3} podcast – at this special event about her warm, wise and layered book.
Fri 03/05 - L&L Session 2	11.30am AEST	12.30pm AEST	Is Russia the Enemy We've Come to Believe?	Tom Switzer Graeme Gill	Monica Attard	In our hurry to decry Putin, are we fuelling hatred and fostering misunderstanding? Political adviser Tom Switzer and Emeritus Professor Graeme Gill debate the legitimacy of the Russian threat, in conversation with former Russian Correspondent Monica Attard.	We are used to vehemently decrying Putin's domestic and foreign actions, but have we begun to exaggerate the Russian threat, fuelling hatred, suspicion and sowing misunderstanding? Is it time we re-evaluate our expectation that Russia will behave like other democratic nations or respond constructively to traditional punishments like sanctions? Political commentator and adviser Tom Switzer and Emeritus Professor Graeme Gill debate the issue with Walkley Award-winning former ABC Russia correspondent Monica Attard moderating.
Fri 03/05 - L&L Session 3	1.30pm AEST	2.30pm AEST	Sticks and Stones: Defamation Law	Louise Adler Osman Faruqi David Rolph	David Marr	David Marr speaks with Louise Adler, Professor David Rolph and ABC's Osman Faruqi, who sued Mark Latham in a high-profile defamation case, about whether Australian defamation law fails journalists and ordinary citizens and whether it's time we rewrote it entirely.	Australian defamation law has been called a 'Frankenstein's monster' of poorly adapted legislation that offers insufficient protection for journalists and is ill-equipped to safeguard ordinary citizens in the digital age. Is it time we scrap the law or give it a dramatic rewrite? David Marr puts these questions to former Melbourne University Press CEO Louise Adler, Professor David Rolph, and the ABC's Osman Faruqi (who sued Mark Latham in a high-profile defamation case).
Fri 03/05 - L&L Session 4	3.00pm AEST	4.00pm AEST	Ben Quilty: Home	Ben Quilty	Julian Burnside QC	In conversation with Julian Burnside QC, Archibald Prize-winning artist Ben Quilty talks about the heartbreaking and awe-inspiring collection of artworks, Home: Drawings by Syrian Children.	Archibald Prize-winning artist Ben Quilty has assembled a heartbreaking and awe-inspiring collection of artworks by the most vulnerable victims of a brutal civil war in {Home: Drawings by Syrian Children}. With a forward by Man Booker Prize winner Richard Flanagan, and proceeds going towards World Vision programs in the Middle East, it is an extraordinary testament to the resilience of a generation of survivors. Ben talks with Julian Burnside QC about the book and his experiences collating it in refugee camps across Europe. {Supported by UNSW Arts & Social Sciences}.
Fri 03/05 - L&L Session 5	4.30pm AEST	5.30pm AEST	David Marr: My Country	David Marr	Sally Warhaft	One of Australia's finest journalists and public intellectuals, David Marr talks about his definitive collection and illuminating chronicle of our times, My Country, with Sally Warhaft.	{My Country} confirms David Marr's place as one of Australia's most unflinching and forensic reporters of political controversy, and one of its most subtle and eloquent biographers. This definitive collection of David's writing spans from the 1978 Mardi Gras police bashings all the way to Patrick White, Pauline Hanson and Cardinal Pell. A perennial Festival favourite, David joins Sally Warhaft to share insights into his illuminating reportage and storied career. {Supported by BDO}.

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Sat 04/05 - L&L Session 1	10.00am AEST	11.00am AEST	Inside Stories	Rachel Kushner Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah	Lisa Lucas	Guest Curator Lisa Lucas talks with Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah (Friday Black) and Rachel Kushner (The Mars Room) about turning hard truths about inequality, racism and justice into fiction.	The authors of two different but exceptionally fearless books, Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah (Friday Black) and Rachel Kushner (The Mars Room) have both highlighted issues critical to our world today. Through their work they've addressed the realities of – and antidotes to – inequality, racism and a faulty justice system. Nana Kwame and Rachel join Guest Curator Lisa Lucas to discuss the scope and influence of storytelling, how fiction can connect readers to real-world issues, and the tools they use to illuminate hard truths. {Supported by the University of Sydney}.
Sat 04/05 - L&L Session 2	11.30am AEST	12.30pm AEST	Max Porter: Lanny	Max Porter	Michael Williams	Michael Williams joins Max Porter to discuss Lanny, a heart-pounding tapestry of fabulism and domestic drama that fortifies Max's reputation as one of the most daring writers of his generation.	Max Porter fortifies his reputation as one of the most daring writers of his generation with {Lanny}, an astonishing tapestry of fabulism and domestic drama. Dripping with the anarchy, humour and enchantment readers will recognise from {Grief is the Thing with Feathers}, {Lanny} is the story of an English boy who attracts the attention of a mythical, menacing force. Wheeler Centre Director Michael Williams talks with Max about his pulse-racing warning about what we stand to lose and a hymn to everything we will never fully understand. {Supported by ARA}.
Sat 04/05 - L&L Session 3	1.30pm AEST	2.30pm AEST	Whose ABC?	Mark Scott Jonathan Holmes Marc Fennell Margaret Simons	Sally Warhaft	Sally Warhaft discusses the future of the ABC with former ABC managing director Mark Scott, On Aunty author and former Media Watch host Jonathan Holmes, host of ABC's Download This Show and SBS VICELAND's The Feed Marc Fennell and journalist Margaret Simons.	The ABC is about to turn 90, yet seldom has the public broadcaster seen such controversy: public spats, budget cuts, accusations of bias, political pressure and leadership tensions. Sally Warhaft talks to {On Us} author and former ABC managing director Mark Scott (in a rare appearance discussing the broadcaster), {On Aunty} author and former {Media Watch} host Jonathan Holmes, host of ABC podcast {Download This Show} and co-anchor on SBS VICELAND's {The Feed} Marc Fennell and journalist Margaret Simons about Michelle Guthrie's dismissal and why the broadcaster must adapt to survive a new era of media.
Sat 04/05 - L&L Session 4	3.00pm AEST	4.00pm AEST	Jenny Erpenbeck: Go, Went, Gone	Jenny Erpenbeck	Michelle de Kretser	"Europe's outstanding literary seer" (The Guardian) Jenny Erpenbeck joins Michelle de Kretser to discuss Go, Went, Gone, Jenny's vividly drawn response to the current refugee crisis.	Jenny Erpenbeck's masterful new novel {Go, Went, Gone} explores the sometimes fraught and always complex relationship between a retired classics professor and a group of African asylum seekers in Berlin. {The Guardian} praises Jenny as "Europe's outstanding literary seer" while {The New Yorker} likens her to J.M. Coetzee and V.S. Naipaul. She joins Michelle de Kretser to discuss her powerful response to the refugee crisis and explore some of the questions it raises about race, immigration and identity. {Supported by the Goethe-Institut}.
Sat 04/05 - L&L Session 5	4.30pm AEST	5.30pm AEST	Boys to Men: The Masculinity Crisis	Adam Liaw Clementine Ford	Jan Fran	Jan Fran talks to Clementine Ford and Adam Liaw about the harm toxic masculinity inflicts on men and women, and how we can raise our boys to be better men.	Clementine Ford's {Boys Will Be Boys} is an acclaimed call to action against a culture of entitlement, privilege and power. Jan Fran talks Clementine and writer and chef Adam Liaw about the harm toxic masculinity inflicts on women and men, the progress we're making to counteract it, and how we can raise our boys to become better men.

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Sun 05/05 - L&L Session 1	10.00am AEST	11.00am AEST	A Dangerous Time to Tell the Truth	Dunya Mikhail Ece Temelkuran Anabel Hernández	Sophie McNeill	Sophie McNeill talks with Mexican reporter Anabel Hernández, Iraqi-American writer Dunya Mikhail and Turkish journalist Ece Temelkuran about the mounting threats to reporters around the globe.	Across the world, journalists are under greater threat than at any point in the last decade, with the rise of authoritarianism and internet censorship redoubling pressures on reporters. In conversation with ABC's Sophie McNeill, three uniquely placed foreign writers and journalists share their perspectives on the struggles and costs of reporting the truth and exposing lies under corrupt and oppressive governments. Featuring Mexican reporter and author Anabel Hernández, Iraqi-American writer Dunya Mikhail and Turkish journalist and author Ece Temelkuran. {Supported by UNSW Arts & Social Sciences. Ece Temelkuran is supported by Rowena Danziger AM and Ken Coles AM}.
Sun 05/05 - L&L Session 2	11.30am AEST	12.30pm AEST	Meg Wolitzer: The Female Persuasion	Meg Wolitzer	Angela Ledgerwood	Angela Ledgerwood sits down with bestselling author Meg Wolitzer (The Wife) to discuss Meg's timely, witty and on-target novel The Female Persuasion, which charts the course of women's lives from the 1970s to now.	{The Female Persuasion} is the blockbuster novel from Meg Wolitzer, author of {The Interestings} and {The Wife}. It charts the course of women's lives from the 1970s to the current day, in an expansive consideration of feminism and the intersection of the personal and political. It also confirms Meg's status as one of America's most astute novelists, whose admirers include Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie and Jeffrey Eugenides. Meg meets with Angela Ledgerwood to discuss this timely, witty and on-target new novel. {Supported by ARA}.
Sun 05/05 - L&L Session 3	1.30pm AEST	2.30pm AEST	Belonging: The Story of the Jews	Simon Schama	Paul Holdengräber	Hugely popular historian Simon Schama talks about his towering achievement, Belonging: The Story of the Jews 1492-1900 with revered interviewer Paul Holdengräber.	One of the world's most popular and prolific historians, Simon Schama has delivered a towering achievement with {Belonging: The Story of the Jews 1492-1900}. Beginning with the Jews' expulsion from Spain, he unfolds the stories not just of rabbis and philosophers, but of a poet in a Venetian ghetto, a general in Ming China, and an opera composer in 19th-century Germany, and many more besides. The hugely entertaining author speaks with revered interviewer Paul Holdengräber about his intellectually commanding yet instantly accessible history.
Sun 05/05 - L&L Session 4	3.00pm AEST	4.00pm AEST	Andrew Sean Greer: Less	Andrew Sean Greer	David Marr	Literary sensation Andrew Sean Greer discusses Less, his Pulitzer Prize-winning satire of the literary world, love and the midlife crisis, in conversation with David Marr.	Literary sensation Andrew Sean Greer takes to the stage to discuss his Pulitzer Prize-winning novel {Less}. {Less} is the story of an abruptly single minor novelist on the cusp of 50, who embarks on an odyssey through New York, Paris, Berlin, Morocco, India and Kyoto, but finds he cannot outrun his problems (or his ex-boyfriend's wedding). In conversation with David Marr, Andrew sheds light on his brilliantly witty and wistful satire of the literary world and the midlife crisis.
Sun 05/05 - L&L Session 5	4.30pm AEST	5.30pm AEST	"I Do Not Want to See This in Print"	Niki Savva Samantha Maiden Sharri Markson	Annabel Crabb	Annabel Crabb discusses the fraught and sensitive relationship between politicians and the press with Walkley Award winner Sharri Markson, veteran political reporter Samantha Maiden and The Australian columnist Niki Savva.	Annabel Crabb talks to a panel of insiders about the fraught and sensitive relationship between politicians and the press. How do journalists ensure accurate reporting while cultivating sources? How do they navigate porous concepts like 'on background' and 'off the record'? And how symbiotic is the relationship between politicians wanting airtime and reporters looking for a sound bite? Featuring 2018 Walkley Award winner Sharri Markson, veteran political reporter Samantha Maiden and {The Australian} columnist and {Road to Ruin} author Niki Savva.
Sun 05/05 - L&L Closing Address	6.00pm AEST	7.00pm AEST	Closing Address: Fatima Bhutto	Fatima Bhutto		Internationally lauded Pakistani writer Fatima Bhutto (The Runaways) delivers an unmissable Festival closing address about the tectonic shifts occurring in global politics and on ideas of race, sexuality and gender.	When internationally lauded Pakistani writer Fatima Bhutto last appeared at the Sydney Writers' Festival, she said her country was on the verge of a nervous breakdown. Eight years later, {The Runaways} author returns to deliver an unmissable closing address about how that turbulence has seemingly spread far beyond her homeland's borders. She reflects on the tectonic shifts that are occurring not just in global politics in a post-truth age, but also in relation to ideas of race, sexuality and gender.