

Media Release



The
Wheeler
Centre
Books
Writing
Ideas

Turn a page on a new year with the Wheeler Centre Gala and join a selection of our best storytellers as they share their *Stories to Believe In*.

With stories that are personal and profane, intimate and ideological, light-hearted and lyrical, our finest writers take to the stage to explore the concept of belief – from whichever angle they choose.

Now in its third year, the Wheeler Centre Gala at Melbourne Town Hall has become a fixture in our calendar. Join us for an evening that we hope will entertain, surprise, provoke - and above all – inspire as we kick off our first programme for 2012.

Our selection of extraordinary voices spans poets and playwrights to comedians and writers, banding together for one magical evening to share their *Stories to Believe In*.

All profits raised by the **2012 Wheeler Centre Gala: *Stories to Believe In*** will be donated to the **Indigenous Literacy Foundation (ILF)**.

2012 Wheeler Centre Gala: *Stories to Believe In*

Saturday 11 February, 2012. 6:30pm – 8:30pm

Melbourne Town Hall, corner Swanston and Collins Streets, Melbourne

Tickets \$20/\$12 concession through wheelercentre.com



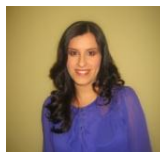
Casey Bennetto is a songwriter, singer, performer and creator of *Keating! The Musical*. Casey also makes regular appearances on ABC TV and on the airwaves on Triple R.



Tony Birch is a Melbourne-based writer and historian, often using his familiarity with Melbourne as the foundation of his stories. His work *Shadowboxing* was shortlisted for the Queensland Premier's Literary Awards. His latest title, *Blood*, was published in 2011.



Kaz Cooke is a writer and cartoonist who tackles questions about body image, confidence, sex, love and heartbreak, with humour and understanding. Her books, including 2011's *Women's Stuff*, arm her readers with the information necessary to make it through some sticky situations.



Randa Abdel-Fattah is a novelist who also works as a litigation lawyer. Randa is involved with issues about women, faith, and human rights, providing a world within which young adults can explore youth, growing up and discovering themselves.

wheelercentre.com



The Wheeler Centre

A Victorian Government initiative and the centrepiece of Melbourne's designation as a UNESCO City of Literature.

Media Release



Bob Franklin is a writer, actor and comedian and is perhaps most recognisable from his appearances on the television series *The Librarians*, *Stupid Stupid Man* and *Thank God You're Here*. He is also the author of the collection of short stories, *Under Stones*.



Andy Griffiths' highly successful career as one of Australia's most popular children's writers has seen him produce over 20 books, including the instant classic *The Day My Bum Went Psycho*. Andy is also involved with the Indigenous Literacy Fund.



Lally Katz is a Melbourne playwright. In 2011 she had three plays programmed for main-stage performance in Australia, including her semi-autobiographical *Return to Earth*.



Gillian Mears is an Australian novelist and short-story writer who has won a raft of awards for her novels, including the Commonwealth Writers' Prize for her first book, *Ride a Cock Horse*.



Elliot Perlman is the award-winning author of *Three Dollars*, *The Reasons I Won't Be Coming* and 2011's *The Street Sweeper*. Elliot lives in Melbourne, where he also works as a barrister.



Alice Pung is an author, editor and practising lawyer. Her book *Unpolished Gem* won the 2007 Australian Newcomer of the Year award as part of the Australian Book Industry Awards. Alice is also the author of the 2012 VCE English text *Growing Up Asian in Australia*.



Carrie Tiffany is a writer whose work is heavily influenced by her experience as a park ranger and agricultural journalist. She is the author of *Everyman's Rules for Scientific Living*, which was shortlisted for the Miles Franklin Award and the Orange Prize.

The **Indigenous Literacy Foundation (ILF)** aims to raise the literacy levels of Indigenous Australians living in remote communities. The ILF is committed to improving their lives and opportunities through the provision of books and resources, and raising community awareness of Indigenous literacy issues

For media enquiries contact Tamara Zimet 9094 7806 | 0405 185 699 | Tamara.Zimet@wheelercentre.com



The
Wheeler
Centre

Books
Writing
Ideas

wheelercentre.com



ARTS
VICTORIA



The Wheeler Centre

A Victorian Government initiative and the centrepiece of Melbourne's designation as a UNESCO City of Literature.