



**From the Executive Director's Desk**



We were at dinner in SoHo  
and the couple at the next table  
rose to go. The woman paused to say  
to me, *I just wanted you to know  
I have got all your cookbooks  
and I swear by them!*  
I managed  
to answer her, *Ma'am,  
they've done you nothing but good!*  
which was perhaps immodest  
of whoever I am.

Les Murray, the author of this delightful poem, may or may not have once been mistaken for a celebrity chef, but those who listened to him read his poems at the CHASS Australia Prizes Dinner were in no doubt that they were listening to one of the world's finest poets. Murray read a selection of his poems spanning three decades including some not yet published. The poems were funny, thoughtful, elegiac and stimulating—not a bad summary of the entire CHASS Forum.

Earlier in the day, Hugh Mackay spoke on "The Art of Belonging," which is also the title of his latest book. He noted that we all yearn for a lost age of village life, but it is how you live, not where, that counts.

When it comes to discussing how to live, everyone present at the Forum will consider David Malouf's artful presentation a good example. Malouf, who is 80 but seems ageless, finished off with the *Seven Last Words of the Emperor Hadrian*, from his book, *Typewriter Music*. The poem consists of seven translations of Hadrian's final words, in which the emperor farewells his "little soul". Each translation uncovers another strand of meaning in the poem—cultural, religious and erotic—ending with the understanding that must come to all of us, "without you, my sweet nothing...I am dust".

Before we turn to dust, however, there is much work to do, and work requires resources. Justifying the work of HASS researchers to foundations and granting agencies was the subject of a panel discussion that included Professor Ian Chubb AC, the Chief Scientist, Professor Denise Meredyth, Executive Director - Humanities and Creative Arts, Australian Research Council, Dr Christina Parolin, Executive Director, Australian Academy of the Humanities, and Emeritus Professor Graeme Turner, The University of Queensland.

Among the good advice arising from the discussion is the need to be able to explain our work succinctly and clearly to lay audiences. Forum participants saw this demonstrated in action. Seven senior HASS researchers were given three minutes each to impress a panel of no-nonsense journalists about the value of their work. The audience also voted for their favourite. Dr Tom Clark and Professor Deb Verhoeven were the critics and audience choices, respectively.

Professor David Christian, who gave a mesmerising presentation on Big History, showed how the humanities contribute to the understanding of science.

Freedom of speech was tackled in a panel discussion that featured Tim Wilson, Human Rights Commissioner, John Roskam, Institute of Public Affairs, Emma Bennison, Arts Access Australia, and Professor Joseph Siracusa, RMIT University. Some of the themes covered in this session were picked up in a wide-ranging conversation between Professor Anthony Elliott of the Hawke Research Institute and Dr Frank Furedi of the University of Kent. Frank was particularly eloquent on how our world has become a more frightening place and what we must do to reclaim our independence and freedom.

At the CHASS Australia Prize dinner, Rupert Myer AM, Chair of the Australian Council for the Arts spoke on the value of the Arts to society, the economy and to our national identity. An equally eloquent Senator Dean Smith, representing the Australian government, talked about arts policy and the government's plans for supporting the arts and social sciences. These themes were continued on Day 2 in a series of master classes on applying for grants, public engagement and partnerships.

The CHASS Australia Prizes for 2014 were awarded to *Iain McCalman's The Reef* (Book); *Sarah Kenderdine's Pure Land* (Distinctive Work); *Simon Abrahams*, The Wheeler Centre and Theatre Network Victoria, *Claire Maizonnier*, and *John Saunders*, Sydney Theatre Company (Future Leaders) and to *Henry Reese*, The University of Queensland (Student).

This year's Forum was a sold out event. For those of you who missed the Forum and those who just want to relive it again, videos will be loaded on the CHASS website. Pictures and speech transcripts will also be available. Next year's Forum will be even bigger. So, watch the [website](#) for announcements and be sure to register early.

Emeritus Professor Steven Schwartz AM

### 2014 CHASS Australia Prizes Dinner - 8 October 2014



The 2014 CHASS Australia Prizes Dinner was held at Queen's Hall, Parliament of Victoria, Melbourne. Keynote speakers were Senator Dean Smith, Senator for Western Australia (officially representing the Hon Tony Abbott MP, Prime Minister and Senator the Hon George Brandis QC, Attorney-General and Minister for the Arts) and Mr Rupert Myer AM, Chair, Australia Council for the Arts. The evening also included poetry reading by Les Murray AO, one of Australia's most well regarded poets. We would like to thank the speakers, special invitees, jury members, Prize nominees, other supporters and guests, and all others involved for making the event a huge success. Special thanks to our sponsors - Sarah Blatchford and Joshua Pitt from Routledge, Dr Helen Sykes AM from Future Leaders, and Edel Beattie and Peter Knock from The Co-Op.

[Click here](#) to read Mr Myer's speech. Photographs from the evening can be [viewed here](#).

### 2014 CHASS National Forum



The 2014 CHASS National Forum was attended by over 200 people, including speakers and invited guests. We would like to thank the delegates, speakers, sponsors, supporters, volunteers, venue organisers, and all others involved.

Photographs from Day 1 and Day 2 of the Forum can be viewed on our [Facebook](#) page (no login required) and videos from the sessions on Day 1 can be viewed on our [YouTube](#) channel. Search for [#CHASS #Forum2014](#) on Twitter for conversations on the two days.

Please feel free to follow us on Twitter and Facebook, and subscribe to our channel on YouTube for regular updates of upcoming events and other announcements.



Highlights from ***Welcome to the 21st century: risk, fear and terror: Professor Anthony Elliott in Conversation with Dr Frank Furedi*** from Day 1 were broadcast on ABC Radio National's Big Ideas on 29 October. To listen to the audio, [please click here](#).

#### Help us make it better!

Attended the Forum and would like to share your feedback? Please use this [link](#) (all responses will be kept anonymous). Or please feel free to contact us on 03 9925 3935 or [membership@chass.org.au](mailto:membership@chass.org.au) instead.

#### Member Profile: NTEU

The National Tertiary Education Union (NTEU) is the trade union for staff in Australian tertiary education. We are committed to making our workplaces fairer, through organising for better pay, conditions and job security. With over 28,000 members in Australian universities, research institutes and allied organisations, NTEU members include academics and researchers, as well as general and professional staff. We are a democratic member-based organisation and have representative structures at workplace, state and national levels.

The NTEU's long-held view is that intellectual freedom is vital to the process of gaining and disseminating knowledge, and is one of the central defining characteristics of a university. Challenges to the expression of this freedom is diminished by funding and policy settings that have gradually compromised institutional autonomy, excluded staff from university decision-making bodies, and exposed researchers to contractual and commercial-in confidence arrangements that have compelled staff to protect the private or corporate interests of third parties. Without robust workplace cultures and university leadership prepared to defend intellectual freedom, the mission of the humanities and social sciences disciplines in Australia will always be diminished.

Employment security is an important factor in the exercise of intellectual freedom. With four out of five new appointments in our universities in the past decade being casual or contract, job security is a major focus of the NTEU. The NTEU is running an [Insecure Work Conference](#) from 19-20 November 2014 in Hobart, Tasmania focussing upon the casualisation of academic teaching and fixed term project funded research positions. The conference will be an important opportunity to critically evaluate current strategies on insecure employment to inform ongoing NTEU industrial and political strategic policies and campaigns.

#### Member and Sector Updates

##### [Early bird registrations closing 1 November - Cultural Studies Association of Australasia \(CSAA\) Conference 2014, 2 - 5 December 2014, University of Wollongong](#)

The conference theme is 'Provocations' and it is organised around [six thematic streams](#). We welcome both members and non-members of CSAA, academic staff, students, professionals and members of the public from overseas and Australia to attend.

##### [Call for proposals closing 3 November - Digital Humanities Conference 2015, Sydney](#)

Digital Humanities is the annual international conference of the Alliance of Digital Humanities Organizations (ADHO) and will next be held in Sydney on 29 June–3 July 2015. This will be the first time the annual conference is being held outside Europe and North America in its 26-year history. The theme of *Global Digital Humanities* acknowledges the field's expansion worldwide across disciplines, cultures and languages. The call for proposals is open now, with abstracts for papers, panels and posters due by 3 November 2014. aaDH is pleased to announce that 5 x \$500 travel bursaries are available, on a competitive basis, to enable emerging and early career scholars and practitioners from Australia and New Zealand to attend and present their research. There are a further 10 x \$1000 iVEC bursaries that have generously been provided for travel from Western Australia.

##### [Book Launch – Social Justice and the Churches: Challenges and Responsibilities, 5 November,](#)

### **Melbourne**

The book has been edited by Dr John D'Arcy May. Professor Peter Sherlock, Vice-Chancellor, University of Divinity, will launch it at the Centre for Theology and Ministry on Wednesday 5 November 2014. Enquiries: (03) 9899 4777 or [admin@yarrainstitute.org.au](mailto:admin@yarrainstitute.org.au)

### **Exhibition - Marlbarndu Wanggagu | Once Upon a Time in the West, 6 November, FORM Gallery, Perth**

After 99 years, pastoral leases across Western Australia expire on 30 June 2015. *Marlbarndu Wanggagu - Once Upon a Time in the West* explores the untold history of pastoral times from an Aboriginal perspective. It is an exploration into the histories and stories of Aboriginal people – stockmen, rural and domestic workers during the 20th century in Western Australia with a focus on the experiences of Banyjima, Yinhawangka and Niyaparli elders, and people. The project is the result of an engaged and sustained collaborative partnership between the IBN Aboriginal Corporation and FORM.

### **2014 Australian Dance Awards, 9 November, Sydney**

On 9 November, Australia's most accomplished and leading artists of the professional dance industry will converge at the Sydney Opera House for the presentation of the annual Australian Dance Awards for outstanding achievements in Australian professional dance. The pre-eminent awards will be presented in an evening of performance that showcases the quality and excellence of both innovative and established dance that the Australian industry has to offer. Tickets: Standard \$50, Concession/under16yrs: \$40. 2014 ADAs are proudly presented by Ausdance NSW, Sydney Opera House and Harlequin Floors at the Opera House.

### **The 2014 ASSA Annual Symposium and Cunningham Lecture, 11 November, Canberra**

The theme for this year's Annual Symposium is Population Ageing and Australia's Future. The Symposium provides an opportunity for the Academy of the Social Sciences (ASSA), in collaboration with the ARC Centre of Excellence in Population Ageing Research (CEPAR), to lead national thinking on current and emerging challenges and opportunities of an ageing Australia. This multi-disciplinary symposium aims to make a contribution to how the government, the health and ageing industry can best manage to provide for the future. The Symposium is convened by Professor Hal Kendig FASSA, Professor John Piggott FASSA, Professor Peter McDonald AM FASSA, Professor Kaarin Anstey FASSA and Professor Jan Pakulski FASSA. Speakers this year include The Hon Susan Ryan AO and International Speaker Professor Naohiro Ogawa from Japan, amongst others. The Cunningham Lecture will be presented by Professor Bruce Chapman AM on 'The case of the income contingent loan - Government as banker; investing in Australians for a progressive and fairer future.' Bookings for the lecture close 7 November, bookings essential.

### **Music Talks by Music Australia: Music Copyright – the Artist and the Internet – 18 November (Brisbane) and 19 November (Sydney)**

This Q&A/Panel Discussion looks at the latest developments to enhance protection for composers and creators from their content being used on the internet without authority. Our expert panel explains what is happening here and overseas, unpacks the terms involved, and answers your questions. Attend this seminar to understand what a 'safe harbour', a 'takedown notice' and 'web blocking' is, and the copyright issues involved for musicians and music makers.

### **NTEU National Insecure Work Conference, 19 – 20 November, Hobart**

The NTEU Insecure Work Conference will be held at the University of Tasmania's Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies (IMAS), Waterfront Building, 20 Castray Esplanade, Battery Point. The Conference Reception will be held on 19 November at 5.30pm at University of Tasmania's Dechaineux Theatre, Art School. This will be followed by a Public Forum titled "Does job creation need to come at the expense of job security?"

### **Annual DIA Spring Dinner: Design Species (VIC), 20 November, Melbourne**

As the warm days of spring herald hot summer nights, assemble your design pack and blaze a trail to the annual Design Institute of Australia (DIA) Spring Dinner. With another eventful year drawing to a close, we will revel in the spectacular setting of the Leopard Lodge at the Melbourne Zoo. This year we will pay tribute to new DIA Fellows and hear from guest speaker Jan Nowell, Founding Co-Director, ARK Conservation by Design. Jan will speak about the complexities of designing for animals, in particular her experience designing the Melbourne Zoo's new Predators Precinct. Come celebrate a successful year with friends, colleagues and clients and the broader design industry. This is a rare opportunity to visit the iconic Melbourne Zoo after hours and is sure to be the social and networking highlight of the Victoria Tasmania Design Calendar.

### **DESIGN Canberra 2014, 20 - 23 November, Canberra**

In 2014 Craft ACT: Craft and Design Centre is launching DESIGN Canberra, a four day festival celebrating and promoting Canberra's vibrant and diverse design community. Inspired by Canberra's

innovative design sector, DESIGN Canberra will host a series of events engaging the Canberra community with craft and design, architecture and the designed city.

**[Performance - L'Arianna abbandonata e gloriosa, 25 November, State Library of South Australia Adelaide](#)**

The performance will feature Italian keyboard music, two contrasting performances of Claudio Monteverdi's Lamento d'Arianna, lavish period costumes and modern sound design. It is part of research project titled 'A Comparative Audience Reception Study of Historically Re-created Opera with Reference to Monteverdi's Lamento d'Arianna by Al Dr Daniela Kaleva (University of South Australia) and is produced by Dr Daniela Kaleva under the auspices of the ARC Centre of Excellence for the History of Emotions Europe (1110-1800), Hawke Research Institute and the University of South Australia and in partnership with the State Library of South Australia. Cost: One person \$60 or two people \$100

**[AARE-NZARE 2014 Conference, 30 November – 4 December, Brisbane](#)**

AARE and NZARE are national associations for fostering educational research in Australia and New Zealand. Through this conference, we will facilitate contact between educational researchers and support the development of high quality educational research. The theme is 'Speaking back through research'. The conference will be held at the Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane.

**[Joint AAA/ASHA 2014 Conference 'Culture, Climate, Change: Archaeology in the Tropics', 01 - 03 December, Cairns](#)**

The joint Australian Archaeological Association/Australasian Society for Historical Archaeology annual conference will be hosted by James Cook University. In addition to sessions specifically related to the conference theme, general conference sessions will include: historical, Indigenous, cultural heritage, native title, rock art, maritime, museums, archaeological science, environmental change and public archaeology issues.

**[The Association for the Study of Australian Literature Annual Mini Conference, 11 – 13 February 2015](#)**

This conference is held annually by the Association for the Study of Australian Literature as one of its key forums for the presentation of research in the discipline. ASAL is the premiere international association for the study of Australian literature and runs the journal JASAL. The University of New England has been invited to host the conference in February 2015 and the inaugural Judith Wright Lecture will be delivered as part of this event.

**[Call for abstracts closing 15 February 2105 - ANZATS Conference 2015: A Life Worth Living, 29 June - 1 July 2015, Sydney](#)**

The Conference Planning Committee is pleased to invite all members of ANZATS and the theological and wider academic community to submit the title of their proposed presentation at this conference, together with an abstract of 250-300 words by February 15, 2015. This should be accompanied by contact details: Name, institutional affiliation, postal address, phone number and email address. Please address submissions to [Dr Jacqui Grey](#).

**[Free exhibition 'Interned: Torrens Island, 1914-1915', till 16th August 2015, Migration Museum SA](#)**

In August 1914 war broke out across Europe. Within months hundreds of men – 'enemy aliens' – were interned on Torrens Island, in the Port River estuary near Adelaide. Sailors taken off enemy ships, foreign nationals living in South Australia, and even some naturalised British subjects found themselves behind barbed wire. Wartime censorship meant people outside knew next to nothing about internment or life in the camp. Observations of camp life survive in the compelling photographs of Paul Dubotzki and the diary of professional boxer Frank Bungardy. Brought together in this exhibition, these sources tell the little-known story of South Australia's 'enemy within'.

**[Museums Australia National Conference, 21-24 May 2015, Sydney](#)**

Be part of "the cultural cacophony" at Museums Australia National Conference 2015. Museums Australia's national conference will be held in Sydney from 21-24 May 2015 at Sydney Town Hall. The sector has much to celebrate and the conference is being held in the largest and most exciting city in Australia. It will align with two key signature events, the opening of the Vivid Festival and the Sydney Writers Festival.