

CHASS Newsletter October 2017

In this issue: Photos from the 2017 CHASS Australia Prizes Dinner • HASS Your Say - Showcasing CHASS Australia Prize Winners • Board vacancy • Special reader offer • Renewing your CHASS membership • Member & Sector updates

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## Congratulations to the winners of the 2017 CHASS Australia Prizes!

Elizabeth Tynan, **Atomic Thunder: The Maralinga Story** (NewSouth Publishing) won the 2017 CHASS Australia Prize for a Book. **The Zest Festival 2012-2016** (ARC Centre of Excellence for the History of Emotions Zest Contributors – Jacqueline Van Gent, Susan Broomhall, Rebecca Millar, Erika von Kaschke, Elizabeth Reid, Melissa Kirkham, Jane Davidson) won the 2017 CHASS Australia Prize for Distinctive Work. **Laura Rademaker** and **Lisa Walton** were joint winners of the 2017 CHASS Australia Prize for a Future Leader. **Camille Roulière** (The University of Adelaide) won the 2017 CHASS Australia Prize for a Student.

Congratulations to the winners and thanks to all nominees who applied this year! We received over 270 nominations across the four categories in 2017 and would like to thank everyone for their support of our annual endeavour to acknowledge and celebrate distinguished achievements in the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences (HASS) in Australia.

We would like to thank all our jury members for their time and work in making the annual Australia Prizes a success: Christie Anthoney (Festivals Adelaide), Professor Barbara de la Harpe (University of Southern Queensland), Professor Tim Dunne (The University of Queensland), Adj Professor Ian Howie (RMIT University), Dr Tom Karmel (Flinders University), Tess Knight (The Co-op), Alexandra Lazzari (Routledge/Taylor and Francis), Associate Professor Jo Lindsay (The Australian Sociological Association), John Oster (Regional Arts Australia), Bethwyn Serow (Australian Major Performing Arts Group (AMPAG)), Professor Joseph Siracusa (RMIT University), Colin Steele FAHA (Australian National University), Dr Helen Sykes (Future Leaders), Professor Christina Twomey (Monash University), and Richard Watts (ArtsHub).

Special thanks to our sponsors Routledge, Future Leader and the Co-Op for their continued support of the Prizes and to Mr Martin Bean CBE, Vice-Chancellor of RMIT University for supporting the 2017 CHASS Australia Prizes Dinner.

[Click here to read the keynote address](#) delivered by Emeritus Professor Steven Schwartz AM, Patron of the annual CHASS Australia Prizes at the Dinner.



[View all photos](#)

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## Inviting nominations for a vacancy on the CHASS Board

We are inviting nominations from member organisations for a recent vacancy on our Board. We are calling for an enthusiastic and proactive Board Member who can help support the organisation of an annual event for CHASS, among other commitments. Our Board Members

are involved in strategic planning, overseeing CHASS's key directions and activities, and ensuring compliance with constitutional and other statutory requirements. Should you require more information about the role and its commitments, please contact us.

Please download the [Form of nomination of delegate](#) here. This form should be filled and submitted no later than 5pm AEDT on Thursday 30 November 2017 by [email](#) to or by regular mail to CHASS, PO Box 12226, Franklin Street Post Shop, A'Beckett Street, Melbourne, VIC 8006.

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## Important: Renewing your CHASS membership

As a CHASS member, your organisation is part of an essential network for communication and collaboration across the diverse disciplines and institutions operating in this sector. A unified voice for the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences (HASS) sector is of increased significance in the face of new challenges, and we hope to have your continued participation in our work.

CHASS members have access to various services such as the daily media monitoring update, event listings on our website and newsletter, profiling opportunities in our newsletter, and social media support and promotion. We collaborate with them for policy submissions, advocacy, and local and interstate events. Only current financial members are able to nominate representatives to join the Board as well as vote at the Annual General Meeting. This year, members were able to take advantage of discounted tickets to attend the 2017 CHASS Australia Prizes Dinner.

Membership renewal letters and invoices were sent to you in July. If you haven't received your invoice or your organisation's staff/billing details have changed, please [contact](#) us. Subscriptions can be paid via EFT/cheque/credit card (Visa and MasterCard only, merchant fees apply).

We look forward to continuing our association with you and seeing you at the next CHASS event.

**CHASS**  
what makes us human

**DID YOU KNOW  
CHASS  
MEMBERS RECEIVE:**

- ✓ Support of advocacy of key issues through collaborations with peer groups and sector leaders in the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences
- ✓ Access to our extensive network of leading academics, practitioners & policy makers
- ✓ Special discounts for attending CHASS events
- ✓ Promotion opportunities in the monthly e-newsletter
- ✓ Social media + website support for national conferences/events
- ✓ Opportunities of representation to the Federal Government

**NOT A MEMBER YET?**

**JOIN OUR NETWORK TODAY!**

✉ [membership@chass.org.au](mailto:membership@chass.org.au) **i** [www.chass.org.au/membership](http://www.chass.org.au/membership)

**Become a CHASS member today**

## **HASS Your Say**

### ***150 wives tell their stories***

**2017 CHASS Australia Future Leader Prize winner Laura Rademaker on learning Tiwi history on its own terms**



I've long been fascinated by the story of the missions on the Tiwi Islands. Established by Bishop Francis Xavier Gsell in 1908, the self-styled 'Bishop with 150 wives', the missionary priest famously 'bought' the marriage rights of Tiwi girls from their betrothed husbands, bringing them into the mission. So when the opportunity to work with Tiwi Islanders to write a history of their dealings with the Catholic missions arose, I was eager.

I have spent the last eighteen months visiting the islands doing histories with women who grew up in the mission. Through these partnerships, I hope to produce a history of the mission, drawn primarily from the testimonies of Tiwi people.

And these women have plenty to teach us about Aboriginal history, religion, race and gender in Australia. Whereas I expected condemnation of missionary hubris for thinking they could 'buy' Tiwi women, I have been learning a different view of the Tiwi past, focused on women, not priests. That is, the mission as a kind of Tiwi feminist project. Tiwi women found in the mission a chance to reform and modernise their communities, create opportunities, and, ironically, even strengthen their cultures, despite missionaries' paternalistic and colonising intentions. It was



missionaries who, slowly, were made to come to terms with the Tiwi, my research partners insisted. Tiwi histories give a striking counterpoint to established narratives of missions and Aboriginal history, showing how foregrounding Indigenous voices and perspectives might reframe much we assume about Australia's past.

To know more about my research, [contact me](#).

*Image: Bathurst Island Church, 1954 from the MSC Archives, Kensington*

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## HASS Your Say

***Visions of Waters: How to hear the voice of the gagged Murray Mouth?***  
2017 CHASS Australia Student Prize winner Camille Roulière draws on music and sound to explore the watery depths of the Murray River's mouth in Lower Murray Country (SA)



Waters are contested entities that are currently at the centre of most scientific discussions about sustainability. Discourse around water management underlines both the serious absence and devastating overabundance of water: rising sea levels compete against desertification; hurricanes and floods follow periods of prolonged drought. As we increasingly pollute, canalise and desalinate waters, the ambiguous nature of our relationship with these entities becomes visible. And while we continue to damage what most sustains us, collective precarity grows. It is therefore unsurprising that shifting our understanding, and subsequent use, of water has been described as one of the biggest—and most pressing—challenges of our time.

My research answers to this challenge. It centres on spatial poetics, i.e. on the manners in which people engage and interact with their environments through art. More precisely, I explore the relationships between humans, waters and musics—both intrinsic and humanly produced—around the Murray Mouth, a space disfigured by upstream barrages, dams and locks. By exploring these co-evolving relationships, I aim to unveil an array of manners to perceive and relate to the Murray Mouth's waters; and then draw on this plurality to question—and potentially reimagine—our cultural construction and representation of these waters.

With the same challenge in mind, I also recently organised and co-convoked the international H2O: Life & Death conference, which aimed to gather researchers and artists working on this necessary shift in watery perception to develop more sustainable futures. A publication of the conference proceedings is to follow.

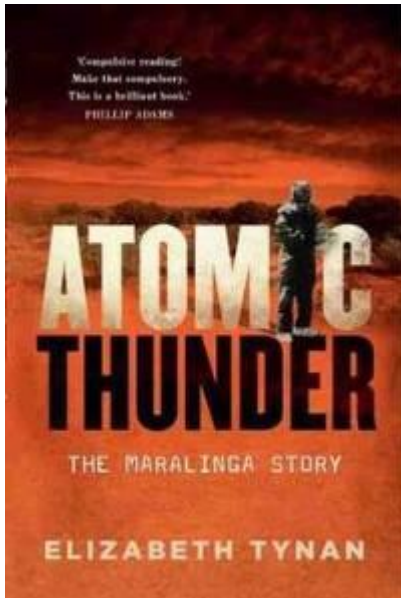
For further information on the different projects in which I am involved, [contact me](#).

*Image copyright: Camille Roulière*

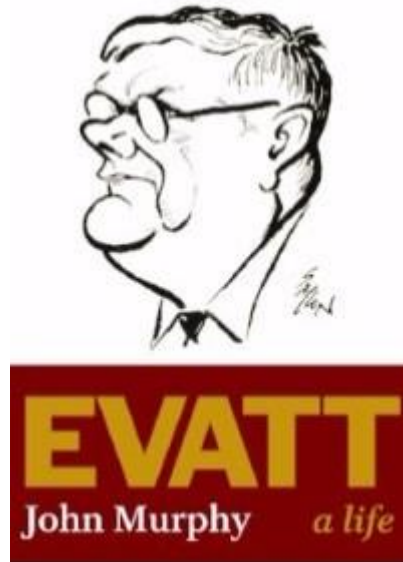
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**Special discount for readers: NewSouth Publishing is pleased to offer 20% discount on their books featured on the shortlist of the 2017 CHASS Australia Prize for a Book.**

**Please click on the respective images to avail the offer.**



Winner of the 2017 CHASS Australia Prize for a Book



Finalist of the 2017 CHASS Australia Prize for a Book

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## **2017 ACHRC Annual Meeting *The GLAMorous Humanities*, 8-10 November 2017, Canberra**

The Australasian Consortium of Humanities Research Centres' 2017 Annual Meeting 'The GLAMorous Humanities: Working with Cultural and Collecting Institutions' is being held at the Humanities Research Centre, Australian National University in Canberra.

This two-day symposium (plus workshop day on the 8th) will bring together best-practice examples and sector provocations to curate a strong conversation around issues relevant to both the GLAM (Galleries, Libraries, Archives and Museums) sector and the Humanities and Creative Arts tertiary sector, and to collaborate between them. This conference is designed to bring the university and GLAM sector together to reflect on shared achievements and seek ways to improve working relations in the years to come. Presentations by researchers from both sectors who have worked together on major projects will alternate with panels of experienced funders and administrators sharing their knowledge and advice for future collaboration. Click here to view the [program](#) and to [register](#).

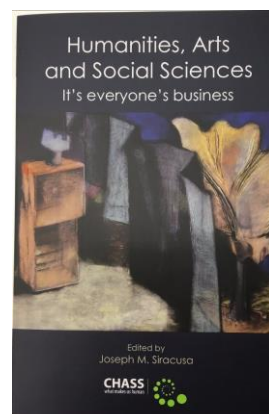
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## ***How Can The Show Go on? Performing Arts and Screen Wellbeing Summit, 13 November 2017, Sydney***

'How Can The Show Go On?' will raise awareness, share information, and generate cross-industry action around the wellbeing of performing arts and screen workers in NSW. This all-of-industry summit will collaboratively explore and commit to action that ensures the show can go on without the wellbeing of those integral to the show paying the price. Through this event, the sector can begin to map and plan how the performing arts can perform better and what resources and partnerships will be integral to doing just that. The summit includes case studies and stories of wellbeing support from across the sector and from other industries that provide a source of inspiration, information, and ideas from which we can build awareness, momentum and buy-in for improved NSW support for performing arts wellbeing. The summit has been developed by the NSW Performing Arts and Screen Working Group with support from Create NSW and industry. Click here to [register](#).

## **CHASS Book - Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences *It's everyone's business***

Published by Routledge with essays collated and edited by CHASS President Professor Joseph M. Siracusa, [Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences: It's everyone's business](#) is a must-read. In producing this pocket book featuring a range of essays by prominent Australian and international researchers, CHASS's goal is to illustrate the diverse ways in which the humanities, arts and social sciences provide essential services to all citizens in all walks of life.



The book was officially launched by our distinguished dinner speaker Robyn Archer AO at the 2016 CHASS Australia Prizes Dinner in October 2016 in Melbourne. Robyn has also written the book's Foreword. We have distributed over 1500 copies nationally since the launch. If you haven't received a copy, [please download it here](#).

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