



2011 WA POETRY FESTIVAL POETS BIOGRAPHIES

Patron

Dr Glen Phillips is a West Australian writer, an Honorary Professor of English at Edith Cowan University, Perth; and Director of the University's International Centre for Landscape and Language. Glen has co-edited poetry and essay collections and student textbooks. His own poetry has won prizes and appeared in more than 50 American, British, Italian, Thai, Singaporean, Chinese, Korean, Indian and Australian journals and/or anthologies. He has published eleven poetry collections.

Local Poets:

Chris Arnold: Though a newcomer to poetry, Chris was a finalist in the 2011 Perth Poetry Slam and has over 3 poems published in a variety of publications.

Simon Cox: Simon's poetry has appeared in Voiceworks, harvest and The Sleepers Almanac No. 5. In 2008 he self-published a small chapbook, Book Lung, completed while in residence at the Katharine Susannah Pritchard Writers Centre.

Kate Wilson: Kate's poems are meant to be heard, seen and felt, she has been a state finalist in the Australian Poetry Slam three times, and has won the Bunbury Poetry Slam and the Festival of Yarns bush poetry competition.

Jaya Penelope: Inspired by Rumi and Hafiz, the bhakti poetry of India and contemporary feminist poets, poet/storyteller Jaya Penelope traces the elusive trail of the beloved from fairytale forest to kitchen sink and back. A published poet, she has performed at music festivals, poetry readings, in cafes, and house concerts.

Paul Harrison: Paul has had over fifty poems published in underground on-line and print magazines including tree killer ink, eviscerator heaven, deuce coupe, opium poetry, zygote in my coffee and creatrix. Paul was a WA finalist for the Australian National Poetry Slam in 2009 and 2010. Paul's first collection "Meet Me At Gethsemane" was published by Mulla Mulla Press in 2011.

Mar Bucknell has been writing and performing poetry since 1978. He has been

published in Spare Times and Navigations, and will be in the next edition of Spit Diction. In 1980 he self-published a collection, With No Apology, and has recently published the chapbooks minikins, Laments and How to Make an Island.

Ron Okely has developed his own style of writing but appreciates classical poetry. Some of his poems have been published in chap books and online poetry journals and an anthology. In 2010 he published a book of his poems.

Danny Gunzburg: His work appears in Verandah, Going Down Swinging, Journeys To The Point and other periodicals. His publications include poetry, short stories, and songs including three albums of his music, a spoken word poetry album and a combination album of poetry and music.

Charmaine Papertalk – Green is an indigenous poet from the Bardimaya people. In 2006 she won the National NAIDOC Poster Competition for her title of work called Life Circle. The description of her work on that winning entry is: 'Our past and our future are interconnected. In the circle of life as we move from the past to the future we must always remember and respect everything in the past. Our history, our culture, our traditions, our ancestors and our own experiences.'

Janet Jackson is a writer and editor and a poet of page, screen and microphone. She has written poetry since 1986, seeking poems that work whether declaimed loudly or whispered in the mind. She also writes songs. She performs with attitude, soul, and sometimes guitar. She published a collection, 'Coracle', in 2009. A chapbook 'q finger' was published by PressPress in early 2011. A selection of Janet's recent work has been chosen for Fremantle Press's 2012 book 'Performance Poets'.

ACR is the author of Reopening Cases and I'm Rooted & Other Poems, both published by Collective Effort Press, Melbourne. She has been a guest poet on diverse sites in Melbourne, Sydney, Perth and regional towns.

National Poets

John Mateer has published books in Australia; and booklets in Australia, South Africa, Sumatra, Japan, Macau and Portugal. He has read his work at festivals in Europe, Asia and South Africa, and at PEN's Free the Word Festival in London.

Michelle Cahill is an Indian writer living in Sydney. Her work has appeared in World Literature Today, HEAT, Meanjin and Australian Literary Review. She won the Val Vallis Award, and the Inverawe Nature Poetry Prize (minor).

Geoff Lemon is co-editor of literary anthology Going Down Swinging, and former poetry editor of harvest and Voiceworks magazines. His poems and stories are published in the likes of Best Australian Stories, HEAT, Griffith Review, Blue Dog, and Island. A six-time slam winner, he has performed at shows and festivals across Australia and been broadcast numerous times on national radio.

Jennifer Compton is a poet and playwright who also writes prose. She has been awarded the 2010 Kathleen Grattan Prize for her book of poetry. She has read at the Genoa Poetry Festival, Sydney Writers Festival, Overload Poetry Festival, Sarajevo Poetry Days, and most recently at the Queensland Poetry Festival.

International Poets

John Daniel's poetry has been published in the Faber Introduction series, Swallow's 23 Modern British Poets, Missing the Boat, Etruscan Books, and a wide variety of contemporary British and American magazines. He has also self-

published a number of volumes including Childsplay, Soddits (a collection of sonnets) and Pushing 100 which was a series of poems about pushing his aged mother around the London parks. He has won a number of prizes including the Camden Prize for Poetry, The Kent and Sussex prize, the Exeter prize for Poetry.

Jane Spiro is Principal Lecturer in the School of Education at Oxford Brookes University, UK, and a published poet and novelist. She has published books on poetry and story teaching with Oxford University Press, and in 2010 won a major national teaching award for her role in poetry education. She has published two collections of stories for language learners and a novel, and her poetry is included in several collections of poetry with regional poetry groups in Devon and Oxford. She has been awarded prizes for both story and poetry, and participated in many poetry projects including two exhibitions of poetry and photos, poetry on the Oxford buses, and a CD recording of poetry about the moors. Her readings and keynote addresses include those in Croatia, Finland, Sweden, and Malaysia, including several festivals in the UK.

Ruth Sancho Huerga (Castellon de la Plana, Spain) is a poet, playwright and theatre and film director, and lives in Melbourne. She studied English Philology (University of Barcelona) and Drama Studies at William Layton Laboratory (Madrid) and Collegi del Teatre (Barcelona). She has worked on the stage for more than 20 years and performed theatre and poetry in different countries around the world.

FESTIVAL MUSICIANS AND OTHER SUPPORTING ARTISTS

Anthony Hargrave is the lead singer, guitarist and songwriter in the band Utterly Irrelevant playing rock to acoustic covers and originals.

Marcus Sturrock is one of the finest guitarists in the world & has toured & played with many of the best musicians on the planet. Visit his website.

David Hyams is an accomplished singer-songwriter, composer and multi-instrumentalist, playing guitars, mandolin, bass, dobro and harmonica.

Debra Ratcliffe is a singer/guitarist who has performed at country music venues and in the late eighties won a couple of talent quests.

Lois Olney an indigenous musician, Lois has performed with many of Australia's top musicians and has been described as "A Jazz Diva", "Queen of the Pilbara", "A nightingale" and "Australia's Oprah Winfrey".

Penny Wood plays a range of European folk music - from Swedish to Irish. A highlight of her flute-playing career was playing at the Glastonbury Festival.

The Book of Reel is Peter Stafford, Rachel Armstrong and Dave Johnson. They play acoustic folk music that combines guitar, fiddle, mandolin bass and whistle in a range of styles, feels and genres.

Peter Stafford is best known as a performance artist and oil painter. Peter sings and plays banjo, mandolin and guitar.

Rachel Armstrong works currently as an academic and plays fiddle, viola, mandolin, accordion, Irish whistle and sings like a lark.

Dave Johnson is well known for both his myriad appearances with all manner of well known acts on festival stages around the country, and his own exemplary solo work.

Saf Kassim plays Acoustic/Electric guitar and teaches sax and guitar at JAG Music

Roeli Joosten studied Theatre & Dance In Amsterdam and tries to make people aware of the dynamics within music and help them to develop the means by which the body may reflect & express subtle nuances of music.

Amanda Joy is a poet, sculptor, installation artist and songwriter. Her poetry has been published online and in Cottonmouth, Up The Staircase Literary Review, Killpoet, Fragile Arts Quarterly, Black Rider Press, Another Lost Shark, The Toronto Quarterly, Black Listed Magazine, Stylus Poetry Journal and The Best Australian Poems 2009.