



mildura writers festival

18 - 21 July 2024

Friday at the Powerhouse Precinct Package \$90
(four sessions plus lunch)

Saturday at La Trobe Package \$100 (five sessions plus lunch)

Friday Lunch only by Stefano's Cafe \$35 (12.45 – 2.00pm)

Saturday Lunch only by Stefano's Cafe \$25 (12.30 – 1.30pm)

Date	Venue, Time & Price	Details
Thur 18.07.24	Mildura Arts Centre 199 Cureton Avenue Registrations for packages and dinner packs from 5.30pm for a prompt 7.00pm start \$25 Tickets: milduraartscentre.com.au or phone: 03 5018 8330	Health Check Dr Karen Hitchcock has written candidly about the frontline of medical treatment, investigating questions like what happens when a doctor kills a patient, are GPs overprescribing antidepressants, does 'female Viagra' work and what role can psychedelics and cannabis play in treating pain? Her book <i>Dear Life, On Caring for the Elderly</i> , explores the good and bad of caring for the elderly, end-of-life decisions and over-treatment, frailty, and dementia. The festival's opening night explores the big issues in society. This deep dive into our health care system with a seasoned practitioner with over 20 years of experience is sure to inform and provoke.
Fri 19.07.24	Powerhouse Precinct 122 Hugh King Dve 10.00am – 11.15am \$20	Reading and Writing Place into Being What does the practice of writing and reading about placemaking reveal and why is it a radical act? Moderated by Melinda Hinkson with Melissa Lucashenko , Lilian Pearce , Emily Potter , and Nikita Vanderbyl , our speakers explore the ways in which their work redefines the spirit of place.
	Powerhouse Precinct 11.45 pm – 12.45 pm \$20	Charlotte Wood: Stone Yard Devotional Stella Prize-winning author of <i>The Natural Way of Things</i> , and the nonfiction work, <i>The Writer's Room</i> , Charlotte Wood shares thoughts on her tenth book, <i>Stone Yard Devotional</i> , a meditation on themes of despair, grief and hope, in conversation with Michael Winkler .
	Powerhouse Precinct 12.45pm – 2.00pm \$35	Lunch by Stefano's Cafe Continue the literary conversations with a warming vegetarian offering from our principal caterer by the riverfront with a glass of Chalmers wine.
	Powerhouse Precinct 2.00pm – 3.00pm \$20	Julie Janson: Compassion From the author of the Miles Franklin longlisted <i>Madukka: The River Serpent</i> , <i>Compassion</i> is an exploration of the complex and dangerous lives of Aboriginal women in 1800s colonial New South Wales. Julie Janson talks with Nic Brasch about her second novel in a trilogy that serves as a counternarrative to colonial history in Australian literature.
	Powerhouse Precinct 3.30pm – 4.30pm \$20	The Poet and the Sufi Singer Marjon Mossammaparast and Farhan Shah discuss Sufism, the mystical expression of Islam, and the disciplines within it that include poetry, music, dance, and theology. Join this session to learn more of the upcoming performance of Farhan Shah and Sufi Oz at the Mildura Arts Centre.
	Mildura Arts Centre 7.30pm for 8.00pm \$30 TICKETS: www.milduraartscentre.com.au or telephone 03 5018 8330	Farhan Shah and Sufi Oz Led by award-winning singer, composer and music producer Farhan Shah, Australia's Sufi music super-group has created a mesmerizing global sound that both celebrates and innovates the rich traditions and modern appeal of qawwali and Sufi music from South Asia and the Middle East. Sufi music refers to the devotional music of the Sufis, inspired by the works of poets like Rumi and Hafiz, making this performance a fitting inclusion in the 2024 Mildura Writers Festival. Farhan has drawn together talented artists with an affinity for Sufi music who come from Syria, France, Japan, Ireland, Fiji and now call Australia home. This exciting musical group brings the Sufi tradition to the stage with its 800-year-old heritage and celebrates the foundational themes of this mystical tradition which include tolerance, respect, equality, the search for meaning, peace, protection of the environment and the plight of the individual in a complex world. Stephen Whittington of the Adelaide Advertiser gave the performers five stars at a 2019 show stating the 'soaring voice of Farhan Shah, a Pakistani Pavarotti, was borne aloft by a trad-modern ensemble of drums, harmonium, electronic keyboard and guitar...The power of his ecstatic singing, crazy drunk and in love with the divine, was irresistible.' Don't miss this uplifting performance brought to you by Mildura Writers Festival and Mildura Arts Centre for one night only.

Sat

ALL DAY AT LA TROBE UNIVERSITY (LTU)

20.07.24

471 Benetook Avenue

9.00am – 10.00am

Registration essential
for this free session**Ask the Publisher: Q & A with Upswell's Terri-ann White**

The director of one of the country's most ambitious imprints shares her passion for those difficult-to-categorise, yet impactful works of fiction, nonfiction and poetry. With experience as a bookseller, writer, academic, and 'ideas' festival organiser, **Terri-ann White** offers an expert's view.

10.00am – 11.00am

\$20

New Voices: Tina Kane Emergent Writer Award

Poet, scholar and former artistic director of the Mildura Writers Festival **Paul Kane** (livestreamed from the USA) presents the Tina Kane Emergent Writer Award. The 2024 recipient is **Gareth Morgan**, co-director of Sick Leave, a monthly reading series and occasional journal, and author of *Dear Eileen and When a Punk Becomes a Spunk*.

11.30am – 12.30pm

\$20

Christos Tsiolkas: The In-Between

Novelist, playwright, and film critic **Christos Tsiolkas's** *The In-Between* is a tender, affecting novel of love, hope, and forgiveness by the author of *The Slap* and *Damascus*. Join him and long-time friend **Angela Savage** for an unflinching conversation about this latest work, the creative process and dedicating a life to literature.

12.30pm – 1.30pm

\$25

Lunch by Stefano's Cafe

Have a break with a vegetarian baguette with baker Paul Clarke's sourdough, and seasonal salad. Coffee provided by our long-time sponsors, Vittoria Coffee and One Stop Wholesalers.

1.30pm – 2.30pm

\$20

The Poet's Voice

Readings from multi-award winner **Nam Le**, author of *The Boat* and *36 Ways of Writing a Vietnamese Poem*; **Marjon Mossammaparast**, writer of two poetry collections including *That Sight*, winner of the 2019 Mary Gilmore Award; and recipient of this year's Tina Kane Emergent Writer Award, **Gareth Morgan**.

2.45pm – 3.45pm

\$20

Melissa Lucashenko: Edenglassie

Winner of the Miles Franklin award for *Too Much Lip*, **Melissa Lucashenko** talks with **Terri-ann White** about her novel, *Edenglassie*. Set in Brisbane, two extraordinary stories, five generations apart, debunk colonial myths and reimagine an Australian future.

4.00pm – 5.30pm

\$20

How Reading Makes Us Human

An unmissable discussion with a panel of deep thinkers and accomplished writers about the value of reading, with **Christos Tsiolkas**, **Charlotte Wood**, **Melissa Lucashenko** and **Nam Le**, moderated by **Angela Savage**.

Stefano's Cafe

25 Deakin Ave
7.00pm for 7.30pm
\$130 includes food,
wine & music

Rumi's Feast with Joseph Abboud

This dinner celebrates the recent cookbook and food of **Joseph Abboud** of Rumi's restaurant, the honest and enduring eatery in Melbourne's inner north. Hosted by fellow restaurateur **Stefano de Pieri**, guests can anticipate a memorable meal by Stefano's Cafe, wine by Chalmers, and live music from **Sufi Oz**.

Sun

Latrobe University

21.07.24

11.00am – 12.00pm

Registration essential
for this free session**The Murray Talk 2024****The Great Beauty**

With a literary career spanning thirty years, Christos Tsiolkas, our 2024 guest speaker, is hailed as one of the most significant contemporary storytellers at work today. His talk investigates how film as an art form has influenced his writing.

The Murray Talk is presented by an esteemed writer on any subject. It was established in dedication to the memory of our festival patron, the late Les Murray, and the enduring vitality of the Murray River.

400 Gradi

31 Deakin Avenue
12.30pm
\$80

Festival Finale Lunch

This gathering is popular for its informality and comforting winter fare. Guest writers provide amusing and thought-provoking responses to questions from their peers.