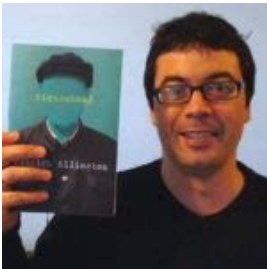


## APWT CHINA PARTICIPANTS BIOS



**Adam Aitken** is a poet, memoirist, academic and editor of Contemporary Asian Australian Poets. He was a co-editor of the poetry magazine *P76*, and for a time associate poetry editor for *Heat* magazine. Adam published his first collection, *Letter to Marco Polo* (1985) and since then has published five further collections. His poems and short fiction have also been published widely in anthologies and journals. He has taught narrative writing at University of Technology, Sydney (UTS) and obtained a PhD in creative writing. His most recent books of poetry are *Eighth Habitation*, (shortlisted for the Adelaide Festival Award), and *Tonto's Revenge*, (Tinfish Press, Hawai'i). His latest work is a memoir *One Hundred Letters Home* (Vagabond Press 2016). He currently researches reflective academic writing at UTS. Appearing in: [Poetic License](#) & [Poetic Immersions](#).

---



**Patrick Allington** is a Lecturer in English and Creative Writing at Flinders University. His debut novel, *Figurehead* (2010), was longlisted for the Miles Franklin Award. His short fiction has appeared in *Meanjin*, *Griffith Review*, *Kill Your Darlings*, *The Big Issue*, *Southerly* and elsewhere. His novels-in-progress are *Potatoes in all their glory* and *Skylights*. His critical writings have appeared in *Australian Book Review*, and *The Weekend Australian*. He was Commissioning Editor at the University of Adelaide Press and Seniors Writer-in-Residence for SA Writers' Centre. He has taught Politics and English at University of Adelaide. In 2014, he joined boards of *Australian Book Review* and the SA Writers' Centre. Appearing in: [Writing in a Foreign Place](#) & [Claiming Asia](#).

---



**Devi Arumugam** received a PhD in English Literary Studies from International Islamic University Malaysia, 2016. Her research was a comparative study on contemporary British women writers using Virginia Woolf's ideology. Currently, she is working as an English lecturer for Cambridge English Main Suite and as Chief Exam coordinator for Cambridge English Examinations at Blue Wave Educational Resources, Malaysia. She volunteers in several NGOs' Educational Development Board for the underprivileged. Devi has a collection of short stories, poems and a novel in progress.

---



**Hélder Beja** is the Co-Founder and Programme Director of The Script Road – Macau Literary Festival. He's been living in Macau since 2010, working as an Editor, Reporter and Cultural Programmer. Hélder is the Editor-in-Chief of the bilingual (Chinese-English) Arts and Lifestyle magazine *Macau CLOSER*. As a Journalist, he's been covering the Arts since 2003. He is currently a contributor of *Revista LER*, the most important literary magazine in Portugal. In 2011 Hélder won the Macau Daily Times Short Story Competition, with a story titled *Slow Fire*. Hélder is also working with video. In 2012 he directed his first project, the documentary *Once Upon a Time in Ka Ho*, - about the former Ka Ho Leprosy Centre, in Coloane, Macau - which premiered at the Macau International Film and Video Festival, and screened in Shenzhen, Shanghai and Granada (Spain). Appearing in: [Literary Connections Across Continents](#) & [Indie Publications in the Asia Pacific](#).

---



**Julie Beveridge** is CEO/Festival Director of Brisbane Writers Festival. She has led BWF since 2013. Before joining BWF, she was the Program and Services Manager at Queensland Writers Centre, and previously the Director of Queensland Poetry Festival. Julie has a Bachelor of Arts (Theatre) and Masters of Arts and Entertainment Management. Julie's participation is supported by the Australia Council for the Arts. Appearing in: [Tales from Downunder](#) & [Literary Connections Across Continents](#).

---



**Sunita Lad Bhamray** is an author based in Singapore. She is also an educator and after a rewarding career in teaching, she now enjoys her time devoted to writing and to causes that will make a difference. *Ganga Jamuna* is Sunita's third book. Her first book, *Triumphs on the Turf*, was about horse racing in India, followed by *Grandma Lim's Persimmons*, a storybook for children. Appearing in: [Writing for Young Adults](#). Sunita will also be reading from her work.

---



**Sally Breen** is the author of *The Casuals* (2011) and *Atomic City* (2013) nominated for the Queensland Literary Awards People's Choice Book of the Year in 2014. Sally is a senior lecturer in writing and publishing at Griffith University and fiction editor of the *Griffith Review*. Her work has appeared widely in Australia including *Best Australian Stories*, *Review of Australian Fiction*, *Griffith Review* and *Overland*. She is a director of APWT. Appearing in: [Claiming Asia](#) & [Creating the Asian Male in Literature](#).

---



**Michael Brennan** is an Australian writer and publisher who lives in Tokyo, where he is an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Policy Studies at Chuo University. He is the founder of independent publisher Vagabond Press and the Australian editor of the online Netherlands-based poetry journal, *Poetry International Web*. His own work includes the poetry collections *The Imageless World* (Salt Publishing, 2003), which won Australia's Mary Gilmore Award in 2004 and shortlisted for the Victorian Premier's Award; *Unanimous Night* (Salt Publishing, 2008), which won the William Baylebridge Memorial Prize and shortlisted for NSW Premier's award; and *Autoethnographic* (Giramondo, 2012) which won the Grace Leven Award, shortlisted for Victorian Premier's Award and translated into Japanese and Vietnamese. Appearing in: [Poetic License](#)

---



**Alexandra Büchler** is the Director of Literature Across Frontiers, the European Platform for Literary Exchange, Translation and Policy Debate. A translator and editor Alexandra has worked as a cultural manager for thirty years. She has translated more than 25 books of fiction and poetry and edited 6 anthologies of short fiction, including collections of Czech writing in English translation and of Australian and Greek writing in translation into Czech. She has translated the works of J.M. Coetzee, David Malouf, Janice Galloway, Gail Jones and Jeanette Turner Hospital. Her translation of Czech modern classic *The House of a Thousand Floors* by Jan Weiss is forthcoming from Central European University Press. She is the editor of *New Voices from Europe and Beyond*. Appearing in: [Little Fish, Big Ponds](#) & [Literary Connections Across Continents](#)

---



**Randolf Bustamante** is a bilingual poet and creative writing teacher from the Philippines. His publications include poems in literary journals and historical poetry anthologies, and prose translations (English to Filipino - Filipino to English). For 20 years he taught in universities in Manila and Boston. Now he is an independent consultant for writing, editing, and translating. His current project is a verse translation of Francisco Balagtas's *Florante at Laura* (1838), an epic of Philippine Literature, to English. Appearing in: [On Literary Translations](#)

---



**Jane Camens** is APWT's founder and executive director. She has an MA in Creative Writing from the University of East Anglia and an MFA (Fiction) from Vermont College of Fine Arts. Jane's short fiction has been broadcast on the BBC and published in literary magazines in Asia, Australia and UK, including *Griffith Review*, *Dim Sum*, *Concertina*, *2010 Fish Publishing Anthology*, *Terra* (a bi-lingual English/Bahasa Indonesian anthology from Wordstorm Writers' Festival) and *Four Ever* (a Script Road/Macau production). In 2010 she won the international Fish Publishing Short Story Prize and the 2016 Script Road Short Story Competition. She co-edited 'New Asia Now' (*Griffith Review* issue 49).

---



**Ora-Ong Chakorn** is an applied linguist and discourse analyst with an interest in discourse studies, translation and intercultural communication. She holds a B.A. (First Class Honors) in English Language and Literature from Chulalongkorn University in Thailand, and PhD in Applied Linguistics from the University of Warwick in the UK funded by the Royal Thai government. She has been working as a lecturer in the Graduate School of Language and Communication at NIDA in Bangkok since 2002. She was the editor in chief of NIDA Journal of Language and Communication. She has edited 10 Thai books of poetry and fiction, four of which received acclaimed national awards.

In 2014 she served as the judging committee of ASEAN Young Writers Award. Appearing in: [Writing about Place](#)

---



**Mridula Nath Chakraborty** is the Deputy Director of the Monash Asia Institute, Monash University, Melbourne. She completed her doctoral work on “Hotfooting Around Essentialism: Feminisms of Colour” at the University of Alberta, Canada. Trained in a classical English literary canon at Delhi University, India, Mridula’s research interests include postcolonial literatures, studies in nationalism, feminism and diasporas, translation theory, culinary cultures, public intellectuals, global English and Bombay cinema. She has worked at the intersection of English and regional language publishing in India with Penguin Books and Katha. In 1997, she won the A. K. Ramanujan Award for translation from two Indian languages and has translated and

co-edited, with Rani Ray, *A Treasury of Bangla Stories* (Srishti 1999). Mridula is a director of APWT. Appearing in: [Claiming Asia & On Literary Translations](#)

---



**Farheen Chaudhry** has a Masters in International Relations from Quid E Azam University, Pakistan. In Islamabad she has worked as head of two TV stations, Punjab and Star Asia. She is currently Program Director for a new channel. She has published four short story collections, with another three in production, including a travelogue. In 2012 Farheen was awarded the Literary and Cultural Award from the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC). She is now chief coordinator in Pakistan of SAARC Writers’ apex body. She has written TV drama serials about social issues and produced socio-cultural documentaries. Farheen is Pakistan’s Good Governance Forum’s Goodwill Ambassador for Peace. Appearing in: [Women Writing Asia](#)

---



**CHEN Peng** born in Yunnan in 1975, director of the literary magazine Dayi, author of 17 novellas and short stories and the novel Knife. He has been awarded the October Magazine prize for short-story. Appearing in: [Finding the Author Voice in China](#)

---



**Grace Chia** is the author of poetry books, *womango* and *Cordelia*, shortlisted for the Singapore Literature Prize for Poetry in 2014. She has published *The Cuckoo Conundrum*, a prose chapbook with Ethos Books, with a forthcoming short story collection, *Every Moving Thing That Lives Shall Be Food*, by Math Paper Press, the same publisher for *We R Family*, a prose anthology which she edited. Her writing is anthologized internationally. She was the inaugural NAC-NTU Writer-in-Residence (2011-12) where she mentored emerging writers. She has judged poetry competitions for *Text In The City* and the *National Poetry Festival*. Appearing in: [Poetic Immersions.](#)

Grace will also be [launching her books](#), *Every Moving Thing That Lives Shall Be Food* and *Wanderlustlers*.

---



**Christopher Clark** is an American living in the mountains of northern Taiwan. He is working with the elders of the Tayal and Truku tribes to transform their ancient tales into video games and comics. Appearing in: [Writing about Place.](#)



**John Corbett** heads the Department of English at the University of Macau. He has published widely on literary translation, intercultural language education and corpus linguistics as well as his special interest Scots literature and the Scots language. He is a member of the International Association for Languages and Intercultural Communication and edited the Association's journal *Language and Intercultural Communication* for five years (2004-9).



**Fan DAI is our host.** She is a professor of linguistics and Director of the Center for Creative Writing of the School Foreign Languages. She has four collections of essays in Chinese, and a novel *Butterfly Lovers* in English. Her work in English has appeared in *Drunken Boat* and *Asia Literary Review*. She teaches creative writing in English as second language. In 2012 Fan was Fulbright Visiting Research Scholar in the Nonfiction Program at University of Iowa. Appearing in: [Literary Connections Across Continents](#), [Teaching Creative Writing in Asia](#), & [Creative Writing in the Academy](#)



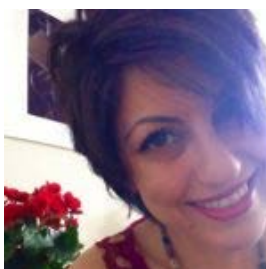
**Jose Dalisay** (aka 'Butch') has published more than 30 books of fiction and nonfiction, winning many awards both in the Philippines and overseas. He has been a Fulbright, Hawthornden, British Council, David TK Wong, Rockefeller, and Civitella Ranieri fellow. He teaches English at the University of the Philippines, where he also serves as Director of the Institute of Creative Writing. His second novel, *Soledad's Sister*, was shortlisted for the inaugural Man Asian Literary Prize in 2007. For years he has sat on the jury of David TK Wong Fellowship at the University of East Anglia. Jose Dalisay is a director of APWT. Appearing in: [Creating the Asian Male in Literature](#), [Creative Writing in the Academy](#)



**Jame DiBiasio's** latest thriller is *Bloody Paradise* (Water Street Crime, 2016). He is also the author of *Gaijin Cowgirl* (Crime Wave Press, 2013) and the non-fiction *The Story of Angkor* (Silkworm Books, 2013). He was founding editor of *AsianInvestor* magazine and website in Hong Kong. Visit him at [www.jamedibiasio.com](http://www.jamedibiasio.com). Appearing in: [Writing about Place](#)



**Rachel Edwards** is the editor-in-chief of Transportation Press, whose second book, *The Third Script, new short stories from Iran, Tasmania and the UK* was launched in March 2016. She is non-fiction editor of *Open Road Review*, a South Asian magazine of literature and culture, a regular guest on ABC radio discussing books and was host of the Book Show on Edge Radio. She is a freelance writer and reviewer, a former editor of *Island* and judge of the Tasmanian Literary Prizes. Appearing in: [Little Fish, Big Ponds & Indie Publications in the Asia Pacific](#).



**Sanaz Fotouhi** is APWT's assistant executive director. She is a writer, filmmaker and academic. She holds a PhD in literature from UNSW. As an Iranian-Australian she is interested in diasporic narratives. Her book *The Literature of the Iranian Diaspora: Meaning and Identity since the Islamic Revolution* was published in March 2015 (I.B. Tauris). Her creative non fiction book about her travels into Afghanistan *Journey of Hope* will be published in 2017 with Transit Lounge. Sanaz is one of the founding members of the Persian Film Festival in Australia, and the co-producer of the multi-award winning documentary *Love Marriage in Kabul*. She is currently working on a multi-perspective novel about the Iranian migratory experience, the unpublished manuscript for which was shortlisted for the Debora Cass Prize in 2015.

---



**Ralph Semino Galán** poet, literary and cultural critic, translator and editor, is the Assistant Director of the UST Center for Creative Writing and Literary Studies. His poems in English and Filipino have won national prizes in the Philippines. He is the author of four books: *The Southern Cross and Other Poems* (NCCA, 2005), *Discernments: Literary Essays, Cultural Critiques and Book Reviews* (USTPH, 2013), *From the Major Arcana [Poems]* (USTPH, 2014), and *Sa mga Pagitan ng Buhay at Iba pang Salin [Translations]* (USTPH, forthcoming). Appearing in: [Creative Writing in the Academy](#)



**Kate Griffin** is Associate Program Director at Writers' Centre Norwich, contributing to the development of WCN's international activities. Formerly international programme director at the British Centre for Literary Translation, Kate has developed projects in the Middle East, Asia and Europe. She also works with the London Review Bookshop on its World Literature series, and was a judge of Independent Foreign Fiction Prize (2005- 2010). She worked for Arts Council England (2001- 2010), specialising in international literature and translation. She spent most of the '90s working overseas in Belgium and Russia. She is one of the leaders for workshop [Translation as Play](#).



**Alexandra Gregori** is a food and lifestyle writer with a Master of Arts in Gastronomy. She is an Australian expatriate, currently living in Manila, where she works as a freelance writer and blogger. Her food and travel blog - [shegathersnomoss.com](#) - is designed to share her experiences of a nomadic life, the ups and downs, the tastes and textures and the abiding sense of adventure it has always inspired. Alexandra will be launching her book *Songs on the Wind*.



**Romi Grossberg** uses creative arts and art therapy in challenging communities. From drawing art therapy with deaf students in Vietnam, to dance therapy with street kids in Cambodia, Romi has presented in numerous forums about alternative approaches to mental, emotional and physical health, including in a Tedx Phnom Penh talk titled: 'Dance Your Life Around'. A decade of professional counseling, and international public speaking and professional writing, inspired her to write *The 5-Minute Guide to Emotional Intelligence*. She has contributed to *The Huffington Post* and been published in Australia, Hong Kong and India. In 2015 she was published in *Griffith Review 49; New Asia Now*. She is now working on a book based on her work in Cambodia called *Hip Hop and Hope*. Romi will be reading from her work.



**Kawika Guillermo's** fiction has appeared in *The Hawai'i Pacific Review*, *Drunken Boat*, *Feminist Studies*, and *Mothership: Tales from Afrofuturism and Beyond*. He writes blogs for *decomp Magazine* and *Drunken Boat*. His debut novel, *Stamped*, will be released, 2017. He's a cultural studies Postdoctoral Fellow at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. His scholarship is published or forthcoming in *American Quarterly*, *Games and Culture*, *Multi-ethnic Literatures of the United States*, and *Queer Sex Work*. Appearing in: [Creating the Asian Male in Literature](#). He will also be reading at the Open Mic.



**Neeta Gupta** is the Festival co-Director for Jaipur BookMark - a publishers' B2B segment held parallel to Jaipur Literature Festival. She is also the publisher at Yatra Books and editor and Joint Secretary at the Bhartiya Anuvad Parishad, a not-for-profit organisation promoting translations between Indian languages. Appearing in: [Little Fish](#), [Big Ponds](#) & [Women Writing Asia](#)

---



**Eliza Vitri Handayani** is an Indonesian author and a literary translator. Her short stories, essays, and translations have appeared in leading Indonesian literary outlets, as well as in the *Griffith Review* ('New Asia Now' edition), *Asia Literary Review*, and *Asymptote Journal*. Her novel *From Now On Everything Will Be Different* was published by Vagabond Press. She is also the founder of InterSastra, an Indonesian literary translation initiative. Appearing in: [Literary Connections Across Continents](#), [Writing for Young Adults & On Indonesian Literature](#)

---



**HE Xuequn**, born in 1962 in Hunan province, essayist and author of short stories and poems. Appearing in: [Finding the Author Voice in China](#)

---



**Robin Hemley** is Director of the Writing Program, Writer-in-Residence, and Professor of Humanities at Yale-NUS College in Singapore as well as Professor Emeritus at The University of Iowa and Associated Faculty of RMIT University in Melbourne, Australia. He is the author of 12 books of nonfiction and fiction and the winner of many awards including a 2008 Guggenheim Fellowship, The Nelson Algren Award for Fiction from The Chicago Tribune, The Story Magazine Humor Prize, an Independent Press Book Award, 2 Pushcart Prizes and many others. He has been widely anthologised and has published his work in such places as *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Chicago Tribune*, *New York Magazine*, and many of the finest literary magazines in the

U.S, as well as a popular column on the Philippines, 'Dispatches from Manila', on McSweeney's Internet Tendency. Robin has taught widely around the world. Robin will be running the workshop [Travel Writing in the 21st Century](#) and delivering a keynote [On Travel Writing](#).

---



**Cristina Pantoja Hidalgo** has published over 30 books, including novels, short story collections and collections of essays and nonfiction narratives. She has won several literary awards and lectured extensively both nationally and internationally. At present she is Director of the University of Santo Tomas Centre for Creative and Literary Studies. She is also Professor Emeritus for Literature and Creative Writing, at the University of the Philippines, where she also served as Director of the UP Creative Writing Centre, Coordinator of the Creative Writing Program and Vice President for Public Affairs of the UP System. Professor Hidalgo has also been director of the publishing houses of both UP and UST. Appearing in: [Writing in a Foreign Place](#)

---



**Susanna Ho** is a Hong Kong-based writer who teaches English at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. Her first novel *Mother's Tongue: A Story of Forgiving and Forgetting* shows how language use and one's destiny can be intertwined with each other. Susanna holds a PhD in applied linguistics. Her research interests are writing, reading and learner autonomy. In the process of exploring her subjects' writing practices and writing experiences, she found that each has a story to tell. It was through recounting their stories that her passion for writing was rekindled. Now she is writing her next novel and has two more in the pipelines. Susanna will be reading from her work.

---



**Tammy Ho Lai-Ming** is the founding co-editor of *Asian Cha*. She is an assistant professor of Literature at Hong Kong Baptist University where she teaches fiction, poetry, poetics, and modern drama. She also writes fiction and poetry. Her story "Let Her Go" won 3rd Prize in The Standard-RTHK Short Story Competition 2005 and her poetry has been nominated for the Pushcart Prize three times and the Forward Prize. Her work has been translated into Chinese, Filipino, Italian, Japanese, German and Portuguese, while her translations of other writers can be found in *Chinese Literature Today*, *Drunken Boat*, *Pathlight*, *World Literature Today*, among other places. Her first

collection is *Hula Hooping* (Chameleon, 2015) and her first collection of short stories *Her Name Upon the Strand* is forthcoming from Delere Press. In April 2016, Tammy received the Young Artist Award (Literary Arts) from the HK Arts Development Council. Appearing in: [Poetic Immersions](#) & [Indie Publications in the Asia Pacific](#).

---



**Gabor Holch** is on a journey of developing from a writer of professional materials to fiction author. As a diplomat and management consultant, he has published dozens of papers and magazine articles on international relations, economic and business issues, and published two books on related topics. In recent years, he revisited a couple of stories from personal experience and imagination, and aspires to turn them into short stories and novels.

---



**Jane Houg** has lived in Hong Kong and China since 1985. In 1981 she wrote *Bathroom Parley* which was short-listed by Faber and Faber for a compilation of novellas by young writers. In 2006 she published two educational textbooks for Pearson Education Asia. In 2011 she published a children's story *Lantau Life*, and *Houg's*, a non-fiction book about early life of her husband in China. Her YA Chinese vampire novel 'Bloodswell' was published by QX Publishing, an imprint of Commercial Press Hong Kong, 2012. Her collection of children's chapter books was published by QX Publishing in 2016. Her collection of Chinese folk and fairy tales 'Pun Choi' will be published this autumn. Jane graduated with an MFA from Vermont College of Fine Arts. Appearing in: [Writing for Young Adults](#)

---



**Joshua Ip** is a poet, editor, and literary organiser. He won the Singapore Literature Prize for 'sonnets from the singlish' (2012), and has also published 'making love with scrabble tiles' (2013) and 'sonnets from the singlish UPSIZE EDITION' (2015). He has been placed in three different categories of the Golden Point Award. He co-edits two series of anthologies: *A Luxury We Cannot Afford* and *SingPoWriMo*; He also edits *Ten Year Series*, an imprint of Math Paper Press. He is working on a graphic novel, 'Ten Stories Below'. He is the founder of Sing Lit Station, a literary non-profit that runs community initiatives, including SingPoWriMo, Manuscript Bootcamp, poetry.sg, and several workshop groups. He also writes a regular poetry column for The Middle Ground. Appearing in: [Poetic License](#). He will also be launching his book

---



**Linda Jaivin** is an author, cultural commentator, essayist and translator (from Chinese). She has published 7 novels and 4 works of non-fiction; her latest novel, *The Empress Lover* (Fourth Estate, 2014), features a protagonist who is a translator of Chinese film subtitles. Linda's recent non-fiction includes her recent *Quarterly Essay Found in Translation: In Praise of a Plural World* (Black Inc, 2013) and a new book on Beijing (*Beijing*, published in June 2014 by Reaktion Press). In 1992, she and Geremie Barmé co-edited the acclaimed anthology of translations from Chinese, *New Ghosts, Old Dreams: Chinese Rebel Voices* (Times Books). Her first novel, *Eat Me*, has been translated into a dozen languages. She is a visiting fellow and editorial consultant at the Australian Centre on China in the World at the Australian National University. Her participation at APWT 2016 is supported by the Australia Council for the Arts. Appearing in: [Tales from Downunder](#). Linda will be delivering a keynote: [The Accidental Translator](#).

---



**Clint Jewson** studies creative writing, literature and Islamic studies at Griffith University on the Gold Coast, Australia. His short stories have been published in various publications throughout Australia and internationally, including *Talent Implied*, *My Favourite Apocalypse* and ABC Open.

---



**Nicholas Jose** is an Australian author best-known for his fiction and cultural essays. His 7 novels and 2 collections of short stories include *Paper Nautilus*, *The Red Thread* and *Original Face*. His acclaimed memoir *Black Sheep: Journey to Borroloola* appeared in 2002. He was general editor of the *Macquarie PEN Anthology of Australian Literature* (2009) and has written widely on contemporary Australian and Asian art and literature. In 2002-05 he was President of Sydney PEN. He was Visiting Chair of Australian Studies at Harvard University, 2009-10, and is an adjunct professor with the Writing and Society Research Centre at the University of Western Sydney. He was Chair

of Creative Writing at The University of Adelaide 2005-08, where he is now Professor of English and Creative Writing. His participation at APWT 2016 is supported by the Australia Council for the Arts. Appearing in: [Language Crossings](#). Nick will also be delivering the Opening Keynote: [Creating Our Audience](#).

---



**Suzanne Kamata** is an American who has lived in Japan since 1988. She has authored or edited eight books including *Gadget Girl: The Art of Being Invisible* which won the APALA Honor Award for YA and was named a Book of Outstanding Merit by Bankstreet College and *Screaming Divas*, which was named to the ALA Rainbow list. Her work has appeared in *Asia Literary Review* and *Japan Times*. She serves as Fiction Editor of *Kyoto Journal* and is a lecturer at Tokushima University. Appearing in: [Indie Publications in the Asia Pacific](#) & [Teaching Creative Writing in Asia](#). She will also be reading from her work.

---



**Maribel Kawsek** holds an MFA in Creative Writing from the University of the Philippines. Her publications include *Afraid to be Chinese* (Milflores, 2006), a collection of stories, as well as a crime fiction story, "Less Talk, Less Mistake" (2011), which made Ellen Datlow's honorable mention for best horror fiction. Her other stories appear in the Anvil anthologies *When We Were Little Women* (2004), *Belonging: Stories of Relationships* (2008), and *Turning Points: Women in Transit* (2011). Appearing in: [Women Writing Asia](#)

---



**Shelley Kenigsberg** is a freelance editor, writer and trainer. She runs S K Publishing and edits for publishing houses and private clients, in fiction and non-fiction. In 2009, Shelley started Editing in Paradise offering writing and editing retreats (long and short) in paradisiacal places (Bali and Australia). The programs cover Life Writing and Memoir, creative writing and self-editing masterclasses. She also trains editors, and editing and writing for trade, corporate, academic and educational, government and private clients. Shelley is Head of the Macleay Diploma in Book Editing and Publishing and has delivered the course for the past 23 years. She is writing her own book; it's

taking some time. Shelly will be delivering the workshop [Coming to Your Senses](#).

---



**Julie Koh** was born in Australia to Chinese-Malaysian parents. She has written 2 short story collections: *Capital Misfits* (Spineless Wonders, 2015) and *Portable Curiosities* (UQP, 2016). Her short stories have appeared in *The Best Australian Stories 2014 and 2015*, *The Australian*, *The Sleepers Almanac*, *The Lifted Brow*, *Seizure*, *The Canary Press*, *Kyoto Journal*, *The Fish Anthology* and Fixi Novo's *HEAT*. She is the editor of *BooksActually's Gold Standard 2016* (Math Paper Press). Appearing: [Tales from Downunder](#). Julie will also be launching her book *Portable Curiosities*.

---



**Michele Koh Morollo** is a Singaporean freelance journalist, copywriter and short fiction writer based in Hong Kong. She began working in television at the age of eleven, where she wrote voice-over scripts and interviewed celebrities. She graduated (1st Class Honours) in journalism at London College of Communication, University of the Arts London, where she was also editor of LCC News. She is a founding member of the Singapore Creative Network UK. Her collection of short stories and poems *Rotten Jellybeans* was published in 2007 (Chipmunka Publishing). She was editor of *WHERE* and associate editor for *I-S* (In Singapore), 2007- 2009. In 2010, she received a Singapore National Art Council's Art Creation Grant and has had two short stories included in an anthology



*Love and Lust in Singapore*. In 2016, her story "Liberty Exchange" was published in *Hong Kong Future Perfect*, and her essay "Abracadabra" included in *Imprint*.

---



**Benjamin Law** is a Sydney-based journalist, columnist, TV screenwriter and author of two books—*The Family Law* (2010) and *Gaysia: Adventures in the Queer East* (2012)—both of which were nominated for Australian Book Industry Awards. *The Family Law* has been adapted into a six-part TV show for Australian public broadcaster SBS, and Benjamin is now working on its second series. Appearing in: [Tales from Downunder](#), [Creating the Asian Male in Literature](#). Ben will be delivering a special session [From Page to Screen](#).

---



**Louisa Lim** is the author of *The People's Republic of Amnesia; Tiananmen Revisited*, which was published in 2014 and shortlisted for the Orwell Prize and the Helen Bernstein Book Award for Excellence in Journalism. She was based in China for a decade as a correspondent for the BBC and the US broadcaster, NPR. She is now teaching journalism at the University of Melbourne.

---



**David Lopez-del Amo** is director of SINICUS, a literary agency based in Beijing. He has spent seven years in China working in the public and private sectors, conducting market research, introducing foreign literature, scouting for local talent, consulting for several poetry festivals and developing various cultural exchange programmes. Appearing in: [Little Fish, Big Ponds](#) & [Literary Connections Across Continents](#)

---



**LIN Weipan**, born in Fujian province in 1990. His works have appeared in the Mainland magazines "The Master", "Sprouts", "Breece" and the Taiwanese "China Times". Appearing in: [Finding the Author Voice in China](#)

---



**Ariana Lombardi** is a writer, artist and founder of [Home is a Lonely Hunter](#) a website and the virtual think-space wherein she houses her artistic endeavors, ideas of home, collaborations, and of course, her writing. Ariana has an on-going writing project entitled, Letters to Strangers, and is the Co-Founder and Executive Editor of KNACK Magazine. Her writing and art investigates how and where the function of language meets its form, and how this, in turn, manipulates meaning and our understanding of such. Outside of her creative pursuits, Ariana works as well as a freelance writer, editor and ESL teacher. She received a BA in Creative Writing and Literature from Santa Fe University and Design in 2012. During and after university, Ariana traveled throughout the States, Europe and Turkey and is presently living in China. Her written works have been published in *That's PRD*, *The Laurel Review*, *Pasatiempo*, *Glyph*, and *Strangers Volume 1*. Ariana will be appearing only at the [Spoken Word](#) at the Loft.

---



**Melissa Lucashenko** is an award-winning Aboriginal novelist who lives in Brisbane and the Scenic Rim. Melissa's most recent novel, *Mullumbimby*, was awarded the 2013 Deloitte Queensland Literary Award for Fiction, won the 2014 Victorian Premiers Prize for Indigenous Writing, and longlisted for both Stella and Miles Franklin awards. *Mullumbimby* was also longlisted for the Dublin IMPAC Literary Prize 2015. Melissa is a Walkley Award winner for her non-fiction, as well as a founding member of the women's rights organisation, Sisters Inside. Appearing in: [Tales from Downunder](#) & [Writing about Place](#)



**Jo Lusby** is Managing Director of Penguin Random House North Asia. She joined Penguin China in 2005 to oversee the establishment of Penguin China. Formerly based in Beijing, Jo is now based in Hong Kong, where she is responsible for overall sales, publishing and digital business in North Asia, in local and English languages. Penguin Random House acquires local work for international publication, develops retail and distribution channels for its international list of titles and looks for growth and development opportunities for digital channels. Appearing in: [Little Fish, Big Ponds](#)

---



**MA Lilin** (pen name Ma Ke), also born in 1970s, editor of *Dayi Magazine*, she has been publishing short-stories since 2004. Appearing in: [Finding the Author Voice in China](#)

---



**Kevin M Maher** is a Senior Instructor at the University of Macau. He teaches English courses, including Creative Writing. He has had four short stories published, three in South Korea (Nayala Press), and one in Macau (Script Road Literary Event, GrandePraia Publishing). In addition he has recently self-published his own story, *No Couches in Korea*, on createspace.com. It is based around the adjustment period of first settling into South Korea, as a North American in the 1990s. Appearing in: [Writing and New Media](#)

---



**Joe Milan Jr.** is a writer who teaches and is the 2016 UNLV PhD Black Mountain Fellow in Fiction. Most of his stories and essays take place in and around Seoul, South Korea where he lived for nine years. Wonderful places like *The Kyoto Journal*, *LitroNy*, *Numero Cinq*, and others have published his work. He graduated from the Vermont College of Fine Arts and currently wrestles with his first novel about a Korean adoptee raised in a American trailer park who journeys to find his heritage. Appearing in: [Reflections on the Practice of Writing](#)

---



**Marshall Moore** has written of several works of fiction, including *Bitter Orange*, *The Concrete Sky*, a short-story collection *The Infernal Republic*, and the forthcoming *A Garden Fed by Lightning*. With Xu Xi, he co-edited the anthology *The Queen of Statue Square: New Short Fiction from Hong Kong*. He recently completed a PhD in Creative Writing from Aberystwyth University in Wales. He is an instructor at Lingnan University in Hong Kong. Appearing in: [Reflections on the Practice of Writing](#)

---



**Tracey Ann Morton** is the author of *Halfway up a Hill- Stories from Hong Kong*, published by Kitaab. She worked as a journalist and editor for Longman Pearson in Hong Kong. Returning to Europe she resides in Copenhagen where she lives with her husband and daughter and is the proud godmother to a commercial ship, *Tracey Kosan*. She has presented papers at the Anthony Powell Society and the International Conference on the Short Story in Vienna. Currently she is teaching creative writing in Copenhagen and is to present a paper on Somerset Maugham's Eastern stories at the London Literary Conference in June 2016. She is also working on her third novel.

Appearing in: [Writing in a Foreign Place & Writing about Place](#). Tracey will also be reading from her work.

---



**Omar Musa** is a Malaysian-Australian author, rapper and poet from Queanbeyan, Australia. He is the former winner of the Australian Poetry Slam and the Indian Ocean Poetry Slam. He has released three hip-hop albums, two poetry books, appeared on ABC's Q&A and received a standing ovation at TEDx Sydney at the Sydney Opera House.

He has toured his poetry and music extensively internationally, in Asia, USA, Europe, South America and Australia. His debut novel *Here Come the Dogs* was published by Penguin in 2014. It was long-listed for the Miles Franklin Award and he was named one of the Sydney Morning Herald's Young Novelists of the Year in 2015. The novel came out in the USA through The New Press in January 2016. Omar's participation is supported by the Australia Council for the Arts. Appearing in: [Writing and New Media](#) & [Tales from Downunder](#).

---



**Piia Mustamäki**, a Finn and a New Yorker, currently lives in China, where she teaches academic writing and humanities on New York University's Shanghai campus. Piia has a PhD in English Literature from Rutgers University, specializing in theatre. In recent years she has concentrated on traveling, writing about traveling and her research interest have shifted from drama to travel narratives, nomad identities and tourism as performative act. She's also working on a TV script. Appearing in: [Writing in a Foreign Place](#).

---



**Adam Narnst** is a writer and former cage fighter who has lived between Shanghai and South-East Queensland since 2008. His stories have appeared in *Australia's best Stories 2014*, *The Griffith Review*, *Wet Ink*, and *Antique Children* among others. He was shortlisted for the Victorian University Short Story Prize and Australia's Copyright Agency Short Story Prize. He was an AsiaLink Arts Residence recipient at The Shanghai Writers Association (2015). He is completing a PhD in Writing and Generative Violence and teaches writing and literature. He currently works at Chiang Mai University and has an unpublished novel. Appearing in: [Teaching Creative Writing in Asia](#).

---



**Sahib Nazari** is an undergraduate student of Creative Writing and Literary Studies at Griffith University on the Gold Coast, Queensland (Australia). He was born in Afghanistan but his family fled to Pakistan with his family during the Taliban. After a decade, they eventually moved to Australia in 2005. Sahib is an occasional poet and loves reading and writing poetry. He speaks and writes in English, Urdu, Persian and Hazaragi. In Australia, he's been published in *Talent Implied*, the annual anthology of Griffith University writing students.

---



**Lucy Neave** is a lecturer in Creative Writing at the Australian National University. She is the author of *Who We Were*, a novel published by Text (Melbourne, 2013), which was shortlisted for the ACT Book of the Year Award in 2014. She has published in *Best Australian Stories 2009 and 2014*, and in Australian and American literary journals, including *Overland* and *Southerly*. Her scholarly essays are on fiction writing process, writers' practices and pedagogy. She is the recipient of an Australia Council for the Arts grant, a Varuna Second Book Fellowship and is a former Fulbright scholar. Appearing in: [Claiming Asia & Creative Writing in the Academy](#)

---



**Nhã Thuyên** writes, translates, edits books and sometimes organizes literary events in Hanoi. She has authored several books of poetry, short fiction and tiny books for children. Her most recent poetry book *words breathe, creatures of elsewhere* was published in Vietnamese (Nha Nam publisher, 2015) and in English with translation by Kaitlin Rees (Vagabond Press, Jan, 2016). With Kaitlin Rees, she currently co-edits AJAR ([www.ajarpublish.com](http://www.ajarpublish.com)), a bilingual literary and art journal-press based in Hanoi, an online, printed space for poetic exchange. She is shaping a book of essays on marginalization in Vietnamese contemporary poetry in Post-Renovation period. She also toys with poetry in other mediums. Appearing in: [Poetic Immersions](#).

---



**Putu Kerti Nitiasih**, M.A is a professor in English language teaching. Her area of expertise is English language teaching, sociolinguistics especially in language and power, language and gender. She is a researcher in English language teaching, sociolinguistics and professional development. She has published some books such as *Professional Development* (2013), *Semiotics* (2014), *Entrepreneurship* (2014), and *Bilingual*

*Education* (2015). She has done extensive community services for teachers and lecturers in Bali. She is a member of Indonesian Linguistics Society and TEFLIN Association. She is now the Dean of Languages and Arts Faculty in Ganesha University of Education for the second period.

---



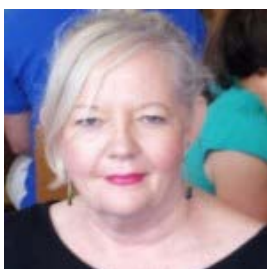
**Collier Noguez** is the author of poetry collections *The Ground I Stand On Is Not My Ground*, selected by Forrest Gander as winner of the 2014 Drunken Boat Book Contest, and *On the Other Side, Blue* (Four Way, 2011). Her work has been supported by fellowships and grants from the MacDowell Colony, Ucross Foundation, Vermont Studio Center, and Fishtrap. She is a PhD Fellow at University of Hong Kong, and will be Lingnan University's Spring 2016 Writer in Residence. She also curates Hong Kong's English-language poetry craft talk series, *Ragged Claws*, and edits poetry for *Juked*. Appearing in: [Poetic License](#)

---



**Charlson Ong** is a resident fellow of the Institute of Creative Writing. He holds an A.B. in Psychology from the University of Philippines, and currently teaches literature and creative writing at UP's Department of English and Comparative Literature. He has acquired numerous grants and awards for his fiction, including the Palanca, Free Press, Graphic, Asiaweek, National Book Award, and the Dr. Jose P. Rizal Award for Excellence. His novel, *Embarrassment of Riches* (UP Press, 2002) won the Centennial Literary Prize. Ong also has served as co-editor of the *Likhaan Book of Poetry and Fiction*. His short stories range from parodies of Filipino texts to insightful treatments of Chinese-Filipino culture. They have been collected into *Men of the East and Other Stories* (1990 & 1999), *Woman of Am-Kaw and Other Stories* (1993) and *Conversion and Other Fictions* (1996). His second novel is due for publication soon.

---



**Liz Packer** coordinates the Professional Writing Program at Adelaide College of the Arts (ACArts). The Advanced Diploma of Arts (Professional Writing) is the only creative writing course at this academic level in Australia. The program also offers a range of single subjects or short courses. All subjects are available online, or face-to-face (depending on enrolment numbers). Prior to working at ACArts, she ran a professional writing consultancy business with a range of international and local clients.

---



**Therese Padilla Abonales** was a fellow at the UP National Writers Workshop and the Iligan National Writers Workshop in the Philippines. Her short stories were published in literary journals in her home country. She is currently teaching at Jimei University in China.

---



**David Perry** lives in Shanghai and teaches in the Writing Program at NYU Shanghai. He is the author of a book of poems, *Range Finder*, and two chapbooks, *Knowledge Follows* (Insurance Editions) and *New Years* (Braincase Books). A new collection of poems, *Expat Taxes*, is forthcoming from French [Concession] Press/Seaweed Salad Editions. He holds an MFA in Literary Translation from University of Iowa. David blogs sporadically at [Pyramid News Scheme](#) and [Art Basilisk](#). Appearing in: [Writing in a Foreign Place](#). David will also launching his book *Expat Tales*.

---



**Ricardo Pinto** is the publisher of the Macau's Portuguese language newspaper *Ponto Final* and the English language magazine *Macau Closer*. He is also the manager of Portuguese Bookshop, Macau and the organiser of the Script Road Literary Festival in Macau.

---



**Kadek Sonia Piscayanti** teaches literature in the English Education Department, Ganesha University of Education, Bali. She has published books such as *Karena Saya Ingin Berlari Saya Ingin Berlari* (Akar Indonesia, Yogyakarta, 2007), "Literature is Fun" (Pustaka Ekspresi, 2012), a compilation of five scripts "The Story of A Tree" (Mahima Institute Indonesia, 2014). She was invited to the Creative Writing Program at Griffith University, Australia (2011 & 2012). She has spoken about women and identity in OzAsia Festival, Adelaide Australia (2013). She directed and performed her own script "Layonsari" in Netherlands and France for Culture Grant from Directorate of Higher Education Indonesia (2014). She has also published a book on drama, *The Art of Drama*,

*The Art of Life* (Graha Ilmu, 2014). She has presented numerous papers nationally and internationally at conferences and festivals. Appearing in: [On Indonesian Literature](#). Sonia will also be reading at the Open Mic.

---



**Edmund Price**, originally from the UK, is active in Hong Kong's local writing scene. He edited the 2014 Hong Kong Writers Circle anthology, *Hong Kong Gothic* and co-edited the 2015 anthology *Tales of Two Cities*, described by reviewers as 'a collection of terrific fiction' and 'a tour de force'. He won the Most Creative Prize for his story 'Lennonism' in the 2014 Hong Kong Top Story competition run by RTHK and the *South China Morning Post*.

---



**Christopher Raja** is the Wordstorm (Australia's Northern Territory Writers' Festival) 2016 blogger. He migrated to Melbourne from Kolkata in 1986 and now lives in Alice Springs. His co-authored play, *The First Garden*, was published by Currency Press in 2012 and shortlisted for the NT Chief Minister's Book of the Year in 2014. His debut novel, *The Burning Elephant*, is published by Giramondo. His participation is made possible by the Arts Northern Territory Quick Response Scheme. Appearing in: [Writing for Young Adults](#) Chris will be launching his book [The Burning Elephant](#).

---



**Page Richards** is an Associate Professor in the School of English, University of Hong Kong. Educated at Harvard University and holding a Master's degree in Creative Writing from Boston University, she has also studied at the Playwrights' Theatre in Boston. Page received a national Mellon Fellowship in the Humanities in the U.S., the Outstanding Teaching Award from the Faculty of Arts at HKU, a Vermont Studio Writer's Fellowship for Poetry and Translation, among other awards. She publishes on poetry, life writing, American literature, drama, and performance. Her work has appeared in *The Dalhousie Review*, *The Harvard Review*, *Wascana Review*, *Journal of Modern Languages*, among others; she is also the author of *Distancing English: A Chapter in the History of the Inexpressible and Lightly Separate*. She directs the MFA in Creative Writing, the HKU Black Box Theatre, the HKU International Poetry Prize, the Writers' Series, and the HKU Creative Writing Studio and edits *Yuan Yang: A Journal of Hong Kong and International Writing*. Appearing in: [Language Crossings](#)

---



**Kate Rogers'** poetry collection, *Foreign Skin*, debuted with Toronto's Aeolus House Press in 2015. In 2016 Kate was a featured reader for the Toronto poetry reading series, Hot Sauced Words; at the League of Canadian Poets new members reading, Toronto, and at the Kingston, Ontario, ArtFest. Kate is co-editor of the *OutLoud Too* anthology (MCCM 2014), and the world poetry anthology, *Not a Muse: the Inner Lives of Women* (Haven 2009). Her poetry has appeared in *The Guardian*; *Quixotica*; *Eastlit*; *Asia Literary Review*; *Cha: an Asian Literary Journal*; *Morel*; *The Goose: a Journal of Arts*,

*Environment and Culture*; *Kyoto Journal*; *ASIATIC: the Journal of the Islamic University of Malaysia*; *Orbis International* and *Contemporary Verse II*. Appearing in: [Reflections on the Practice of Writing](#)

---



**Hope Sabanpan-Yu**, comparatist, creative writer, translator, editor, and professor, is Director of the USC Cebuano Studies Center. She teaches literature, theory and criticism at the University of San Carlos. An advocate for the promotion and preservation of Cebuano culture and heritage, she serves as Central Visayas Coordinator of the NCCA and chairs the Women in Literary Arts – Cebu. Appearing in: [On Literary Translations](#).



**Osamah Sami** is an actor, writer, stand up comedian, spoken word artist, warming musician, failed cricketer and a struggling Muslim. He was born in Iran to Iraqi parents and escaped with his family to Australia as a teen. Osamah is the star and writer of *Ali's Wedding*, Australia's first Muslim romantic comedy. His memoir *Good Muslim Boy* was published by Hardie Grant in 2015 to critical acclaim, being Highly Commended at the Victorian Premier's Literary Prize Award and was the Winner of New South Wales Premier's Literary Award. Appearing in: [Creating the Asian Male in Literature](#), [Language Crossings](#), [Reflections on the Practice of Writing](#), & [Page to Screen](#)

---



**Neville Sarony** (participating in HONG KONG only) is a practicing QC in Hong Kong, author of the novel *The Dharma Expedient* published by Vajra Books, Kathmandu, it was a best seller in Hong Kong. His memoir *Counsel in the Clouds* published by Sweet and Maxwell in June, covers his years as the first foreign lawyer in Nepal in the 1960s and is being translated into Nepali for publication by Orchid Books early in 2016. An ex-Gurkha officer, his fiction focuses on South Asia. The sequel to the Dharma Expedient, *Devlin's Chakra*, is currently being edited. A contributor o the South China Morning Post he also composes satirical lyrics which he performs regularly in Hong Kong.

---



**Mishi Saran** is the author of the travel book-cum-memoir *Chasing the Monk's Shadow: A Journey in the Footsteps of Xuanzang*. (Penguin, 2005). To research the book, she spent a year tracing the footsteps of Xuanzang, a 7th Century Chinese Buddhist monk who travelled along the Silk Road from China to India, passing through Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan and Afghanistan. Her first novel, *The Other Side of Light* is published by HarperCollins India (June 2012). She is currently working on her third novel, set in Shanghai in the 1930s. Following an undergraduate degree in Chinese Studies from Wellesley College (USA), she worked in Hong Kong as a news reporter and as a freelance writer. Her articles have appeared in a variety of publications including the *Financial Times*, the *International Herald Tribune*, the *South China Morning Post* and the *Asian Wall Street Journal*. Her short stories have won awards and been broadcast on the BBC.

---



**Qaisra Shahraz** is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and a prize-winning, novelist and scriptwriter. She holds two Masters Degrees in English and European literature and scriptwriting. Qaisra was recognised as one of the 100 influential Pakistani women in Pakistan Power List (2012). Her novels, *The Holy Woman* and *Typhoon*, are translated into several languages. *The Holy Woman* (2001) won the Golden Jubilee Award, was 'Best Book of the Month' at Waterstones and has become a bestseller in Indonesia and Turkey. Her award-winning drama serial *Dil Hee To Hai* was broadcast on Pakistani Television in 2003. Qaisra recently published her third novel *Revolt*, two volumes of short stories, *A Pair of Jeans* and *Train to Krakow*. She is now working on her fourth novel *The Henna Painter*. Her work is studied in schools and universities. A critical analysis of her work has been done in a book *The Holy and the Unholy: Critical Essays on Qaisra Shahraz's Fiction* (2011). She is a director of APWT. Qaisra's participation is supported by the British Council. Appearing in: [Women Writing Asia](#). Qaisra will be delivering a keynote [Writing and Muslim Women](#).

---



**Ravi Shankar** is the founding editor of *Drunken Boat*, one of the world's oldest electronic journals of the arts and teaches for the New York Writers Workshop. He has published or edited 10 books and chapbooks of poetry, including the 2011 *National Poetry Review* Prize winner, *Deepening Groove*. Along with Tina Chang and Nathalie Handal, he edited W.W. Norton's *Language for a New Century: Contemporary Poetry from Asia, the Middle East and Beyond*, called "a beautiful achievement for world literature" by Nobel Laureate Nadine Gordimer. He has won a Pushcart Prize and a Glenna Luschei Award from *Prairie Schooner*, been featured in *The New York Times*, *The Paris Review* and the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, appeared as a commentator on the BBC, the PBS Newshour and NPR, received fellowships from the MacDowell Colony and Corporation of Yaddo, and has performed his work around the world. Ravi will be running the workshop [Achieving Publication Through Radical Revision](#) and launching his book [Andal the Autobiography of a Goddess](#).



**James Shea** is the author of two poetry collections, *The Lost Novel* and *Star in the Eye*. *Star in the Eye* was selected for the Fence Modern Poets Series and included in the Poetry Society of America's New American Poets series. A former Fulbright scholar in Hong Kong, he is an assistant professor in the Department of Humanities and Creative Writing at Hong Kong Baptist University. Appearing in: [Poetic Immersions](#). He will also be one of the leaders for the workshop [Translation as Play](#).

---



**Hal Swindall** received his PhD in comparative literature from the University of California, Riverside, and has wandered East Asia as a vagabond English professor ever since. His dissertation was on fin-de-siecle British, French and Italian novels and art criticism, but he has developed new oriental interests, especially Buddhist and Daoist art, architecture and philosophy. Hal's other passions are writing, editing, languages, classical music on weekdays, classic rock and long walks.

---



**Gassanee Thaisonthi** is an author, translator, columnist and traveler. She has published several articles and books including fiction, non-fiction. Her travel provide the impetus for her writing. She also works as a consultant. She lives in Bangkok, Thailand.

---



**Glenn Timmermans** is Leader of Literature in the Department of English, University of Macau. After completing his DPhil at University of Oxford in 1994, Glenn travelled extensively in China and became interested in this part of the world. He began research on Macao history in late 1990s. He is a member of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and has contributed to the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography, the Dictionary of Literary Biography, Macao Historical Dictionary, and serves on the Board of Chinese Cross Currents and Hong Kong Jewish Film Festival.

---



**Deedle Rodriguez-Tomlinson**, born in Manila, currently lives in Brooklyn with her husband. Aside from New York, she has lived in Thailand, Florence, London and Shanghai. Her poems, which reflect her peripatetic life, have appeared in *Under The Storm: An Anthology of Contemporary Philippine Poetry*, *Tomas*, the literary journal of University Santo Tomas, and the centenary issue of *Silliman University journal*. She has shared poems in readings at South Dakota, New York, Tacloban and Dumaguete, among others. Her essays and recipes have appeared in *Potluck: Hidalgo Bonding (A Family Heritage Cookbook)*. She is Program Coordinator for New York Writers Workshop.

---



**Tim Tomlinson** is a co-founder of New York Writers Workshop and co-author of its popular text, *The Portable MFA in Creative Writing*. He is also author of *Yolanda: An Oral History in Verse*, and the poetry collection, *Requiem for the Tree Fort I Set on Fire*. His poems, stories, and essays have been published in China, Philippines, and the U.S. including in *Blue Lyra Review*, *Caribbean Vistas*, *Lime Hawk*, and *Long Island Noir* (Akashic Books). He is a member of Asia Pacific Writers and Translators. He teaches in the Global Liberal Studies Program at New York University. Appearing in: [Creative Writing in the Academy](#) Tim will be running the workshop [Person to Poem to Prose](#).

---

Tim will also be launching his book *Requiem for the Tree Fort I set on Fire*.

---



**Julienne van Loon** has authored three novels: *Road Story* (2005), *Beneath the Bloodwood Tree* (2008) and *Harmless* (2013). Her short fiction and essays have appeared in *The Monthly* and *Griffith Review*. She is a Vice Chancellor's Senior Research Fellow at non/fictionLab at RMIT. Appearing in: [Reflections on the Practice of Writing](#)

---



**Rúnar Helgi Vignisson** is an Icelandic author and translator who has won many honors for his writing, among them The Icelandic Translation Award for J. M. Coetzee's *Boyhood*. Runar has translated books by acclaimed American, English and Australian authors, such as Philip Roth, Amy Tan, William Faulkner, Ian McEwan and Elizabeth Jolley. He is the author of seven books of fiction; his latest book, *Love and Other Complications*, received the DV Prize. His short stories have been featured in Icelandic, German, and Spanish anthologies. He is currently director of the Creative Writing Program at the University of Iceland. Appearing in: [Writing and New Media](#)

---



**Nury Vittachi** is Chair of APWT and is one of Asia's most widely syndicated columnists, with columns printed weekly in India, Malaysia, Indonesia, Hong Kong, Bangladesh, Macau, Sri Lanka and on the internet. He is the author or co-author of many books, including *The Feng Shui Detective* series (St Martin's Press) and the *Magic Mirror* series (Scholastic). He founded the Asia Literary Review in 1999 and, more recently, the World Readers Award. Appearing in: [Little Fish, Big Ponds](#), [Creating the Asian Male in Literature](#) & [From Page to Screen](#)

---



**Ingrid Woodrow** is a writer based on the Gold Coast. Her Australian/Vogel award-shortlisted novel, *Goddess and the Galaxy Boy*, was published in 2001. Currently a PhD candidate in Griffith University's Creative Writing program, she has a Master of Arts in Creative Writing and BA in Communication Studies. She co-founded Brisbane's first online writing journal, Mangrove. Her fiction and essays have appeared in journals including *The Big Smoke*, *Meanjin* and *Artlines*; exhibition catalogues including *Auto Fetish: The mechanics of desire* and *Fortitude: New art from Queensland*; and anthologies *Difficult Love* and *Queensland by Invitation*. Appearing in: [Women Writing Asia](#).

---



**Nicole Webb** has been a journalist for 20 years, a decade of that spent as reporter/producer and news reader for Sky News Australia. In 2010, she moved to Hong Kong where discovered her passion for telling stories, fuelled further with a move to Xi'an in China two years ago. As well as writing for a number of publications on everything from lifestyle to human rights and travel, she is the founder of expat-entertainment blog, Mint Mocha Musings: The hotelier's wife, an expat affair in Asia. Nicole recently had her story "Feels Like Home" published in an anthology *Once Upon an Expat*. She is writing her first book.

---



**Sholeh Wolpé** is an Iranian-born poet, literary translator and writer. Her publications include four collections of poetry, a play, three books of translations, and three anthologies. A 2016 The O'Niell semifinalist, and one of this year's ten Centenary Stage Women Playwrights Series finalists, Wolpé is the recipient of the 2014 PEN/Heim, 2013 Midwest Book Award and 2010 Lois Roth Persian Translation prize, among others. Wolpé's writings have been translated into eleven languages and a collection of her poems in Spanish, *Cómo Escribir una Canción de Amor*, is forthcoming in Mexico and Spain. Wolpé's modern translation of *The Conference of the Birds* by 12th century Iranian mystic poet, Attar, is forthcoming from W.W. Norton. Appearing in: [On Literary](#)

---

[Translations](#). Sholeh will also be presenting her work at [From Word to World](#).

---



**Dora Wong** is a Language Instructor at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University. As a believer of the power of visuals, she has combined classical painting with process drama in the language classroom. She also encourages her students to doodle and storyboard before penning their ideas into text. Recently, she has been working on picture books for young readers. Appearing in: [Writing and New Media](#)

---





**Fang Xia** is currently a Ph.D. candidate at University of Macau, where she completed her MA in Translation. Her research specialty is creative pedagogy English as Second Language. She has worked with poets and editor from Australia, Hong Kong and Macao and published two poetry translation books. She is now working on two poetry translation projects with British poet Carol Rumens and Zoe Skoulding. Her research interests include poetry translation and writing, small-group pedagogy, creative fiction and non-fiction writing and teaching. Appearing in: [On Literary Translations](#).

---



**Kyoko Yoshida's** 1<sup>st</sup> collection of short stories *Disorientalism* (2014) was published by Vagabond Press in Sydney. She was born and raised in Fukuoka, Japan, studied at Kyoto University and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee before she started her teaching career in Yokohama. She was a participant of the 2005 International Writing Program at University of Iowa and a visiting scholar at Brown University in 2006-07. Her stories have appeared in various American literary journals. She also translates Japanese experimental poetry and drama. *Kiwao Nomura's Spectacle and Pigsty*, translated with Forrest Gander (OmniDawn, 2011), won Rochester University's Best Translated Book Award in 2012, and *Shu Matsui's Proud Son*, translated with Andy Bragen, was performed at the 2013 International Play Festival at Ohio Northern University. She teaches American Literature at Ritsumeikan University and lives in Kyoto. She is also be one of the leaders for the workshop [Translation as Play](#).

---



**Chengcheng You (Jo)** is a PhD candidate in literary studies at the University of Macau. Her research interests include anthropomorphism, teen gothic in children's literature, animal poetry and women's writing. Her recent publications include chapters in *New Directions in Gothic Children's Literature* (2016) and *Child Governance and Autonomy in Children's Literature* (2016) published by Routledge. Other essays are published in Chinese and English, such as in *Bookbird, Journal of Urban Society's Art, Changchun University Journal*. Jo is also interested in creative writing and pedagogy that feature the integrated synergy of poetry appreciation, translation and rewriting. She has been engaged in a number of poetry translation projects in the Association of Stories in Macau, including in the translation of Australian poetry of Lucy Dougan, Philip Mead and Dan Disney.

---



**Muhammad Zuhdi** is the Vice Dean for Academic Affairs of the Faculty of Education, State Islamic University (UIN) Syarif Hidayatullah Jakarta. He holds an M.Ed. degree from UNSW Sydney (2000) and a Ph.D. from McGill University Montreal (2006). He served as the Director of Language Development Center of UIN Syarif Hidayatullah Jakarta (2011-2015). He has also served as the Director of Education of Jalan Sesama (Sesame Street Indonesia) Project 2006 – 2012 ([www.jalansesama.or.id](http://www.jalansesama.or.id)). In June 2011, Dr. Zuhdi was awarded the Australian Alumni Award for Excellence in Education by the Australian Embassy Jakarta. Appearing in: [On Indonesian Literature](#)