

10.30
Thurs
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VENUES

Eateries & Supermarkets

ACCOMMODATION

BUSINESSES



To get to Braidwood Community Gardens
travel south down Ryrie St
turn right at Coghill St and cross bridge
turn right onto Bombay Rd
Community Gardens are 300m on right
There is also a walking track from bridge
This is pleasant 10 min walk from centre of town

TWO FIRES FESTIVAL OF ARTS + ACTIVISM

VOICES-VISIONS-WATER-LAND

1st 2nd & 3rd April 2011 Braidwood NSW

PROGRAMME

To get information or purchase tickets visit www.twofiresfestival.com.au

During the festival tickets can be bought at the Festival Office at the CWA rooms, next to the Post Office in Wallace St.

Weekend tickets: Full \$120 (100 conc) includes Sat. night concert

Saturday \$70 (\$60) Sunday \$50 (\$40)

Saturday night concert \$25 (\$20)

Single sessions \$10 Friday \$10

This festival has been organised by volunteers.

Festival organising committee: Maria Bakas-Booker (environment & administration), Merrie Hamilton (Indigenous), Fran Ifould & Cecile Galiazzo (visual arts), Nicola Bowery & Harry Laing (poetry & performance), Kelly Sturgiss (website & programme design), Jill McLeod (publicity), Lara Croucher, Gwenna Green & David Jones.

Many thanks to all those who have donated their time and skills, and who have helped in various ways including Natalie Densley, Sue Irving, Drew, Felicity Sturgiss and Braidwood Landcare, National Parks & Wildlife Service, Paul Dann, John Reid, Lyn Ellis, Martin Royds & Patricia Solomon, Bruce Radke, Alex Rea at Braidwood Times, Gina Oldham at Altenburg Gallery, Anne-Maree Britton & staff at ACT Writers Centre, Michael Gill & Christine Payne, Richard Allen, Mary Appleby, Vera Sapov, Susan Kennedy, Wendy McMahon-Bell, Karen Cooper, Maggie Hickey, Virginia Hooker, Park & Wallace, L'Auberge de Braidwood, Jonathan Millar, St Bede's & Braidwood Central schools, ACF, Paris Sylvester.

Our gratitude to Uncle Max for his support and mentoring since the festival began in 2005. And to Martin Mulligan - who had the original vision for the first festival - for his continuing interest, participation and encouragement.

A special thanks to the Nye family for sponsoring the Two Fires Poetry Competition.

And appreciation to those people who gave donations anonymously.

Books by festival authors are for sale at the festival office.

We recognise that we are on the land of the Walbanja and Yuin People. We thank them for sharing this land with us and agree to respect their laws and lore.

THIS PROGRAMME HAS BEEN PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

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APRIL 1ST, 2ND, 3RD 2011 BRAIDWOOD

John Reid is a visual artist and Senior Lecturer, School of Art, ANU, where he co-ordinates the environment studio and convenes Field Studies. He has been awarded for teaching, raising environmental awareness and for inspiring the production of visual art from science.

Ella Ryan has been an environmental and social justice campaigner in the Illawarra for several years. He interests include climate action, sustainable futures, Indigenous knowledges and ~~Steven Rose~~ **Steven Rose** is a Wamba Wamba man from Deniliquin in southern NSW. He also has cultural and familial connections to the Muthi Muthi, Wiradjuri and Gunditjmarra peoples. Steven has worked in Aboriginal Affairs, as the Executive Officer of the Murray Lower Darling Rivers Indigenous Nations and is currently employed at Yarkuwa Indigenous Knowledge Centre. In addition Steven is also on the Board of the Murray Catchment Management Authority and is an elected Councillor for NSW at the Australian Conservation Foundation.

Sarah Ryan is a retired agriculture and environment scientist still very involved in government, research and community activities to improve the health of Australia's ecosystems. A few years ago she led a CSIRO research program focused on water in the Murray-Darling Basin, and was also a participating artist in *Engaging Visions* a project between the ANU School of Art and the Murray-Darling Basin Authority.

The Stiff Gins is a musical duo formed over a decade ago. Nardi Simpson, a Yuwaalaraay woman, and Kaleena Briggs, who has both Wiradjuri and Yorta Yorta heritage, met as students at the Eora Centre in Redfern – and have been collaborating musically ever since. Known for their distinctive and beautiful vocal harmonies, these singer/songwriters have recently launched *Wind and Water* – after *Origins* (2001) and *Kingia Australis* (2004) – and are beginning a national tour.

Alison Thompson, a founding member of the Kitchen Table Poets (Shoalhaven), lives on the South Coast of NSW. Her poems have appeared in journals and her chapbook, *Slow Skipping*, was published by PressPress in 2008. Her poem *Yukon Delta* was shortlisted for the Bruce Dawe prize in 2008. She was recently awarded the 2010 NSW writers centre Varuna fellowship for a new manuscript of poetry.

Jessica Weir has worked as a human geographer for over fifteen years, including in Thailand, Bangladesh, the Murray-Darling Basin and the Kimberley. She has particular expertise in intercultural dialogue and environmental issues, water, and native title. In 2009 Jessica's book *Murray River Country – an Ecological Dialogue with Traditional Owners*, was launched. In the book Jessica uses different knowledge traditions to reveal unacknowledged assumptions that trap our thinking and disable us from acting.

Iris White retired in 2010 after a career of more than 20 years' service to Aboriginal communities on the South coast and to TAFE NSW. She is the recipient of the 2010 TAFE NSW Gili Award – The Aboriginal Education and Training Director's Meritorious Service Award. A strong Aboriginal woman, Iris has worked tirelessly to address disparity of opportunity for her people – through vocational education and training – and is a Gulaga National Park Board Member.

Artist **John Wolseley** settled in Australia in 1976. His work over the last thirty years has been a search to discover how we dwell and move within landscape – a meditation on how the earth is a dynamic system of which we are all a part. He has multiple works in the NGA, all the state galleries and in numerous public and private collections.

Chin Kham Yoke, choreographer and performer, migrated to Australia in 1966, then lived in Japan from 1976-92 and achieved professional and teaching status in Fujima Classical Japanese Dance whilst studying Noh dance with Kanze Noh. She has lived in Sydney since 1992 and has received various grants for cross-cultural projects and festival events in Australia and overseas. She co-runs Tai-Chiworks and is director of the Hakusen Japanese Dance School.

Jeanine Leane is a Wiradjuri woman from south-western NSW. She has been a secondary teacher, an academic and is currently a research fellow at AIATSIS. She has a life long interest in education for emancipation and social justice and creative writing. In 2010 she completed a PhD on literary representation of Australian Aboriginal people and won the David Unaipon award for an unpublished Indigenous writer for a collection of short stories *Purple Threads* and the Scanlon Prize for Indigenous Poetry for *Dark Secrets After Dreaming: A.D. 1887-1961* published by PressPress.

Helen Lucas grew up on the river Murray in South Australia. She describes a lifelong affection for the lower reaches of the river, not lessened by living in Victoria or NSW. In the early 1990's Helen founded a nurse's environmental lobby, *Nursing the Environment*, which worked nationally to address the environmental impact of mainstream health care. Helen has been a contributor to water policy for a political party and convened successful public water forums in rural NE Victoria. She currently works in federal government in a communications role.

Kavisha Mazzella is a singer/songwriter in the acoustic folk tradition and has just launched her new album, *Love and Sorrow*. Part travelogue, part lament and part celebration, it is her third – after *Mermaids in the Well* (1995) and *Fisherman's Daughter* (1998) – and is twelve years of her writings. This year Kavisha received an AM in the Australia Day Honours for her service to the arts and the community, one manifestation of which is her leadership of the Italian Women's Choir, *La Voce Della Luna*, in Melbourne.

Meredith McKinney is a translator of Japanese literature. She has also co-edited the *Selected Letters* of her mother, Judith Wright, and *The Equal Heart and Mind*, letters between her parents.

Wendy McMahon-Bell's main occupations have been as mother and teacher, with 30 years of theatrical distractions and occasional bursts of writing along the way. Now enjoying both the urge and the opportunity to write, she's been encouraged by positive responses to readings of her poems covering a wide range of themes.

Rhyll McMaster is the author of six prize-winning poetry books and has won the C.J. Dennis Prize. Her first novel, *Feather Man*, Brandl & Schlesinger, 2007, won two major awards and was short-listed for three others. It was published in the UK, USA & Canada and has been translated into Mandarin.

Dr Martin Mulligan is the Director of the Globalism Research Centre at RMIT University, where he specialises in linkages between the local and the global. Originally trained as an animal ecologist he has a background in environmental sociology and also in community development. He has recently completed a major research project for AusAID on what can be learnt from strategies to rebuild local communities in the wake of the tsunami disaster in Sri Lanka and India in 2004. He has also completed a major project for Australia Council for the Arts on the contribution that community art can make to more effective local governance in Australia. His books include *Ecological Pioneers: A Social History of Australian Ecological Thought and Action* (with Stuart Hill, Cambridge University Press, 2001).

Jeremy Nelson lives near Braidwood. Over the years his poems have appeared in Australian and foreign journals and in the 1980's he published two books with Angus and Robertson. In 1998 he published *Visions and Revisions* then *Winter Crow* in 2007. Most of his poems appear on the internet at www.jeremynelson.bigpondhosting.com

Dr Roderic Pitty lectures in International Relations at the University of Western Australia. He has written on the significance of Treaties for achieving justice for Indigenous Australians, highlighted how global citizens like Faith Bandler have helped changed Australia and worked towards halting Aboriginal Deaths in Custody and ending racial discrimination in Australia. Roderic has conducted research on the Waitangi Tribunal in New Zealand and its implications for Australia. He co-edited 'Global Citizens: Australian Activists for Change' (Cambridge University Press, 2008) which includes a chapter about Faith Bandler and the 1967 referendum.

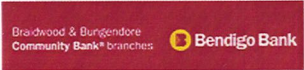
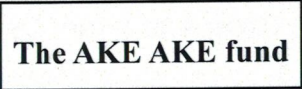
The Two Fires Festival was established in 2005 to celebrate the legacy of Judith Wright as a poet/writer, environmentalist and activist for Indigenous rights.

The festival happens every two years in Braidwood, NSW where Judith Wright lived the last decades of her life. The festival is gaining a reputation as a uniquely adventurous event, delighting and surprising its audiences with its wide range of creative and intellectual offerings.

Braidwood, in the dramatically beautiful Southern Tablelands, provides a relaxed, warm-hearted and intimate setting for the festival. In a world where the push is often to make everything bigger and more dazzling, the Two Fires Festival takes pride in celebrating simplicity, renewed contact with land and community, strong Indigenous involvement, as well as artistic and intellectual vitality.



We would like to thank our sponsors:



The Nye family in acknowledgement of its respect for Judith Wright



TWO FIRES FESTIVAL OF ARTS + ACTIVISM PROGRAMME

FRIDAY 1ST APRIL

3.00-4.00PM

RYRIE PARK

Ceremonial Welcome & Fire Lighting: Uncle Max Harrison with Warren Foster, Johnny Huckle & Banja Smith



4.30-5.30PM

THE LEFT HAND

Shoalhaven Visions progressive opening begins with small works.



5.30-7.00PM

NATIONAL THEATRE

Launch by John Wolseley of **Shoalhaven Visions**

Soup provided by Braidwood Community Gardens



7.00PM - 8.00PM

TUSSOCK CAFE

New work by Helen Geier and Leah-Kate Hannaford



8.00-9.30PM

ST. BEDE'S SCHOOL HALL

Opening Night Performance - Tickling the Taste Buds: Glenn Colquhoun, Rhyll McMaster and more...also complimentary delectables!



Professor Jim Falk is the Director of the Australian Centre for Innovation, Science and Society at the University of Melbourne. Originally trained in theoretical physics he has written extensively about linkages between science, nature and society and his most recent book *Worlds in Transition* (with Joe Camilleri) presents a fairly optimistic assessment of how human society might adapt to major global challenges that lie ahead.

Warren Foster is a musician from Wallaga Lake on the South Coast of NSW. A founding member of The Gulaga Dancers, he is also a talented hip hop songwriter and performer. In 2008 he launched his debut CD, *Dreamtime* in which he talks of culture, reconciliation and encouraging young people's dreams. "I am keen to promote positive messages to bring the wider community closer - to learn and respect the diversity and beauty of the Aboriginal Culture in this country."

Alan Gould has practised as a poet, novelist and essayist for not quite four decades and has twenty books to his name. His novel *The Lakewoman* was shortlisted for the 2010 Prime Minister's Fiction Award. In 1999 he was awarded the Philip Hodgins Memorial Prize for contribution to Australian Literature. He lives in Canberra.

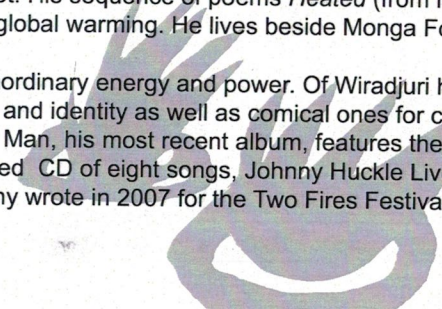
Max Dulumunmun Harrison, or Uncle Max as he is widely known, grew up on the South Coast of NSW. As an Elder of the Yuin people he has been sharing cultural knowledge for over thirty years. Forgiveness & healing are very important concerns for Uncle Max. In seeing the widespread marginalisation of his people, he began what has become his life's work - providing a way for others to understand Aboriginal culture. He takes people from all walks of life into country and has intricate understanding of the environment. Uncle Max has been involved with the Two Fires Festival since its inception in 2005, as a mentor, and conducts the opening and closing ceremonies for the festival. His book *My People's Dreaming*, a rare personal insight into traditional Yuin teachings, came out in 2009.

Barry Hill is an acclaimed writer in several genres, having won Premier's Awards for poetry, the essay, and non-fiction, most recently *Broken Song* (2002) which also won the National Biography Award and the Tasman-Pacific Bi-Centennial Prize for History. His short fiction has been widely anthologised, and translated into Japanese and Chinese. His first collection, *Raft* (1988) was runner up for the Anne Elder Award, and his second, the long narrative poem *Ghosting William Buckley* (1993) won the 1994 Premier's Award. *Necessity: Poems 1996-2006* (2007) won the 2008 ACT Judith Wright Prize and his *As We Draw Ourselves* (2008) was short-listed for the 2008 Victorian Premier's Awards. *Four Lines East* is his seventh collection of poetry. Between 1998 and 2008 he was Poetry Editor for *The Australian*, and at present is the recipient of an Australia Council Senior Writer's Fellowship. He lives by the sea, in Queenscliff, Victoria, with his wife, the singer/songwriter Rose Bygrave.

Terry Jaensch is a poet/ actor and monologist. His first book *Buoy* was published in 2001. In 2004 he wrote and recorded 15 monologues based on his childhood in a Ballarat orphanage for ABC RN's *Life Matters*. He now performs these as *Orphan's Own Project*. His second collection of poetry *Excess Baggage* and *Claim* (a collaboration with Cyril Wong) was published in 2007.

Harry Laing regrets he's never won a major award but finds his experience as a comic performer helps him laugh at the pitfalls of being a poet. His sequence of poems *Heated* (from his second collection *Backbone*) is a personal take on global warming. He lives beside Monga Forest near Braidwood.

Johnny Huckle is a one man band of extraordinary energy and power. Of Wiradjuri heritage, Johnny writes poignant songs of spirit, love and identity as well as comical ones for children - for example, his *Wombat Wobble* album. *Spirit Man*, his most recent album, features the backing harmonies of The Stiff Gins. A newly recorded CD of eight songs, *Johnny Huckle Live*, includes *Two Fires (Light our Hearts)* - a song Johnny wrote in 2007 for the Two Fires Festival.



BIOGRAPHIES

Don Atkinson is a Yuin man with Yorta Yorta connections. He is a printmaker and basket weaver and has exhibited his artworks on the South Coast of NSW and in previous Two Fires Festivals. He is currently studying for a Creative Arts Degree at Deakin University in Geelong. "Through my baskets I am able to weave together a practice from the past and connect with the present."

Maria Bakas-Booker's work is in the non-government community sector, in counselling, group-work and community development. Throughout her adult life Maria has participated in campaigns and actions for social and environmental justice and peace, and a nuclear free world. Her deepest concern is that the interconnectedness of All of Life be understood and felt and that this realisation inform action. Letting go of the 'known' and co-creating more sustainable and socially just processes and Dialogue are very important to her.

Roy Barker and June Barker are river people and were living by the banks of the Barwon River in the 1920s, 30s and 40s, as they grew up on the old Brewarrina Mission. They are Elders who have established a keeping place for traditional culture and history in Lightning Ridge. Roy is the son of Jimmie Barker and they are Muruwari men. Jimmie recorded 150 tapes of his Wuruwari language & culture for posterity. June is the niece of the Aboriginal activist Bill Ferguson, and is a Yorta Yorta woman. Roy and June speak with wisdom on Culture, Water and Land and will share knowledge and stories on the Murray-Darling Basin.

My name is **Kerry Boyenger** and I am a proud Brinja djuwin woman of the South Coast of NSW. I have worked in Education for 23 years and have been teaching for the past 14 years at Broulee Public School, where an Aboriginal Language Program called "Dhurga Djamanj" ("we all talk Dhurga") was introduced in 2005. I have a Bachelor in Teaching and a Graduate Diploma in Adult Education. I am the 3rd of 8 children of whom 7 work in education. I am married to Trevor and have a son Timothy who is 27. I have been inspired by strong women in my family, past and present, to help better educational outcomes for Indigenous people.

Ezra Bix has featured at the *Melbourne Writers Festival*, the *Salt on the Tongue Festival* in South Australia, the Ubud Writers Festival in Bali and on the ABC TV series *Bush Slam*. His latest collection of poetry *Dancing in the Lifeboat* looks at some of his favourite subjects: the environment, the fruit-loopiness of consumerism and love.

Fiona Capp is a Melbourne-based journalist and writer who has won acclaim for her novels. She has said that she was greatly inspired by meeting Judith Wright when she was 12-years-old and her most recent book *My Blood's Country* is a lyrical exploration of the landscapes that Judith Wright loved.

Glenn Colquhoun (NZ) is a poet, children's writer and part-time GP. Of his four poetry collections *Playing God* (2002) has sold 7,000 copies in New Zealand and in 2007 was published in the UK. He won the Glenn Schaeffer Prize for Modern Letters in 2004. His most recent collection of poems *How We Fell* is the candid story of a ten year relationship.

Cheryl Davison is a respected visual artist from the South Coast of NSW and has Walbunja and Ngarigo heritage. She has exhibited widely – including in New York – and tells the stories of her culture and coastal life through her painting and printmaking. She is currently the Aboriginal Community Officer for the Eurobodalla Shire and is studying for a Creative Arts Degree at Deakin University.

Adrienne Eberhard's first collection of poetry *Agamemnon's Poppies* was published in 2003. It was rapidly followed by *Jane, Lady Franklin* in 2004. Her third collection *This Woman* is due out in March 2011. She is the poetry editor of *Island* magazine and lives on the D'Entrecasteaux Channel south of Hobart, Tasmania. She has a particular interest in the natural world.

With *Seven Writers*, **Suzanne Edgar** wrote *Canberra Tales* (1988, 1995); her short fiction is *Counting Backwards* (1991) and her poetry, *The Painted Lady*, short-listed for the ACT's Best Book of the Year, and the Writing and Publishing awards, 2007, when it was reprinted. She's completed another collection.

SATURDAY 2ND APRIL

9.30-11.30AM

BACKQUARTER STUDIO

Mask-making workshop for children: Tamsin & Mia Davison

9.30-11.00AM

NATIONAL THEATRE

Panel: Finding a place in the world - Belonging locally and acting globally

Martin Mulligan, Professor Jim Falk & Fiona Capp



9.30-11.00AM

ST. BEDE'S SCHOOL HALL

Indigenous Forum: Education - One Colour Fits All?

Warren Foster, Iris White, Kerry Boyenger, Roy & June Barker

11.30-1.00PM

NATIONAL THEATRE

Presentation by John Wolseley & Barry Hill on their collaborative work *Lines for Birds* evoking 'the very essence of Bird'.



11.30-1.30PM

BACKQUARTER STUDIO

Workshop: Create Your Story Through Art with Cheryl Davison. Limit of 15 Adults



1.00PM

RYRIE PARK ROTUNDA

The Seaside Ukelele Orchestra

1.00PM

PARK & WALLACE CAFE

Conversation with Fiona Capp about her book *My Blood's Country*

2.00-4.00PM

BRAIDWOOD COMMUNITY GARDENS

Walk & Talk with Yuin Elder Uncle Max Harrison along Flood Creek

2.00-3.15PM

ST. BEDE'S SCHOOL HALL

A Trio of Voices: Poetry reading with Glenn Colquhoun, Rhyll McMaster & Adrienne Eberhard



3.00-5.00PM

ANGLICAN HALL

Workshop: Warren Foster's Hip Hop for teenagers

3.30-4.15PM

ST. BEDE'S SCHOOL HALL

Performance: Orphan's Own Project - Monologues with Terry Jaensch

4.15-6.15PM

NATIONAL THEATRE

Murray-Darling Catchment Panel: Steven Ross, Jessica Weir, Sarah Ryan, Helen Lucas, Roy & June Barker

4.15-6.15PM

L'AUBERGE CAFÉ/RESTAURANT

Braidwood Folk Club. Open Mic.

5.00-6.15PM

ST. BEDE'S SCHOOL HALL

Performance: Leaps of Fancy - voice and dance with Ezra Bix, Wendy McMahon Bell, Chin Kham Yoke & Meredith McKinney

DINNER BREAK

at L'Aubergine

8.00-10.00PM

NATIONAL THEATRE

Festival Concert: Kavisha Mazzella, The Stiff Gins, Johnny Huckle

SUNDAY 3RD APRIL

8.30-10.00AM

ST. BEDE'S SCHOOL HALL

Poets Over Breakfast with John Wolseley, Terry Jaensch, Suzanne Edgar, Jeremy Nelson & Wendy McMahon-Bell. MC's: Ezra Bix & Harry Laing. **Results of Poetry Competition announced**

10.00- 11.30AM

NATIONAL THEATRE

Panel: Treaty, Still Coming? - Would things be any different if the Australian state and Aboriginal peoples were engaged in a treaty relationship? There are good reasons to believe that the answer would be yes! Dr. Roderic Pitty, Uncle Max Harrison, Roy and June Barker & others

10.00- 11.30AM

ANGLICAN HALL

Workshop with Johnny Huckle: Songs for Children

10.30-11.45AM

ST. BEDE'S HALL

Panel: The Dance Between Genres with Alan Gould, Rhyll McMaster & Glenn Colquhoun. Chaired by Suzanne Edgar

10.30-1.00PM

BACKQUARTER STUDIO

Workshop with Donald Atkinson: Basket weaving with local materials
Limit of 15 Adults.

12.00-1.00PM

NATIONAL THEATRE

Indigenous films

12.00-1.00PM

ST. BEDE'S HALL

Country & Creatures: Poetry Reading with Adrienne Eberhard, Alison Thompson & Harry Laing

12.30PM

PARK & WALLACE CAFE

Conversation with Professor Jim Falk

1.30- 3.00PM

NATIONAL THEATRE

Panel: Activism in 2011 - challenges and opportunities with Martin Mulligan, Maria Bakas-Booker, Ella Ryan & John Reid

2.00-3.15PM

ST. BEDE'S SCHOOL HALL

Performance & Poetry: Turning Up the Heat - Glenn Colquhoun, Barry Hill, Jeanine Leane & Ezra Bix

3.30-4.30PM

RYRIE PARK

Festival close & ceremonial extinguishing of fire with Uncle Max Harrison, Johnny Huckle, Warren Foster