

FRIDAY 30 APRIL

10am - 11am	Theatre	<p>SWF LIVE & LOCAL Barrie Cassidy & Friends: Biden's America Celebrated journalist Barrie Cassidy talks with Evan Osnos, New Yorker journalist and award-winning author of the biography <i>Joe Biden: American Dreamer</i>. Based on hundreds of interviews – with Biden and his political peers, allies and opponents – Evan appears live via video to offer his insights into the man taking the presidency in a time of extraordinary turmoil. Following Barrie's interview, former premier and foreign minister Bob Carr and the United States Studies Centre's Gorana Grgic will reflect on what to expect next from Biden and America.</p>
12pm - 1pm	Theatre	<p>SWF LIVE & LOCAL Are You There, Sydney? It's Me, Judy Bloom For generations of readers, Judy Blume is an icon. Beginning in the late 1960s, her celebrated novels were formative for young readers and future writers alike. Join Judy appearing <i>live via video</i> as she talks with Sophie Black about her body of work, which exceeds some 85 million in sales, and on her life now happily running a bookstore on an island in Florida.</p>
2pm - 3pm	Theatre	<p>SWF LIVE & LOCAL But Not Forgotten When a beloved author dies, there is consolation in knowing that their books – the culminated words of a lifetime in letters – outlive them and tether us to their memory. Four Festival guests reflect on the powerful work of four writers taken from us in the past year. A session of reflection, tribute and celebration featuring Michelle de Kretser on Sydney literary great Elizabeth Harrower; Kerry O'Brien on legendary political reporter Mungo MacCallum; Michael Robotham on spy master John le Carré; and Sally Warhaft on Jan Morris.</p>
4pm - 5pm	Theatre	<p>SWF LIVE & LOCAL The Larrikin Lie One of the enduring beliefs of Australian identity is the idea that we as a nation embody the larrikin spirit, that our population are easy going, anti-establishment, laissez-faire. Perhaps, behind our 'she'll be right' veneer, we're an anxious, obedient, state-regulated people. David Marr and Rebecca Huntley separate the shit-stirrers from the boot-lickers, with ABC's Laura Tingle.</p>
5pm - 6pm	City Hall	<p>BWRF Opening Event - TBC</p>

SATURDAY 1 MAY

10am - 11am	Theatre	<p>SWF LIVE & LOCAL Barrie Cassidy & Friends: Opposition and Dissent Former deputy leader of the Australian Greens Scott Ludlam speaks to Barrie about his new book <i>Full Circle</i>, which explores a new approach to political and environmental change. They are joined by Magda Szubanski to discuss the triumphs and disappointments of activism and advocacy, and Sally McManus to share the challenges and advantages of expressing dissent from an institutional base.</p>
11am	City Hall	<p>Jen Barry and Cade Turner-Mann chat about some of the great books you may have missed in the last year and some to keep an eye out for in the year ahead.</p>
12pm - 1pm	Theatre	<p>SWF LIVE & LOCAL Isabel Wilkerson: Caste – The Lies That Divide Us Pulitzer Prize-winning author Isabel Wilkerson's <i>Caste: The Lies that Divide Us</i> fast became one of the world's most talked about books this past year for its clear-eyed survey of the unspoken social hierarchy that pervades history and our lives today. Join Isabel, who will appear live via video, in conversation about the myths of meritocracy, the endurance of white supremacy and what we can do to dismantle the corrosive social hierarchy that persists throughout the world today. {Supported by ARA.}</p>

2pm - 3pm	Theatre	<p>SWF LIVE & LOCAL Sarah Krasnostein & Helen Garner Sarah Krasnostein, author of <i>The Trauma Cleaner</i>, speaks about her latest book <i>The Believer: Encounters with Love, Death & Faith</i>, a deeply humane and deftly drawn enquiry into the power of belief. Sarah is joined by fellow observer of human nature, Helen Garner, to explore what we believe in and why – from ghosts and UFOs to God and the devil, to dying with autonomy and beyond. {Thanks to Rosie Block.}</p>
4pm - 5pm	Theatre	<p>SWF LIVE & LOCAL Richard Flanagan & Laura Tingle Richard Flanagan's latest book <i>The Living Sea of Waking Dreams</i> offers a tender, haunting portrait of a world disappearing around us. With Laura Tingle, he reflects on capturing in words the things we're losing. {Supported by ARA.}</p>
5pm	Theatre	<p>Animals That Make Us Human With Tracy Sorensen (Pre-recorded Session) Tracy Sorensen, a contributor to <i>Animals Make Us Human</i> (Penguin Books), a collection of some of Australia's best authors writing about nature after the 2019-2020 bushfires, interviews editors Leah Kaminsky and Meg Keneally, along with contributor Antoinette Roe. Antoinette's essay features the incredible Burrowing Bees from the Carnarvon region of WA.</p>

SUNDAY 2 MAY

9:45 am - 10:45 am	City Hall	<p>Great Festival Read Join Panellists Rob Willis, Tracey Callinan, Danielle Hart and Sarah Gurich to discuss <i>Kate Kelly: The True Story of Ned Kelly's Little Sister</i> by Hill End based writer and artist, Rebecca Wilson.</p>
11am - 11:45am	City Hall	<p>Rebecca Wilson: Kate Kelly Rebecca will be in conversation with Jen Barry(BooksPlus) about the writing of <i>Kate Kelly: The True Story of Ned Kelly's Little Sister</i> (Allen&Unwin), a moving biography which tells her astonishing story in full for the first time. Rebecca will also be available to sign copies of her book for readers at the end of the session.</p>
12pm - 1pm	Theatre	<p>SWF LIVE & LOCAL George Miller: Beyond Thunderdome George Miller AO is a legend of cinema. From Mad Max to Babe to the recent triumph of <i>Fury Road</i> (with a Happy Feet or two along the way), it's hard to think of a more revolutionary creative figure in Australia today.</p>
2pm - 3pm	Theatre	<p>SWF LIVE & LOCAL Jan Fran & Judith Lucy Walkley Award-winning reporter Jan Fran and much-loved comedian Judith Lucy back with her new book - <i>Turns Out, I'm Fine</i>, talk about humour, memoir, coping and not coping, and what it means to be fine.</p>
3pm	Theatre	<p>Homeland Calling Desert Pea Media (Pre-Recorded session) <i>Homeland Calling</i> (Hardie Grant Publishing) is a collection of poems created from hip-hop song lyrics written by First Nations youth from communities all around Australia. Toby Finlayson from Desert Pea Media in-conversation about the collection.</p>
4pm - 5pm	Theatre	<p>SWF LIVE & LOCAL Great Adaptations: Margaret and David Return Greatly missed on TV screens, the nation's favourite film critics Margaret Pomeranz and David Stratton reunite in a special event discussing movie adaptations of Australian books. The famously sparring duo settle back into their critics' chairs to offer their top five for which standout movies do justice to the original text, the five-star films that bested the books and the flops that lost their lustre when transposed from page to screen. {Supported by PlayfairTan.}</p>

Schedule is subject to change.

For program updates www.bmec.com.au or contact us on 6333 6161