Humanising the Future

Program

**Australian Academy
of the Humanities**
50th Annual Symposium

13–15 November 2019
The Edge / State Library
of Queensland / Brisbane

www.humanities.org.au

@HumanitiesAU   #AAHSymposium

About the Academy

The Australian Academy of the Humanities is the peak national body for the humanities and one of the nation's four Learned Academies.

Established in 1969, we provide independent and authoritative advice, including to government, to ensure ethical, historical and cultural perspectives inform discussions regarding Australia's future challenges and opportunities. We promote and recognise excellence in the humanities disciplines. The Academy plays a unique role in promoting international engagement and research collaboration and investing in the next generation of humanities researchers.

Our elected Fellowship comprises 620 scholars, leaders and practitioners across the humanities disciplines of culture, history, languages, linguistics, philosophy, religion, archaeology and heritage.

www.humanities.org.au

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

@HumanitiesAU

#AAHSymposium

Program at a glance

WEDNESDAY 13 NOVEMBER 2019
GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY ART MUSEUM

5:00pm	**THE 9TH HANCOCK LECTURE** **Maaya Waabiny: Mobilising Song Archives to Nourish an Endangered Language** Associate Professor Clint Bracknell
6:00pm	Reception

THURSDAY 14 NOVEMBER 2019
THE EDGE · STATE LIBRARY OF QUEENSLAND

9:00am	Introduction
9:45am	**SESSION 1** **Futures: The Re-formation of Knowledge**
10:45am	Morning Break
11:15am	**SESSION 2** **Does the Past Have a Future?**
12:45pm	Lunch
1:45pm	**SESSION 3** **Civic Cultural Futures**
3:15pm	Convenor Comments
3:30pm	Afternoon Tea Informal Meet the Artist presentation to occur during afternoon tea, commencing 3:45pm.
4:30pm	**THE 50TH ACADEMY LECTURE** **Being Humane: A Contested History** Academy President Professor Joy Damousi FASSA FAHA
5:30pm	Reception

FRIDAY 15 NOVEMBER 2019
THE EDGE · STATE LIBRARY OF QUEENSLAND

9:00am	Convenor Opening Remarks
9:15am	**SESSION 4** **Humanising the Digital Future**
10:45am	Morning Break
11:15am	**SESSION 5** **Humans and the Post-Human**
12:45pm	Convenor Comments
1:00pm	Lunch
2:00pm	**SESSION 6** **The Humanities in Australia: Past, Present and Future**
3:30pm	Symposium Close

Contents

Humanising the
past, present
and future

50 YEARS
OF THE
AUSTRALIAN
ACADEMY OF
THE HUMANITIES

Welcome from the President

On behalf of the Australian Academy of the Humanities, we warmly welcome you to our flagship event—the 50th Academy Symposium 'Humanising the Future'.

This year the Academy celebrated its 50th anniversary. In marking this significant occasion, we held a range of events across the country that acknowledged the vital role of the humanities in helping us understand our past, make sense of our present, and ensure a humanised future for all people.

Our annual Symposium is the premier event for the Australian humanities community. It provides a national focal point, serving as a public forum for informed debate and respectful discussion on matters of national importance and to celebrate the richness, diversity and impact of work in the humanities. It has been held every year since the Academy was established in 1969.

The 50th Academy Symposium brings together Academy Fellows and humanities scholars at all stages of their career with senior executives of international Learned Academies and humanities associations, federal government representatives, University Vice-Chancellors and Faculty Deans, and representatives from the arts and culture sector, philanthropy, education, and the media. We warmly welcome you all.

In particular, we extend a warm welcome to the record number of early career humanities researchers to this event. As part of our 50th anniversary celebrations, we were delighted to co-host the Knowledge Frontiers

Forum with the British Academy earlier this week in Brisbane bringing together 40 early career researchers from the UK, Australia and the Pacific. They join other next generation humanities leaders who are guests of the Academy or the Universities who have generously sponsored this year's event.

We also welcome the 2019 recipients of the Max Crawford Medal, McCredie Musicological Award and inaugural John Mulvaney Fellowship.

We hope that you enjoy what is bound to be an exciting, timely and thought-provoking program over the next two days on the vital role of the humanities in fostering a truly human future. By bringing together perspectives from a variety of different disciplines, cultures and sectors, it is our hope that this Symposium will generate a comprehensive and informed discussion on how we can address some of the most pressing challenges of our time.

We welcome your participation and thank you for your support of this very special event.

PROFESSOR JOY DAMOUSI
FASSA FAHA
ACADEMY PRESIDENT

Convenors' Welcome

Powerful versions of what the future holds have excited, reassured and terrified people for centuries. Driven as much by quackery as informed by genuine insight, they have ranged from end-of-days narratives to predictions of the withering away of the state. Despite Jean-François Lyotard's proposition at the end of the 1970s that what he called the postmodern condition was an "incredulity towards metanarratives", the human propensity for grand narratives of the future has proven remarkably resilient.

Today's grand narrative of the age of robots, artificial intelligence, machine learning, the Internet of Things, and cognitive computing—the so-called "fourth industrial revolution"—reflects a secularised version of progress through technology but is similarly framed in terms of both existential threat and revolutionary transformation.

But our future will always be much more complex, messy, uneven—and surprising—than the forecasts of futurologists. It will be the product of human intent and endeavour rather than the presumed autonomous impact of technology. Instead of lamenting "what is technology doing to us?", we should always ask "what are we doing with technology?".

The Academy's Symposium, on the occasion of its 50th anniversary, explores the human dynamics by which futures have been imagined and brought into being. It will address questions such as:

> *What will it take to stabilise knowledge around artificial intelligence in the 21st century?*
>
> *How has the past been used, and how could it be better used, to inform our future?*
>
> *How can civic cultures help us create more liveable cities?*
>
> *How can new technologies enhance human flourishing?*
>
> *What are the prospects for the human and the post-human in the Anthropocene?*

This event brings together perspectives from anthropology, philosophy and ethics, history, classics, languages and linguistics, museology, architecture and design, cultural studies, musicology, and the creative and cultural industries. In the spirit of cross-disciplinary endeavour necessary for the humanities to be part of building liveable futures, we also welcome contributions from computer science, urban planning and economics and from policy actors. Each of our five sessions addresses an aspect of the theme of humanising the future.

In Session 1, **Futures: The Re-formation of Knowledge**, Genevieve Bell, an anthropologist who worked in the heart of Silicon Valley for 20 years and who now heads up the ANU's Autonomy, Agency & Assurance Innovation Institute, will lay out her ambitious program to bring specialised knowledge formations together to address the entangled social and technological challenges facing humanity and the world.

Session 2, **Does the Past Have a Future?**, asks how the past has been, and could be, used to inform our future. What kinds of pasts are used by those in power to legitimate their authority? How do new accounts of the past come to be preferred over other narratives? What do the timescales preferred in our histories tell us about who we are or might be? Will the increasing speed and volume of our communications change our sense of being historical objects, as people, as communities?

How to manage the complex challenges facing a rapidly urbanising world is one of the key drivers of current city planning and urban design. Session 3, **Civic Cultural Futures**, interrogates the domination of this field by the notion of "smart cities", which focuses on technological solutions, stressing connectivity and efficiency. But cities' liveability must be secured as much through the robust articulation of civic cultural futures and more-than-human futures in the face of climate change.

Session 4, **Humanising the Digital Future**, is devoted to repositioning humanities' critique of a technologically-determined future. It presents research that challenges automation as a singular driver of workforce futures. Instead of critiquing what

technology is doing to us, it asks what are we doing, or could do, with new technology? Furthermore, the humanities have much to contribute to ensuring that the potential of new technologies to enhance human flourishing is as important as uncovering and exposing their potential to deepen surveillance, discrimination and control over humanity and society.

A key challenge for the contemporary humanities is understanding the transformation of human identity in relation to technologies and other species, and especially with respect to the future of the earth during and after the Anthropocene—the term for our current geological epoch in which human activity is changing earth systems, accelerating climate change and causing mass extinctions. Our concluding Session 5, **Humans and the Post-human**, challenges the Symposium's theme, questioning the boundaries of the human. Instead of humanising the future, we may need no longer to put humanity first.

The program concludes with a free public event, a reflection on **The Past, Present and Future for the Humanities in Australia**. This event includes a keynote presentation by former Academy President Lesley Johnson AM FAHA, and a panel discussion with the Vice-Chancellors of Griffith University, Queensland University of Technology and the University of Queensland.

We are pleased to invite early career researcher Associate Professor Clint Bracknell to deliver the **Academy's 9th Hancock Lecture—*Maaya Waabiny: Mobilising Song Archives to Nourish an Endangered Language*—**on Wednesday 13 November. Academy President, Professor Joy Damousi FASSA FAHA, will deliver the **50th Academy Lecture—*Being Humane: A Contested History*—**on Thursday 14 November. Both lectures address the key terms of our theme 'Humanising the Future.' Associate Professor Bracknell's lecture will look to the future by exploring technology's role in recovering and preserving Aboriginal languages and song traditions, and Professor Damousi will interrogate the concept of what is it to be 'humane' through an analysis of contemporary policies surrounding migrants and refugees.

We are delighted you can join us for this very special event and hope you find it a rewarding and informative experience.

Professor Jean Burgess, Queensland University of Technology's Digital Media Research Centre
Distinguished Professor Stuart Cunningham AM FACSS FAHA, Queensland University of Technology
Professor Mark Finnane FASSA FAHA, Griffith University
Associate Professor Elizabeth Stephens, University of Queensland

CONVENORS

PROFESSOR JEAN BURGESS

Jean Burgess is Professor of Digital Media and Director of the QUT Digital Media Research Centre (DMRC). Her research focuses on the social implications of digital media technologies, platforms, and cultures. Her books include *YouTube: Online Video and Participatory Culture* (Polity Press, 2009; second edition 2018), *Studying Mobile Media: Cultural Technologies, Mobile Communication, and the iPhone* (Routledge, 2012), *A Companion to New Media Dynamics* (Wiley-Blackwell, 2013), *Twitter and Society* (Peter Lang, 2014), and *The SAGE Handbook of Social Media* (2017). Her next book is *Twitter—A Biography* (with Nancy Baym, forthcoming in early 2020 from New York University Press). From 2020, Jean will be Associate Director of the ARC Centre of Excellence for Automated Decision-Making and Society.
🐦 @jeanburgess @qutdmrc

DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR STUART CUNNINGHAM AM FACSS FAHA

Stuart Cunningham is Distinguished Professor of Media and Communications, Queensland University of Technology (QUT). He directed the ARC Centre of Excellence for Creative Industries and Innovation, the first ARC Centre of Excellence based in the humanities, from 2005 to 2014. He has served in leadership roles in advocacy, advice and governance in research and higher education, and in the screen and library sectors, including as President of the Council for Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences, Director of Screen Queensland and as a member of the National Cultural Policy reference group. He is a Member of the Order of Australia, an inaugural Fellow of the Cultural and Communication Studies Section in the Australian Academy of the Humanities, a Fellow of the UK-based Academy of Social Sciences, and has been a Fulbright Senior Scholar and a Leverhulme Foundation Visitor. His recent books are *Hidden Innovation: Policy, Industry and the Creative Sector* (2014), the co-authored *Social Media Entertainment: The new intersection of Hollywood and Silicon Valley* (2019), *Media Economics* (2015), *Key Concepts in Creative Industries* (2013), and *Screen Distribution and the New King Kongs of the Online World* (2013), and the co-edited *A Research Agenda for Creative Industries* (2019), *The Media and Communications in Australia* (2014) and *Digital Disruption: Cinema Moves Online* (2012).

Stuart was elected a Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities in 1997.
🐦 @SDCunningham

PROFESSOR MARK FINNANE FASSA FAHA

Mark Finnane is Professor of History at Griffith University. He is a former Dean of Humanities and Dean of Graduate Studies at Griffith, where he is currently Director of the Harry Gentle Resource Centre. He was a Chief Investigator (and Director, 2009) in the ARC Centre of Excellence in Policing and Security (2007–13). He was a Member of the ARC College of Experts (2008–10) and has served on many ARC Selection Committees (2008–19). He was on the Council of the Academy (2006–10) and in 2009 was co-convenor (with Professor Ian Donaldson) of the Academy's 40th Annual Symposium. Mark's doctoral research on mental illness is the foundation for his later work on the history of policing, punishment and criminal justice. His books include *Insanity and the Insane in Post-Famine Ireland* (1981 and 2003), *Police and Government* (1994), *Punishment in Australian Society* (1997), *When Police Unionise* (2002), *J.V. Barry: a Life* (2007) and (with Professor Heather Douglas, University of Queensland) *Indigenous Crime and Settler Law* (2012). With the support of an ARC Laureate Fellowship (2013–18) he established the Prosecution Project, hosted at the Griffith Criminology Institute, a historical database of criminal prosecutions in Australian higher courts in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

Mark was elected a Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities in 2001.

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR ELIZABETH STEPHENS

Elizabeth Stephens is an Australian Research Council Future Fellow and Associate Professor of Cultural Studies in the Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities at the University of Queensland. She is the author of three monographs: *Normality: A Critical Genealogy* (University of Chicago Press, 2017), co-authored with Peter Cryle; *Anatomy as Spectacle: Public Exhibitions of the Body from 1700 to the Present* (Liverpool University Press, 2011); and *Queer Writing: Homoeroticism in Jean Genet's Fiction* (Palgrave, 2009). Her Future Fellowship examines practices of experimentation as a site of collaboration between the arts and sciences, from the nineteenth-century scientific laboratory to contemporary experimental art.

Wednesday 13 November
The 9ᵗʰ Hancock Lecture

The Australian Academy of the Humanities' Hancock Lecture series invites young Australian scholars of excellence to talk about their work with a broader audience. The lecture series is made possible through a bequest from the estate of Sir (William) Keith Hancock KBE FAHA and is usually delivered every three to four years.

A reception will follow the lecture at 6pm, hosted by Griffith University's Dean of Research in the Arts, Education & Law Group, **Professor Gerry Docherty**.

Maaya Waabiny: Mobilising Song Archives to Nourish an Endangered Language

Across the world, music and story are relied on to enhance a sense of place and ease the common contemporary condition of human disconnection from the environment. Environmental crisis can be understood as not just the fault of flawed science and economics, but also a disconnection between culture and nature. Although obsessive modernisation may be partially responsible for this condition, technology may be leveraged to safeguard and share musical heritage that connects us with nature. Although British colonisation and ensuing Australian government policies of assimilation have served to fragment Aboriginal communities and dramatically diminish the vitality of many Aboriginal languages and song traditions, it may be possible to nourish their recovery.

As a Wirlomin Noongar researcher, I employ an interdisciplinary approach to enhance the revitalisation of endangered Noongar language and song in the south coast region of Western Australia. This work engages with community knowledge-holders and archival records, rebuilding repertoire while increasing opportunities to gather together, sing, speak and develop resources. Utilising peer-to-peer file sharing to distribute these resources maintains some of the social benefits associated with oral traditions. While processes developed to recirculate Noongar songs of the south coast may be useful to others involved in similar projects across the world, this initiative is primarily oriented toward empowering the local community.

SPEAKER

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR CLINT BRACKNELL

Clint Bracknell is a musician, songwriter, ethnomusicologist and Wirlomin Noongar man from the south-east coast of Western Australia. His award-winning PhD research focused on the aesthetics and sustainability of Nyungar song and his ARC funded research investigates the use of song in language revitalisation.

An accomplished guitarist, bassist and singer, Clint composes, produces and performs music for a range of different contexts. *The Australian* described his composition work as 'masterful' and his live guitar and vocal qualities as 'pure magic' in 2016. He was nominated for Best Original Score in the 2012 Helpmann Awards for *Shaun Tan's The Red Tree* and recent theatre composition and sound design credits include *Water* (Black Swan STC, 2019), *Skylab* (Black Swan STC, 2018), *The Caucasian Chalk Circle* (Black Swan STC, 2016) and *King Hit* (Yirra Yaakin, 2014). His music has also featured on international advertising campaigns and television programs.

Clint is a member of the ARC Centre of Excellence for the Dynamics of Language Advisory Board and the AIATSIS Research Advisory Committee. He was recipient of the 2017 Wingara Mura Excellence Award at the University of Sydney, the 2016 Robert Street Prize for the most outstanding PhD thesis each year at UWA, the 2015 UWA Eileen and Aubrey Wild Music Research Travel Scholarship and the 2013–2014 State Library of Western Australia's J.S. Battye Memorial Fellowship. Initially a high school teacher, he has received both secondary and tertiary teaching awards. Clint contributed to the United Nations International Expert Group Meeting on Indigenous Languages in 2016, regularly presents at research conferences and publishes scholarly articles and book chapters.

Currently Associate Professor at Kurongkurl Katitjin Centre for Indigenous Australian Education and Research and the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA), Edith Cowan University, Clint developed the Bachelor of Music (Contemporary Music Practice) at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music (2014–2018) and is interested in the links between Aboriginal Australian song and languages, emerging technologies and creative futures.

🐦 @ClintBracknell

CHAIR

PROFESSOR JOY DAMOUSI FASSA FAHA
ACADEMY PRESIDENT

Thursday 14 November

Introduction

Welcome to Country

Tribal Experiences Aboriginal Dancers

Welcome from the Academy

PROFESSOR JOY DAMOUSI FASSA FAHA
PRESIDENT OF THE AUSTRALIAN ACADEMY OF THE HUMANITIES

Welcome from the Convenors

DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR STUART CUNNINGHAM AM FAcSS FAHA
CO-CONVENOR OF THE 50TH SYMPOSIUM

SESSION 1

Futures: The Re-formation of Knowledge

9:45AM—10:45AM

Writing back in the 1960s, as he surveyed the growth of computers and their impact, Saul Gorn, an early American pioneer of computing, wrote: "It seems to me that such a development will, willy-nilly, have to stabilize, and when it does there will be a completely new department responsible for the new discipline" (Gorn 1963). Of course, it didn't happen that way. There were deliberate efforts by the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM), the international learned society for computing, to co-ordinate conversations about a new discipline (ACM 1965, 1968) and several American universities drafted and commenced teaching curricula and the ACM adopted a standardised curriculum for computer science and distributed it widely. This allowed the field to grow quickly and for the practitioners to be standardised and certified—it created jobs, careers, and a remarkable five decades of innovation, and economic growth. 60 years later, we have a new set of technologies that are proliferating. This session will focus on what it takes to stabilize knowledge around AI in the 21st century.

SPEAKER

DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR GENEVIEVE BELL FTSE

Genevieve Bell is the Director of the 3A Institute (3Ai), Florence Violet McKenzie Chair, and a Distinguished Professor at the Australian National University (ANU) as well as a Vice President and Senior Fellow at Intel Corporation. She is a cultural anthropologist, technologist and futurist best known for her work at the intersection of cultural practice and technology development. Genevieve joined the ANU College of Engineering and Computer Science in February 2017, after having spent 18 years in Silicon Valley helping guide Intel's product development by developing the company's social science and design research capabilities. Genevieve established the 3A Institute in September 2017 at the ANU in collaboration with CSIRO's Data61, with the mission of building a new applied science around the management of artificial intelligence, data, technology and their impact on humanity. The applied science is focusing on a set of critical questions around autonomy, agency and assurance and how to manage a world of AI, data, technology and its impact on humanity. Genevieve is the inaugural appointee to the Florence Violet McKenzie Chair at the ANU, named in honour of Australia's first female electrical engineer, which promotes the inclusive use of technology in society. She also presented the highly acclaimed ABC Boyer Lectures for 2017, in which she investigated what it means to be human, and Australian, in a digital world. In 2018, she was appointed Non-Executive Director of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia Board, she became a member of the Prime Minister's National Science and Technology Council, and a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Technology and Engineering (ATSE). Genevieve completed her PhD in cultural anthropology at Stanford University in 1998.

🐦 @feraldata @3AInstitute

CHAIR

PROFESSOR JEAN BURGESS
QUT DIGITAL MEDIA RESEARCH CENTRE

Thursday 14 November

Does the Past Have a Future?

11:30AM—1:00PM

Histories fundamental to European understandings of the world, including the West's roots in the classical age, and the impact of the Enlightenment and the scientific revolution on religion are now much contested. At the same time European responsibilities for indigenous and global harms have been brought to historical account. Narrative modes, the linear sense of time and the scale of an intelligible past are being recast. This session will focus on some of the ways in which these developments are expressed in contemporary research and ask what kinds of past may inform our future.

SPEAKERS

PROFESSOR EMERITA TESSA MORRIS-SUZUKI FAHA

Tessa Morris-Suzuki is Professor Emerita of Japanese History in the College of Asia and the Pacific at the Australian National University. Her research focuses on modern Japanese and East Asian history, looking at topics including memory and reconciliation (particularly in the context of Japan's relationship with its Asian neighbours), migration, ethnic minorities and grassroots movements. Currently she is engaged in a research project on the indigenous history of the Japanese-Russian border area. She is a former President of the Asian Studies Association of Australia and was the recipient of the 2013 Fukuoka Prize (Academic Award) for contributions to Asian Studies. From 2013 to 2018 she headed an ARC Laureate Fellowship team working on the project "Informal Life Politics in the Remaking of East Asia". Her books include *The Past Within Us: Media, Memory, History* (Verso, 2005); *Exodus to North Korea: Shadows from Japan's Cold War* (Rowman and Littlefield, 2007); *Borderline Japan: Foreigners and Frontier Controls in the Postwar Era* (Cambridge University Press, 2010); *East Asia Beyond the History Wars: Confronting the Ghosts of War* (Routledge, co-authored, 2013); *New Worlds from Below: Informal Life Politics and Grassroots Action in Twenty-First Century Northeast Asia* (ANU Press, co-edited, 2017); *The Living Politics of Self-Help Movements in East Asia* (Palgrave Macmillan, co-edited, 2018); and *The Korean War in Asia: A Hidden History* (Rowman and Littlefield, edited, 2018). She has also published one historical novel *The Searcher* (Robert Hale, 2018, published under the pen name T J Alexander).

Tessa was elected a Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities in 1994.

PROFESSOR INEKE SLUITER

Ineke Sluiter (PhD, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam 1990) is Vice-President of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW), Academy Professor, and Professor of Ancient Greek at Leiden University. From 2000 to 2011, she was Academic Director of OIKOS, the National Research School in Classical Studies, the Netherlands, and she is the PI of OIKOS' research program 'Anchoring Innovation', funded by a 'Gravitation Grant' (€18.8M), the only humanities program to have received such a grant (2017). She is also the recipient of the 2010 Spinoza Prize (the highest academic award in the Netherlands), and of the 2016 Academy Professor Prize (awarded by the KNAW). In her early career, she held various research fellowships, including at Harvard's Center for Hellenic Studies (Washington DC, 1994–5), and the Institute for Advanced Study (Princeton, 1996–7). She was Associate Professor of Classics at the University of Pennsylvania (1998) before returning to the Netherlands. Ineke's areas of expertise comprise ancient and medieval ideas about language (grammar, rhetoric, literary theory, ancient education); ancient values and value-based public discourse; "anchoring innovation"; and cognitive approaches to classics. Select book publications include (with Rita Copeland) *Medieval Grammar and Rhetoric: Language Arts and Literary Theory, AD 300–1475* (OUP, 2009); and eight volumes coming out of the Penn-Leiden Colloquia on Ancient Values (with Ralph Rosen), e.g. *Free Speech in Classical Antiquity* (Leiden, 2004), *Valuing Others in Classical Antiquity* (Leiden, 2010), *The Value of Landscape in Classical Antiquity: natural environment and cultural imagination* (Leiden, 2016). She is co-editor (with Felix Budelmann) of the OUP monograph series *Cognitive Classics*.

PROFESSOR LYNETTE RUSSELL AM FRHistS FASSA FAHAE

Lynette Russell is Professor of Indigenous Studies (History) at the Monash Indigenous Studies Centre, at Monash University. Her work is deeply interdisciplinary and collaborative, and her research outputs are focused on showing the dynamism of Aboriginal responses to colonialism; their agency and subjectivity. She is the immediate past president of the Australian Historical Association and Deputy Director of the Australian Research Council's Centre of Excellence for Australian Biodiversity and Heritage. She is widely published and is the author or editor of 12 books, specialising in Aboriginal history. Her latest book is *Australia's First Naturalists: Indigenous Peoples' Contribution to early Zoology*. Lynette has also held fellowships at both Oxford and Cambridge Universities. In 2019, she received an Australia Research Council Kathleen Fitzpatrick Australian Laureate Fellowship for her 'Global Encounters and First Nations Peoples: 1000 Years of Australian History' project. Lynette is a Fellow of the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia.

Lynette was elected a Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities in 2018.

🐦 **@lynetterussell**

RAPPORTEUR

EMERITUS PROFESSOR IAN HUNTER FAHA

Ian Hunter is Emeritus Professor at the University of Queensland's Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities. He is a distinguished international scholar working on the history of early modern political and philosophical thought, and on the emergence of theory in the 1960s humanities academy. He was an Australian Professorial Fellow whose research has two main foci. Since the mid-1990s he has been working on the history of early modern political, religious and philosophical thought, focusing on the academic culture of the Holy Roman German Empire. During this time his publications have included *Rival Enlightenments: Civil and Metaphysical Philosophy in Early Modern Germany* (2001); *Natural Law and Civil Sovereignty: Moral Right and State Authority in Early Modern Political Thought* (2002, co-edited with David Saunders); *Heresy in Transition: Transforming Ideas of Heresy in Medieval and Early Modern Europe* (2005, co-edited with John Christian Laursen and Cary J. Nederman); and *The Philosopher in Early Modern Europe: The Nature of a Contested Identity* (2006, co-edited with Conal Condren and Stephen Gaukroger). In collaboration with Thomas Ahnert and Frank Grunert, he has recently completed the first English translation of works by the early enlightenment political jurist Christian Thomasius. His most recent book is *The Secularisation of the Confessional State: The Political Thought of Christian Thomasius* (2007). Since 2004 Ian has been developing a second research area on the 'history of theory', whose aim is to provide an intellectual history of the 1960s 'theory boom'. A pilot study, 'The History of Theory', appeared in *Critical Inquiry* in 2006.

Ian was elected a Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities in 1998.

CHAIR

PROFESSOR MARK FINNANE FASSA FAHA
GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY

SESSION 3

Civic Cultural Futures

1:45PM–3:15PM

Rapid urbanisation is one of the great megatrends driving humanity into the future. Discussion and debate on urban futures is often dominated by the notion of 'smart cities' which focuses on technological approaches to urban development, and stresses connectivity and efficiency. But cities' liveability must be secured as much through the robust articulation of civic cultural futures. This session engages south-east Queensland stakeholders, especially galleries, libraries, archives and museums (GLAM), to consider the role of community and cultural sectors in responding to the challenge of smart and cultural futures.

SPEAKERS

TERRY DEEN

Terry Deen is the Head of Learning at the Queensland Art Gallery and Gallery of Modern Art. QAGOMA Learning launched in October 2015, with a view towards opening a Learning Centre based at the Queensland Art Gallery. Terry's work in arts learning is informed by ten years' experience as a secondary art and design teacher. He is engaged in Queensland's design education community as the 2014 Queensland-Smithsonian Cooper Hewitt Design Education Fellow. Terry's current role involves engagement across a broad array of communities, disciplines and practices including digital engagement, arts and cultural learning, regional arts, accessibility and arts and wellbeing.

PROFESSOR SARAH KENDERDINE

Sarah Kenderdine researches at the forefront of interactive and immersive experiences for galleries, libraries, archives and museums. In widely exhibited installation works, she has amalgamated cultural heritage with new media art practice, especially in the realms of interactive cinema, augmented reality and embodied narrative. Sarah has produced 80 exhibitions and installations for museums worldwide including a museum complex in India and received a number of major international awards for this work. In 2017, Sarah was appointed Professor of Digital Museology at the École polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL), Switzerland where she has built a new laboratory for experimental museology (eM+), exploring the convergence of aesthetic practice, visual analytics and cultural data. She is Director and lead curator of EPFL's new art/science initiative, ArtLab.

🐦 @SarahKenderdine

PROFESSOR MARCUS FOTH FACS

Marcus Foth is Professor of Urban Informatics in the QUT Design Lab, Creative Industries Faculty at Queensland University of Technology. He is also an Honorary Professor in the School of Communication and Culture at Aarhus University, Denmark, and a Visiting Professor in the School of Design, Politecnico di Milano, Italy. Marcus' research brings together people, place, and technology. His transdisciplinary work is at the international forefront of human-computer interaction research and development with a focus on smart cities, community engagement, media architecture, internet studies, ubiquitous computing, and sustainability. He founded the Urban Informatics Research Lab in 2006 and the QUT Design Lab in 2016. Before the term "smart cities" became popular, Marcus pioneered a new field of study and practice: Urban informatics examines people creating, applying and using information and communication technology and data in cities and urban environments. He has received over $6 million in national competitive grants and industry funding, received a Queensland Young Tall Poppy Science Award in 2013, and was inducted by the planning, design and development site Planetizen to the world's top 25 leading thinkers and innovators in the field of urban planning and technology. In 2017, the Australian Computer Society (ACS) made Marcus a fellow. He has authored and co-authored over 200 publications in journals, edited books, and conference proceedings, including *Handbook of Research on Urban Informatics* (IGI, 2009), *From Social Butterfly to Engaged Citizen* (MIT Press, 2011), *Eat, Cook, Grow: Mixing Human-Computer Interactions with Human-Food Interactions* (MIT Press, 2014), *Citizen's Right to the Digital City* (Springer, 2015), and *Digital Participation through Social Living Labs* (Chandos, 2018).

🐦 @sunday9pm

MALCOLM MIDDLETON OAM

Malcolm Middleton OAM was appointed as Queensland's Government Architect in July 2011. In this role, he is an advocate for the recognition of the value to all projects of well-considered design processes. He came to Brisbane in 1981 and prior to his appointment as Government Architect had been a private practitioner for almost 30 years. He undertakes design reviews for projects across many areas of government and chairs the Queensland Urban Design and Places Panel. Over the last 7 years he has been instrumental in developing a wider policy base within government for important major projects and delivery processes for urban renewal sites through the championing of design-based thinking into the initial stages of capital decision making processes. He pioneered the QDesign work and engagement and has utilised this important policy work to provide more consistent design assessment processes through the new regional plan and the State Code 24 (Urban Design trigger). He chaired the Premiers Roundtable for the preparation of the Conservation Management Plan for QPAC and has undertaken some targeted research into a number of the important inner-city sites with government ownership opportunities. He sits on many external panels including the Design Development and Integrity Panel of Brisbane Airport Corporation, the Infrastructure Committee of UQ and advisory committees for other universities and industry associations. In 2017 he was appointed to the Prime Minister's Official Residences Advisory Committee providing guidance for the Lodge and Kirribilli House.

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR SANDRA PHILLIPS

Sandra Phillips, of the Library Board of Queensland, is a member of the Wakka Wakka and Gooreng Gooreng nations in Queensland. She is also a member of the Indigenous professoriate at the University of Technology Sydney. Her research interest lies in Indigenous creativity and she is published in diverse outlets. Sandra is a director of the board of the National Institute of Dramatic Art (NIDA) and a member of the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS).

CHAIR

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR ELIZABETH STEPHENS
UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

<p style="text-align:center">Thursday 14 November</p>

Convenor Comments

<p style="text-align:center">**3:15PM**</p>

<p style="text-align:center">Co-convenor **Professor Jean Burgess** will provide comments
on the first day of the Symposium.</p>

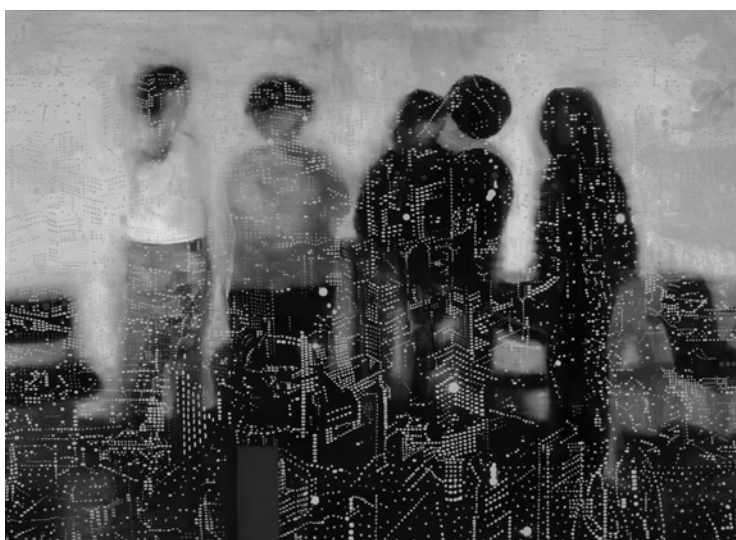<p style="text-align:center">Thursday 14 November</p>

Meet the Artist—Jon Cattapan

<p style="text-align:center">**3:45PM–4:15PM**</p>

The Academy is grateful for artist Jon Cattapan's permission to use *The Group Discusses* (2002, oil on linen 195 x 300cm) as this year's Symposium image.

During the afternoon break, Jon Cattapan will be hosting an informal Meet the Artist discussion.

JON CATTAPAN

Jon Cattapan is an extensively exhibited visual artist who lives and works in Melbourne, Australia. He first began exhibiting in 1979 and his works deal primarily with ways of representing urban topographies and narratives.

He is known for panoramic layered city vistas and figurative groupings and has a long-held preoccupation for the way human beings negotiate territories. Within his paintings, drawings and prints we see influences of contemporary global culture and recent history that range from science fiction and film through to urban social debates. His extensive travels in Asia and living in cities such as New York, London and Venice have deeply influenced his practice.

Jon's work has been accorded many accolades. In 2006 he was honoured with a major retrospective *The Drowned World: Jon Cattapan works and collaborations* at the Ian Potter Museum of Art, University of Melbourne. In 2008 he took up a commission through the Australian War Memorial to become Australia's 63rd official war artist and was deployed to Timor Leste, where he explored Night Vision technology as an aesthetic tool, which continues to inform his work. In his most recent work the artist has concentrated on the interplay between figurative groupings that resemble constellation charts and abstract fields, where all depicted encounters are presented as potential conflict moments.

His works can be found in the collections of all Australian State museums and many regional galleries including the National Gallery of Australia, The National Gallery of Victoria, The Art Gallery of New South Wales, The Gallery of Modern Art/Queensland Art Gallery and the Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney. His work is also held in major private and corporate collections. In 2013 Jon was the recipient of the $80,000 Bulgari Art Award.

🔗 www.joncattapan.com.au

📷 @joncattapan

The 50ᵗʰ Annual Academy Lecture

Being Humane: A Contested History

The concept of 'being humane' in Australia remains an unresolved, highly contested, and even absurd, concept. In the face of Australia's continued demonisation and inhumane treatment of refugees and asylum seekers, inability to recognise the distinctive rights that Indigenous Australians hold as the original peoples of this land, and the uncoupling of the principles of humanitarianism and internationalism from government policies, it is difficult, at times impossible, to contemplate a humanised future in light of our past history and present actions.

This 50ᵗʰ Academy Lecture will explore how we have gotten to this point. It will trace the post-war policy developments that racialized and politicized the question of refugees and immigration and explore the processes of humanising and dehumanising that shape public and political perceptions of those who seek asylum in this country. It will also show how these issues are framed and underpinned by Australia's history of settler colonialism.

In addition to mapping our past and present, this address implicitly looks to the future and considers how we can meet the challenge of the next 50 years—to truly humanise Australia by removing once and for all the stain and shame of the legacy of settler colonialism and of the white Australia policy as it continues in its contemporary guise in the treatment of refugees and asylum seekers.

SPEAKER

PROFESSOR JOY DAMOUSI FASSA FAHA

Joy Damousi is a Professor in the School of Historical and Philosophical Studies at the University of Melbourne. She was elected to the Australian Academy of the Humanities in 2004 and to Council in 2016 and is currently the President. She is a member of the Academy's History Section, of which she was the Head from 2008–11. She was also a member of the Academy's Awards Committee from 2012–17.

Joy is a graduate of La Trobe University, where she completed her BA(Hons), and the ANU, where she undertook her doctoral research. She has held leadership positions as head of school, Associate Dean (Research) and Pro-Vice Chancellor (Research) at the University of Melbourne.

Her areas of publication include Australian social and cultural history, gender history and memory and the history of emotions, themes which she explored in *The Labour of Loss: Mourning, Memory and Wartime Bereavement in Australia* (1999), *Living with the Aftermath: Trauma, Nostalgia and Grief in Post-war Australia* (2001), collection of essays edited with Robert Reynolds, *History on the Couch: Essays in History and Psychoanalysis* (2003), *Freud in the Antipodes: A Cultural History of Psychoanalysis in Australia* (2005—winner of the Ernest Scott Prize) and *Colonial Voices: A Cultural History of English in Australia 1840–1940* (2010). Her latest book is *Memory and Migration in the Shadow of War: Australia's Greek Immigrants after World War II and the Greek Civil War* (2015).

Her current research is a history of child refugees, humanitarianism and internationalism from 1920, for which she was awarded an Australian Research Council Laureate Fellowship.

With Philip Dwyer, she is the general editor of a four-volume *Cambridge World History of Violence* (forthcoming, 2020). She is also currently the editor of the Academic History Series for Melbourne University Press and has served as the chair of Humanities and Creative Arts panels of ERA and the ARC College of Experts.

🐦 @joydamousi

EMERITUS PROFESSOR JOHN FITZGERALD FAHA

John Fitzgerald is Emeritus Professor at Swinburne University of Technology and Immediate Past President of the Australian Academy of the Humanities (serving 2014–2017). Before joining Swinburne in 2013 John served five years as Representative of The Ford Foundation in Beijing where he directed the Foundation's China operations. Prior to this he held various professorial positions at La Trobe University and the University of Melbourne. His research interests centre on Chinese politics and history; philanthropy and social investment in Australia, USA, China and Asia; and multiculturalism and Chinese diaspora in Australia. John has held honorary positions in the Asian Studies Association of Australia, the Chinese Studies Association of Australia, the Melbourne China Study Group, and the Asia Education Foundation. He has also worked in an advisory capacity with National Library of Australia, the Australian Research Council and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

John was elected a Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities in 2000.

Every year the Australian Academy of the Humanities invites a Fellow to deliver the annual Academy Lecture. Since 1970, this tradition has demonstrated the extraordinary breadth and depth of our Fellows' contribution to the Australian and international humanities community, and to enriching the cultural life of the nation.

Opening comments will be given by **Professor Mandy Thomas**—Queensland University of Technology's Executive Dean, Creative Industries Faculty, and **Associate Professor Kim Wilkins**—the University of Queensland's Deputy Associate Dean Research, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences.

A reception will follow at 5:30pm.

Opening Remarks

9:00AM
THE EDGE · STATE LIBRARY OF QUEENSLAND

Co-convenor **Associate Professor Elizabeth Stephens** will provide opening remarks for the second day of the Symposium.

SESSION 4

Humanising the Digital Future

9:15AM — 10:45AM

New technologies have always been accompanied by both enthusiastic solutionism and dystopian anxieties, including around the shape of future work. So-called 'Industry 4.0' (automation, machine learning, big data, the Internet of Things, cloud and cognitive computing) would seem to have marginalised the knowledge and skills that humanities, arts and social sciences cultivate. However, high impact research has challenged automation as a primary driver of workforce change and shows that critical thinking, creativity, and collaborative/cognitive skills that effectively knit specialist knowledges together are increasingly important in job profiles. Furthermore, the humanities have much to contribute to ensuring that the potential of new technologies to enhance human flourishing is as important as uncovering and exposing their potential to deepen surveillance, discrimination and control over humanity and society.

SPEAKERS

HASAN BAKHSHI MBE

Hasan Bakhshi is the Centre Director, Creative Industries Policy and Evidence Centre and Executive Director, Creative Economy and Data Analytics, Nesta UK. Hasan oversees Nesta's creative economy policy, research and practical work. His work includes co-authoring the Next Gen skills review of the video games and visual effects industries, which led to wholesale reforms of the school ICT curriculum in England, and Nesta's *A Manifesto for the Creative Economy*, which sets out ten recommendations by which governments can help the creative economy grow. Hasan has a particular interest in data and experimental research methods. In 2015, he co-authored *Creativity vs Robots*, which explores how resistant are different creative occupations to future automation. In 2017, he co-authored *The Future of Skills: Employment in 2030* which combines foresight methods and machine learning to predict the likely workforce skills mix in the future. Prior to Nesta, Hasan worked as Executive Director at Lehman Brothers, as Deputy Chief Economist at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and as an economist at the Bank of England. He has published widely in academic journals and policy publications on topics ranging from technological progress and economic growth to the economics of the creative and cultural sector. Hasan has a BA in Economics from Cambridge and an MPhil in Economics from the University of Oxford. He is also Adjunct Professor of Creative Industries at the Queensland University of Technology, and in 2013 was awarded an honorary Doctorate from the University of Brighton for his work on economic policy for the creative industries. In the 2015 New Year's Honours he was awarded an MBE for services to the creative industries.

Hasan is a member of the UK government's Creative Industries Council and the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport's Science Advisory Council. In 2017, he was elected to sit on the Royal Economic Society Council. Hasan is a member of the Senior Management Team of the Economic Statistics Centre of Excellence (ESCoE) supported by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) and a member of BEIS's Expert Peer Review Group for Evaluation. He is Principal Investigator and Centre Director for the AHRC's new Creative Industries Policy and Evidence Centre. Hasan currently serves on the board of two Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisations: Darbar and Culture24.

🐦 @nesta_uk

PROFESSOR JEAN BURGESS

See biography on page 4.

🐦 @jeanburgess @qutdmrc

PROFESSOR JASON POTTS

Jason Potts is Professor of Economics in the School of Economics, Finance and Marketing at RMIT University, and Director of the Blockchain Innovation Hub, the first social science research institute on Blockchain in the world. Dr Potts is a Fellow of the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia and is one of Australia's top economists, specialising in economic growth, innovation and institutions, as well as the theory of economic evolution and complexity. His work has been applied to the economics of creative industries, intellectual property, and cities, and common pool resources.

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR ELLIE RENNIE

Ellie Rennie is a Co-Director of RMIT's Digital Ethnography Research Centre and a member of RMIT's Blockchain Innovation Hub. Her research tackles social policy questions arising from communication technologies and digital infrastructures. She is currently investigating blockchain use in the humanitarian sector and digital utilities for the creative industries. Ellie has also worked extensively on the topic of digital inclusion and is producing a podcast series about the internet in remote Aboriginal communities ("Disconnect", funded by Telstra). Her book publications include: *Using Media for Social Innovation* (Intellect, 2018), *Internet on the Outstation: The digital divide and remote Aboriginal communities* (multi-authored with industry partners, Institute for Network Cultures, 2016), *Life of SYN: A Story of the Digital Generation* (Monash University Press, 2011); *Community Media: A Global Introduction* (Rowan & Littlefield, 2006).

CHAIR

DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR STUART CUNNINGHAM AM FACSS FAHA
QUEENSLAND UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

Friday 15 November

Humans and the Post-human

11:15AM — 12:45PM

A key challenge for the contemporary humanities is understanding the transformation of human identity in relation to technologies and other species, and especially with respect to the future of the earth after the Anthropocene. This session brings together leading Australian and international scholars to consider and question the boundaries of the human, and to provide new perspectives on our ongoing evolution. Taking the overall theme of the Symposium as a provocation, we might well ask whether, rather than 'humanising the future', we will instead need to 'futurise the human'. At a minimum, that might mean reinventing ourselves yet again to adapt to the world we have made; more challengingly, it might even mean no longer putting humanity first.

SPEAKERS

DR ELISE BOHAN

Elise Bohan is a Research Associate at Edith Cowan University and the author of the world's first in-depth history of transhumanism. She received the Macquarie University Vice Chancellor's Commendation for Postdoctoral Research for her PhD thesis on transhumanism (awarded to the top 5% of doctoral graduates). She was also a University Medal recipient for her Master's research on modern origin stories. Elise is the author of the introduction to the popular Dorling Kindersley book *Big History* (2016) and has taught Big History at Macquarie University alongside the founder of the field, Professor David Christian FRSN FAHA.

🐦 **@EliseBohan**

PROFESSOR NEIL LEVY FAHA

Neil Levy is Professor of Philosophy at Macquarie University, and a Senior Research Fellow at the Oxford Uehiro Centre for Practical Ethics. Neil is a philosopher renowned for his work at the intersection of ethics and the philosophy of mind. His work interprets developments in neuroscience in relation to our traditional, non-scientific ways of speaking about agency and moral responsibility. Neil received a PhD in continental philosophy in 1995 and a second PhD in analytic philosophy in 2006. Neil's career has been characterised not only by a vast output of high-quality research, but also by service to both the academic community and the general public. He is the author of 7 books and more than 200 journal articles and book chapters. He has received five Australia Research Council grants, as well as funding from the Templeton Foundation and the Wellcome Trust and has explained complex philosophical ideas in popular press articles in *Libération, The Telegraph, The Independent,* and *The Conversation.* The impact of Neil's work was recognised in 2009 with the Australian Museum's Eureka Award for Research in Ethics. Neil was also the Co-Chair of the Australian Council of

Learned Academies' 2019 *The effective and ethical development of artificial intelligence: An opportunity to improve our wellbeing* project.

Neil was elected a Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities in 2017.

PROFESSOR McKENZIE WARK

McKenzie Wark is Professor of Culture and Media at The New School for Social Research and Eugene Lang College in New York City, USA. McKenzie is an Australian-born writer and scholar, known for her writings on media theory, critical theory, new media, and the Situationist International. Her best-known works are *A Hacker Manifesto* (2004) and *Gamer Theory* (2007). In her book *Virtual Geography* (1994) McKenzie offered a theory of what she called the 'weird global media event'. She argued that the emergence of a global media space—a virtual geography—made out of increasingly pervasive lines of communication—vectors—was emerging as a more chaotic space than globalisation theory usually maintains. In two subsequent books, *The Virtual Republic* (1997), and *Celebrities, Culture and Cyberspace* (1999), McKenzie turned her attention to the national cultural space of her homeland, Australia, examining the the so-called 'culture wars' of the 1990s as symptomatic of struggles over the redefinition of Australian national identity and culture in an age of global media. With the Australian poet John Kinsella FAHA, Australian novelist Bernard Cohen and Australian memoirist and publisher Terri-Ann White FAHA, she co-wrote *Speedfactory* (2002), an experimental work about distance and expatriation. The co-authors developed for this the speed factory writing technique, in which an author writes 300 words, emails it to the next author, who then has 24 hours to write the next 300 words. In 2004 McKenzie published her best-known work, *A Hacker Manifesto*, arguing that the rise of intellectual property creates a new class division, between those who produce it, whom she calls the hacker class, and those who come to own it, the vectoralist class.

🐦 @mckenziewark

PROFESSOR BARBARA CREED FAHA
UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

Barbara Creed is Redmond Barry Distinguished Professor at the University of Melbourne. She is the author of six books, including *The Monstrous-Feminine: Film, Feminism, Psychoanalysis* (1993), now in its ninth edition; and *Darwin's Screens: Evolutionary Aesthetics, Time & Sexual Display in the Cinema* (2009). Her recent research is on fourth-wave feminism, ethics in the Anthropocene and the inhuman. She is co-founder and chair of the Human Rights and Animal Ethics Research Network (HRAE) which was launched in 2013 by former High Court Judge, the Hon Michael Kirby AC CMG FRSN FAHA. Over the last decade, Barbara's research has focussed on social justice issues, human and nonhuman studies, evolutionary theory, the post-evolutionary body and the Anthropocene. She organized an international conference on these issues, 'Animal Publics: Emotions, Empathy, Activism' in 2015, has published widely in the area and authored a book on the Anthropocene, *Stray: Human-Animal Ethics in the Anthropocene* (2017), for the Power Polemics series. Her research on these topics has been supported by two ARC Discovery grants of which she has been a co-recipient. Barbara has been invited to take part in international research events on evolution, film and the future most recently by the Courtauld Institute (UK), the Centre for Interdisciplinary Research in the Arts (CIDRA) at Manchester University and the Cultural Programs of the National Academy of the Sciences (US). Her new book, *Return of the Monstrous-Feminine*, which explores fourth-wave feminism, horror and the inhuman will be published by Routledge in 2021.

Barbara was elected a Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities in 2006.

CHAIR

PROFESSOR JEAN BURGESS
QUT DIGITAL MEDIA RESEARCH CENTRE

Friday 15 November

Convenor Comments

12:45 PM

Co-convenor **Professor Mark Finnane** FASSA FAHA will
provide comments on the Symposium.

SESSION 6

The Humanities in Australia:
Past, Present and Future

2:00PM — 3:30PM

Hosted by Academy President,
Professor Joy Damousi FASSA FAHA, the
closing session for the Symposium asks
what does the future have in store for the
humanities, and what can the humanities
offer the future?

The session opens with a keynote
presentation by former Academy
President **Lesley Johnson** AM FAHA
followed by a panel discussion with the
Vice-Chancellors of Griffith University,
Queensland University of Technology and
the University of Queensland. Closing
comments will include the national launch
of a special anniversary publication and
thoughts on the future by the Academy's
2019 Crawford Medal recipient **Associate
Professor Ronika Power**.

KEYNOTE PRESENTATION
EMERITUS PROFESSOR LESLEY JOHNSON AM FAHA

The Humanities Cause: Reflections on
the History of the Australian Academy
of the Humanities

Max Crawford was the driving figure behind the
establishment of the Australian Academy of the
Humanities. He envisaged the Academy as promoting
the role of the humanities in invigorating the cultural
life of Australia and in deepening and extending
understanding of our world. His vision drew on what he
saw as the traditional values of the humanities but he
also sought to modernize the humanities by creating a
body that responded to changes in the institutions and
society that supported them. This paper explores how
both Crawford and W.K. Hancock, the first President
of the Academy, developed a complex and expansive
understanding to the cause of the humanities and of
the Academy in serving that cause. The paper then
goes on to document how the Academy increasingly
became an activist organization in the 1980s drawn
into enhancing the federal government's advisory
and policy-making capabilities. It concludes with a
discussion of what this history suggests to us about how
the Academy and other institutions of the humanities
might conceive of the humanities cause today and into
the future.

EMERITUS PROFESSOR LESLEY JOHNSON AM FAHA

Lesley Johnson was President of the Australian Academy of the Humanities from 2011–14. Her fields of expertise include cultural studies, Australian cultural history, gender studies and sociology of education. She has published five major books, over 40 articles in major refereed journals and edited books, and a number of other reports and monographs. In 1995 she became Pro-Vice Chancellor (Research) at the University of Technology, Sydney (UTS), a position she held for nine years, and in 2004 she was appointed Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research) at Griffith University, a position she held for just over five years until her retirement in 2009. Since that time, she has undertaken a number of part-time consultancies for a range of Australian universities and organisations such as the Queensland State Government and the State Library NSW Lelsey has served on a wide range of Australian Research Council committees since the early 1990s including as Member of its Council for three years and most recently the Engagement and Impact Steering Committee. She chaired the then AVCC Pro/Deputy-Vice Chancellor's Committee in 2004. She was awarded the status of Emeritus Professor by UTS in 2004, and Professor Emeritus by Griffith University in 2011. She was awarded an Order of Australia in 2010 for her contribution to Australian Higher Education.

Lesley was elected a Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities in 1999.

🐦 @Johnson49L

PANELLISTS

PROFESSOR CAROLYN EVANS

Carolyn Evans commenced her appointment as Vice Chancellor and President of Griffith University in February 2019, leading one of Australia's fastest-growing and most progressive tertiary institutions, ranked in the top 2% of universities worldwide. Prior to joining Griffith, Professor Evans was Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Graduate and International) and Deputy Provost (2017–2018) at the University of Melbourne, and Dean and Harrison Moore Professor of Law, University of Melbourne Law School (2011–2017). Professor Evans has degrees in Arts and Law from the University of Melbourne and a doctorate from Oxford University, where she studied as a Rhodes Scholar and held a stipendiary lectureship for two years. In 2010, Carolyn was awarded a Fulbright Senior Scholarship to allow her to travel as a Visiting Fellow to American and Emory Universities to examine questions of comparative religious freedom. She has also taught in the human rights summer school at European University Institute. Throughout her career, Carolyn has promoted the importance of universities combining excellence in teaching and research with a commitment to social justice and inclusion. Carolyn is the author of *Legal Protection of Religious Freedom in Australia* (Federation Press, 2012), *Religious Freedom under the European Court of Human Rights* (OUP, 2001) and co-author of *Australian Bills of Rights: The Law of the Victorian Charter and the ACT Human Rights Act* (LexisNexis, 2008). She is co-editor of *Religion and International Law* (Kluwer, 1999); *Mixed Blessings: Laws, Religions and Women's Rights in the Asia-Pacific Region* (Martinus Nijhoff, 2006) and *Law and Religion in Historical and Theoretical Perspective* (CUP, 2008). She is an internationally recognised expert on religious freedom and the relationship between law and religion and has spoken on these topics in the United States, United Kingdom, Russia, China, Greece, Vietnam, India, Hong Kong, Switzerland, Malaysia, Nepal and Australia. Her teaching was in the areas of public law, including Constitutional Law, Administrative Law and human rights.

🐦 @GriffithUniVC

PROFESSOR PETER HØJ AC FNAI FTSE

Peter Høj has been Vice-Chancellor and President of The University of Queensland since 2012. He was previously Vice-Chancellor and President of the University of South Australia (2007–2012), Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Research Council (2004–2007) and Managing Director of the Australian Wine Research Institute (1997–2004). He was educated at the University of Copenhagen, majoring in biochemistry and chemistry, and has a Master of Science degree in biochemistry and genetics, a PhD in photosynthesis, an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Copenhagen, an Honorary Doctorate from the University of South Australia and an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Adelaide. Peter is a Director of the Board of Group of Eight (Go8) Universities and in 2017 was the Chair. He is a member of the Australian Medical Research Advisory Board (AMRAB) and Wine Australia Board. He served on the CSIRO Board 2011–2014, and was member of the Prime Minister's Science Engineering and Innovation Council (PMSEIC) (1999–2004, and 2006–2007). He is a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering and a Foreign Member of The Royal Danish Academy of Sciences and Letters. In December 2018, Peter was announced as a Fellow of the National Academy of Inventors and in January 2019, he was named a Companion of the Order of Australia (AC) in the Australia Day Honours for eminent service to higher education and to science, particularly to the commercialisation of research, and to policy development and reform.

🐦 @UQ_News

PROFESSOR MARGARET SHEIL AO FRACI FTSE FANZSMS

Margaret Sheil was appointed as Vice-Chancellor and President of QUT from 12 February 2018. She was previously Provost at The University of Melbourne since 2012. In this role, she was the Chief Academic Officer and Standing Deputy to the Vice-Chancellor. She has been an academic in chemistry and held senior roles at the University of Wollongong. She is a Fellow of the Royal Australian Chemical Institute (RACI), the Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering (ATSE) and was made an inaugural Fellow of the Australian and New Zealand Society for Mass Spectrometry (ANZSM). Margaret is a Director of the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO) and a member of the Advisory Council of the CSIRO Science Industry Endowment Fund (SIEF). She was Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Research Council (2007–2012) and she has previously been a member of the Advisory Board for Coursera; and a member of the Prime Minister's Science, Innovation and Engineering Council, the National Research Infrastructure Council and the Cooperative Research Centres Committee. In June 2017 Margaret was made an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) for her distinguished service to science and higher education as an academic and administrator, through significant contributions to the national research landscape, and to performance standards. She holds a Bachelor of Science and a PhD in Physical Chemistry from UNSW and was presented with the Science and Technology Alumni Award from UNSW in 2016.

🐦 @qut_vc

PANEL CHAIR

DR ROBIN JACKSON CBE

Robin Jackson was appointed Interim Chief Executive and Secretary of the British Academy in April 2019. He previously served as Chief Executive and Secretary from 2006 to 2015. Dr Jackson is a graduate in Greats from Oxford, and has a PhD from Princeton in Greek philosophy. He was Seymour Reader at Ormond College and Senior Lecturer in classical studies at the University of Melbourne. He has been Director of Corporate Resources (Acting) and regional consultant for London at the HE Funding Council; Policy Adviser (Research) at Universities UK; and Associate Director (Enhancement) at the Quality Assurance Agency. Dr Jackson has publications on Greek philosophy and issues in higher education policy. He was co-author of *Olympiodorus: Commentary on Plato's Gorgias* (Brill 1998). For his work for the humanities and social sciences Dr Jackson

was appointed CBE in 2014; awarded the British Academy's President's medal in 2015; and awarded DCL (Hon) by the University of East Anglia in 2016.

Closing Remarks

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR RONIKA POWER

Ronika Power is the 2019 recipient of the Academy's Max Crawford Medal. The Medal is Australia's most prestigious award for achievement and promise in the humanities. It is presented to an early career scholar for outstanding achievement in the humanities, whose research and publications make an exceptional contribution to the understanding of their discipline by the general public.

Ronika is an Associate Professor of Bioarchaeology in the Department of Ancient History at Macquarie University; an Honorary Research Fellow of the McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research at the University of Cambridge; an elected Fellow of the Society for Antiquaries London; and the only Humanities-based practitioner amongst the 30 inaugural *Superstars of STEM* (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) for Science and Technology Australia. Ronika's discipline is Bioarchaeology — the study of all living things from the ancient world, specifically humans, animals and plants. Within this broad field, her research platform aligns with 'biocultural' archaeological approaches, whereby data derived from scientific analyses of human remains are interpreted in conjunction with all other forms of archaeological and historical evidence to provide meaningful insights into the demography, health, life-ways and world-views of individuals and groups from past populations. Ronika's research methodology is interdisciplinary, incorporating the fields of archaeology, history, theory, biological and dental anthropology and archaeological science. She has applied this methodology to various geographically and temporally diverse populations across the world: from early Holocene hunter-gatherers of Kenya; to megalithic temple builders of Neolithic Malta; multi-period cemeteries across Egypt; the Garamantes of the Pre-Islamic Libyan Sahara; Late Anglo-Saxon English child burials; and settlement interments in Medieval Benin, to name a few.

🐦 @RKP_Industries

The Academy's 50 Symposia

1970s

1. First Annual General Meeting and Academy Lecture, 'The Literary Influence of Academies' by A.D. Hope (Canberra)
2. Man's Place in Nature (Canberra)
3. Neglected Masterpieces (Canberra)
4. Some Aspects of Change and Continuity in the Study of the Humanities During the Past 100 Years (Canberra)
5. The Individual in Traditional and Modern Asian Society (Melbourne)
6. The Changing Image of Australia: Localism and Universalism (Canberra)
7. The Historical Mode (Canberra)
8. Some Approaches to Language (Canberra)
9. Romanticism (Canberra)
10. The Australian Academy of the Humanities: The Last Ten Years and the Future (Canberra)

1980s

11. Pompeii: Discovery and Impact (Melbourne)
12. Peasants in History and Literature (Canberra)
13. The Classical Temper in Western Europe (Adelaide)
14. Who Owns the Past? (Canberra)
15. Utopias (Canberra)
16. Open Day (Canberra)
17. The Flow of Culture: Tasmanian Studies (Hobart)
18. Myth and Mythology in Arts, Sciences and Humanities (Canberra)
19. Terra Australis to Australia (Canberra)
20. The Relevance of the Humanities (Canberra)

1990s

21. The Humanities and the Australian Environment (Melbourne)
22. Beyond the Disciplines: The New Humanities (Canberra)
23. The Languages of Australia (Canberra)
24. Masks of Time: Drama and its Contexts (Canberra)
25. Silver Jubilee 1969–1994: Celebrating the Humanities (Sydney)

26. Creative Investigations: Redefining Research in the Arts and Humanities (Canberra)
27. Northern Exposures (Brisbane)
28. Our Cultural Heritage (Canberra)
29. First Peoples: Second Chance. Australia in Between Cultures (Sydney)
30. Humane Societies (Canberra)

2000s

31. Cultures of Peace (Perth)
32. Alternative Australias (Canberra)
33. Proof and Truth: The Humanist as Expert (Canberra)
34. Readers, Writers, Publishers (Melbourne)
35. Memory, Monuments and Memorials (Hobart)
36. Creating Value: The Humanities and Their Publics (Canberra)
37. Gift of the Gab: Languages and Australia (Melbourne)
38. Humanities Futures: New Methods and Technologies for Humanities Research (Brisbane)
39. Inspiration of Place: The Artistic Life of Cities (Sydney)
40. The Humanities in Australia: Taking Stock (Canberra)

2010s

41. Sharing Our Common Wealth: Cultural Institutions (Adelaide)
42. Educating the Nation: The Humanities in the New Australian Curriculum (Melbourne)
43. Challenging (the) Humanities (Parramatta)
44. Environmental Humanities: The Question of Nature (Brisbane)
45. Look It Up: Dictionaries, Encyclopedias and Atlases (Canberra)
46. Intersections: Time, Materiality and the Humanities (Sydney)
47. Asia-Australia: Transnational Connections (Melbourne)
48. Humanitarianism and Human Rights (Perth)
49. Clash of Civilisations? Where are we now? (Sydney)
50. Humanising the Future (Brisbane)

Notes

Australian Academy of the Humanities'
51st Symposium

WEDNESDAY 18 TO FRIDAY 20 NOVEMBER 2020
CANBERRA

Engaging in cultural activities and creativity are a valued part of daily life for most Australians. Right now, longstanding tensions around the public and private value of culture are colliding with dramatic shifts in the production, consumption and distribution of cultural knowledges, experiences and products. The 51st Symposium will explore Australia's changing cultural terrain and how we account for the role culture plays in our economy, our communities and our own lives.

A New Approach—the independent think tank championing effective investment and return in Australian creativity and culture'—is the Principal Sponsor.

A NEW
APPROACH

AUSTRALIAN ACADEMY OF THE HUMANITIES
50TH ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM 2019