Programme

14 JULY News Pigs: Tim Wilson

We’re pleased to welcome journalist and novelist Tim Wilson to Wellington. Wilson turned to fiction after his stint as US correspondent for TVNZ, and his first novel Their Faces Were Shining was a finalist in the 2011 NZ Post Book Awards. In this session, he will read from his raucous new novel News Pigs and explore the boundaries of satire, fact and fiction with fellow broadcaster, writer and TV presenter Richard Langston. Join us for what promises to be a highly entertaining session.

21 JULY Tree, Horse, Human: Three New Poets

‘We all sift through the drift of inheritance to find what is magnetic, useful and active,’ writes Rachel O’Neill. Personal and family histories rub up against the wider domains of science, politics and digital culture in the work of Maria McMillan (Tree Space), Rachel O’Neill (One Human in Height) and Marty Smith (Horse with Hat). The authors of three new poetry collections read from their work and reflect on the process of writing, collating and finally seeing that first full-length book materialize with chair Therese Lloyd.

28 JULY The Astonishing Geoff Cochrane

Geoff Cochrane’s latest book, Astonished Dice, is a collection of his published short stories. Showcasing Cochrane’s compressed, fragmentary style and dark-edged humour, Astonished Dice is an important addition to the catalogue of this major talent. Join us as he discusses his fiction with publisher and friend Fergus Barrowman.

4 AUGUST Waha / Mouth: Hinemoana Baker

Join us to hear 2014 Victoria University/Creative New Zealand Writer in Residence Hinemoana Baker in conversation with Chris Price. With a new book of poems, waha / mouth, freshly released in July, Baker is currently working on a book about her own experiences of involuntary childlessness and her father’s traumatic childhood experiences in a Nelson orphanage. She will discuss how retelling her father’s story is a way to acknowledge the painful past, and to move on with grace.

11 AUGUST New Zealand at War: Kate Hunter & Kirstie Ross

Te Papa Press’s recent publication Holding on to Home is a ‘powerfully human and compelling illustrated history of New Zealand’s war experience’ that tells the stories of real New Zealanders at war from battlefront to home front through the artefacts they held dear. The authors, historians Kirstie Ross and Kate Hunter, will discuss their research journeys and the discoveries they made along the way. Paul Diamond will chair this event.

18 AUGUST Best New Zealand Poems 2013

What better way to anticipate National Poetry Day* than with a line-up of nine of the best? Come along to hear Kate Camp, Mary-Jane Duffy, Dinah Hawken, Anna Jackson, Therese Lloyd, Greg O’Brien, Rachel O’Neill, Chris Tse and Ashleigh Young read their poem selected for the annual online publication Best New Zealand Poems, plus a favourite NZ poem. The editors of this year’s selection, Mark Williams and Jane Stafford, will introduce the poets.

(*National Poetry Day is on 22 August)

25 AUGUST From Sprint to Marathon: Craig Cliff and Tina Makereti

In 2010, Writers on Mondays showcased the debut short-story collections of two dynamic new writers: Craig Cliff and Tina Makereti. We pair these two writers again to discuss their second books—Cliff’s The Mannequin Makers, and Makereti’s Where the Rēkohu Bone Sings. Makereti’s novel has been described as ‘generous’ and ‘unshrinking’ and Cliff’s as ‘engaging and deadly smart’. Chair Kate Duignan asks how these two writers made the switch from short story to novel, what were the different challenges presented by both genres, and what are they working on now?

1 SEPTEMBER Literary Lives: Michael Schmidt

In association with the NZ Centre for Literary Translation, we’re proud to present Mexican-born Anglophone man of letters Michael Schmidt. A poet, novelist, translator and anthologist, Schmidt is also founder/publisher of two of the UK’s most illustrious and globally-minded poetry outlets, the Carcanet Press and the PN Review, and has for many years been Professor of Poetry at Glasgow University. Following his compendious Lives of the Poets (1998), Schmidt has just published an equally comprehensive and engaging look at how the novel made the modern world. The Novel: A Biography has been hailed as ‘brilliant, intimate, assured, and almost unflaggingly interesting’ (The Atlantic). Chaired by Greg O’Brien.

8 SEPTEMBER The Next Page 1

A wonderful opportunity to hear a fresh mix of poetry and prose by this year’s intake of writers at the Masters in Creative Writing Programme at Victoria University. Brandy Scott, Freya Sadgrove,
Luke Elworthy, Ines Almeida, Rebecca Nash, Rebecca Hunt, Gina-Marie Aburn, Bernie Coleman, Lucy Bailey, and Craig Gamble are introduced by Chris Price.

15 SEPTEMBER The Next Page 2

Part 2 of these always popular sessions features readings from Patrick Hunn, Ben Egerton, Rupa Maitra, Faith Wilson, Alison Burdett, Anahera Gildea, Georgia Godwin, Juliet Allnatt, Max Chapnick and Doug Dillaman. The writers are introduced by Emily Perkins.

22 SEPTEMBER A Survivor’s Guide to Scriptwriting

Join us for a panel discussion with three experienced scriptwriters for stage and screen. Peter Cox created and wrote the indie hit TV series The Insiders Guide to Happiness as his MA thesis in 2005 and has worked in television ever since. Kelly Marshall, in NZ to share her expertise with the 2014 MA Script workshop, has an extensive and award-studded background in writing and directing for television in the UK. All-round scriptwriting guru Dave Armstrong (whose play Rita & Douglas enjoyed a sold-out run at Circa earlier this year) has won the Chapman Tripp Theatre Award three times, and worked on many hit TV series. They compare notes on the highs and lows of the scriptwriter’s life with chair William Brandt.

29 SEPTEMBER A Home in this World

In his new memoir The Grass Catcher, Ian Wedde writes, ‘We are all at home in places constructed as narratives, and in selves who act like characters in those narratives.’ Helena Wisniewska Brow’s Adam-Prize-winning Give Us This Day chronicles her father’s exile as one of the Polish orphans who arrived in NZ in 1944, and in her memoir How Does it Hurt?, adapted from her PhD in Creative Writing, Stephanie de Montalk imaginatively explores the internal exile of the chronic pain sufferer. Join these three memoirists for a conversation about home, exile, and character in creative nonfiction, chaired by Harry Ricketts.

Events run from 12.15pm to 1.15pm at Te Papa Marae, Level 4, Te Papa

Please note that no food may be taken onto the Te Papa marae.

Writers on Mondays is presented with Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa, the New Zealand Centre for Literary Translation, and National Poetry Day.

For more information contact The International Institute of Modern Letters or visit our website: www.victoria.ac.nz/modernletters Email: modernletters@vuw.ac.nz Phone: (04) 463 6854

Cover drawing of the Janet Frame Desk by Gregory O’Brien