

## Annual Report

### JM Coetzee Centre for Creative Practice Key Events and Activities in 2023

In 2023 we celebrated the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Nobel Prize in Literature awarded to JM Coetzee, our patron, and the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Prize awarded to Patrick White.

We hosted and co-hosted six celebratory events.

We partnered with the following organisations:

**The Bob Hawke Prime Ministerial Centre, University of South Australia**

**The Adelaide Film Festival**

**The Australasian Drama Studies Association**

**The History Trust of South Australia**

Members of the Centre presented three different workshops for a large number of high school English teachers, in association with the School of Education at the University of Adelaide.

We received generous new funding from **The Vizard Foundation** and other donors and sponsorships from the **Association for the Study of Australian Literature**.

We were **awarded two new ARC Linkage grants for projects in the performing arts**.

We partnered with the Bob Hawke Prime Ministerial Centre, University of South Australia on 26 October to co-host a panel discussion on **'Reading and Writing Dangerously'**, with **Peter Greste, Geraldine Brooks, Behrouz Boochani and Kylie-Moore Gilbert**. Some 700 participants attended.

We hosted visits and talks by **Professor Nicholas Mathew, University of California, Berkeley, and Professor Oscar Hemer of Malmo University**.

On 8-9 November we hosted readings and musical recitals in the Barr Smith Library Reading Room. Esteemed Australian authors presented readings from their own work to celebrate the anniversaries. Some 150 participants attended.

**JM Coetzee, Christos Tsiolkas, Helen Garner, Brian Castro, Nicholas Jose and Patrick Flanery** read from their work.

**Anna Goldsworthy and the Euralia Trio** gave recitals.

We presented a book launch and book discussion of a newly published book of essays on the work of JM Coetzee entitled ***The Bloomsbury Handbook to JM Coetzee***, co-edited by Coetzee Centre member Andrew van der Vlies and Lucy Graham. Former director of the Centre, Jennifer Rutherford discussed the book with Andrew van der Vlies.

Eminent film producer **Anna Maria Monticelli** presented a talk about her film adaptation of JM Coetzee's novel *Disgrace*, followed by a special screening of the film of the same name at the Palace Nova Cinema, East End.

Multi-award-winning film director, **Fred Schepisi** presented a talk about his film adaptation of Patrick White's novel *The Eye of the Storm* followed by a special film screening of the film of the same name at the Palace Nova Cinema, East End.

On 30 November we hosted and presented a public lecture delivered by eminent author **David Marr** on '**The Afterlife of Patrick White: Great Novelists and Public Memory**'. **Neil Armfield** gave a response to the lecture.

In early December the Centre presented a public conversation featuring two distinguished historians discussing '**The End of Britain: Writing a Global History**'. **Frank Bongiorno (ANU)** and **Stuart Ward (University of Copenhagen)** offered their knowledge and insights to some 150 participants.

The Centre hosted a public symposium on '**Writing Political Lives: Political Biography and Democracy**', featuring eminent biographers **Jenny Hocking, Judith Brett** and **Jacqueline Kent** discussing their new work with some 35 participants.