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Winners of the 2017 CHASS Australia Prizes Announced

CHASS has announced the winners for four categories of its prestigious Australia Prizes, which were presented at the 2017 CHASS Australia Prizes Dinner in Melbourne on October 10.

Elizabeth Tynan, *Atomic Thunder: The Maralinga Story* (NewSouth Publishing) won the 2017 CHASS Australia Prize for a Book. Other shortlisted titles were **Tom Griffiths, *The Art of Time Travel: Historians and Their Craft*** (Black Inc. Books), **Mark McKenna, *From the Edge: Australia's Lost Histories*** (Melbourne University Press), and John **Murphy, *Evatt: A Life*** (NewSouth Publishing). Sponsored by Routledge, the \$3,500 Book Prize was awarded to an Australian writer whose non-fiction book published in 2016 contributed most to Australian cultural and intellectual life.

The Zest Festival 2012-2016 (ARC Centre of Excellence for the History of Emotions Zest Contributors – Jacqueline Van Gent, Susan Broomhall, Rebecca Millar, Erika von Kaschke, Elizabeth Reid, Melissa Kirkham, Jane Davidson) won the 2017 CHASS Australia Prize for Distinctive Work. Other shortlisted entries were **Myanmar Country Report: Language, Education and Social Cohesion Initiative** (Joseph Lo Bianco), **EXPERIMENTA's A Galaxy of Suns** (Michaela Gleave, Amanda Cole, Warren Armstrong, Michael Fitzgerald), and **Review of the Family Violence Common Risk Management Framework** (Monash University Gender and Family Violence Program). Sponsored by Routledge, the \$3,500 Distinctive Work Prize was for a performance, exhibition, project or a specific advance in policy development in any Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences (HASS) field in 2016.

Laura Rademaker and **Lisa Walton** were joint winners of the 2017 CHASS Australia Prize for a Future Leader. The other finalists were **Ariella Meltzer** and **Rani Pramesti**. Sponsored by Future Leaders, the \$2,000 Future Leader Prize was for an individual below 30 years of age demonstrating clear leadership and potential in any HASS field.

Camille Roulière (The University of Adelaide) won the 2017 CHASS Australia Prize for a Student. The other finalist was **Bronwyn Lovell** (Flinders University). The winner received a \$500 voucher. Sponsored by the Co-Op, the Student Prize was for a student essay, project, performance or exhibition that best exemplified the contribution of HASS areas to our understanding of our nation and us.

Other highlights of the evening included a keynote address by Emeritus Professor Steven Schwartz AM, Patron of the annual CHASS Australia Prizes.

"I would like to congratulate the winners for their achievements and extend my heartfelt thanks to all the other nominees who applied this year. I commend all jury members for their dedication and time to arrive at such strong shortlists and thank them for all their work in making the annual Australia Prizes a success. We are delighted with the ever-growing response to the Prizes and acknowledge the high quality of the 272 entries received this year. Special thanks also to our sponsors for their continued support of the Prizes and for their encouragement of the HASS sector in Australia," said Emeritus Professor Schwartz.

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For more details, please contact Divya Das, Executive Officer, CHASS on 03 9925 3935 or membership@chass.org.au.

Further information:

About the CHASS Australia Prizes: Established in 2014, the CHASS Australia Prizes are designed to honour distinguished achievements by Australians, either working, studying or training in the HASS (Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences) areas, including academics, practitioners, philanthropists, policy makers and students. The Australia Prizes are intended to draw international attention to Australia's achievements in HASS. In 2017, four prizes were given out. Two were cash prizes of \$3,500 each and were sponsored by Routledge: one for a non-fiction book that enriches Australian cultural and intellectual life, the second for an exceptional artistic performance, exhibition, film, television show, play, composition or practical contribution to policy. The third prize, a cash prize of \$2,000 sponsored by Future Leaders, was for an individual under 30 years of age demonstrating leadership skill and potential in HASS. The Co-Op sponsored the fourth prize valued at \$500 for a student essay, exhibition, performance or project in a HASS area.

About CHASS: Established in 2004, the Council for the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences (CHASS) promotes and provides advocacy services for the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences in Australia. It serves as a coordinating forum for teachers, researchers, professionals and practitioners in the sector. Supporting more than 65 member organisations in their relationships with policy makers and the broader community, CHASS is an important network for knowledge and skills. It provides a strong voice to the sector and helps members to contribute to public debate through programs for knowledge exchange and media awareness. For more information, please visit www.chass.org.au or call (03) 9925 3935.