

## Blue Mountains

The Blue Mountains program is presented with Varuna, the National Writers House and Sydney Writers' Festival. Day passes and two-day passes are available for **Monday May 16** and **Tuesday May 17**. Single sessions \$15 at the door, subject to availability. **Bookings 4782 5674, [varuna.com.au](http://varuna.com.au), unless otherwise stated.**

### SR34 MODERN ART PROJECTS AND VARUNA PRESENT: WANTANGANURA

**May 15, 1-4pm**  
Varuna, The National Writers House  
*Wantanganura/Skyworld* features installations by Aboriginal artists accompanied by artist talks, ceremony and the opportunity to meet artists during a fire-circle chat.  
**Free, bookings essential**  
[modernartprojects.org](http://modernartprojects.org)

### SR35 NOT JUST BLACK AND WHITE: ABORIGINAL HISTORIES REVEALED

**May 16, 10.10-11am**  
Carrington Hotel, Katoomba  
Murri elder Lesley Williams talks to Heidi Norman about the pursuit of justice for Aboriginal workers, a nine-year quest that took Lesley and her daughter, Tammy, from Cherbourg mission in Queensland to the United Nations.

### SR36 SIX BEDROOMS: SHORT STORIES AND THE AUSTRALIAN IMAGINATION

**May 16, 11.30am-12.20pm**  
Carrington Hotel, Katoomba  
Tegan Bennett Daylight skilfully crafts short stories in her new collection *Six Bedrooms*. She talks to Kate Fagan about creating stories and characters who are volatile, memorable and distinctively Australian.

### SR37 VIVIAN GORNICK: THE ODD WOMAN AND THE CITY

**May 16, 1.30-2.30pm**  
Carrington Hotel, Katoomba  
Native New Yorker and writer Vivian Gornick speaks to Leah Kaminsky about *The Odd Woman and the City*, a memoir of self-discovery and friendship told through conversations, sharp observations and poetic vignettes of New York street life.

### SR38 DICTIONARY OF SYDNEY

**May 16, 3-4pm**  
Carrington Hotel, Katoomba  
Find out about the online *Dictionary of Sydney* and those commissioned to write about Blue Mountains' icons for the site. Featuring Julian Leatherdale, Naomi Parry, John Low and Delia Falconer talking with Lisa Murray. Supported by the Blue Mountains City of the Arts Cultural Trust.

### SR39 CHARLOTTE WOOD: THE NATURAL WAY OF THINGS

**May 16, 4.30-5.30pm**  
Carrington Hotel, Katoomba  
Charlotte Wood talks about her latest book, *The Natural Way of Things*, a dystopian allegory of power and misogyny set in the Australian bush. With Tegan Bennett Daylight.

### SR40 THE DR DARK MEMORIAL LECTURE: GOOD NEWS, BAD NEWS

**May 16, 6-7pm**  
Carrington Hotel, Katoomba  
In the 2016 Dr Dark Memorial Lecture, award-winning journalist Andrew Fowler interrogates the state of the media, the rise of 'thin journalism' and its implications for a democratic society.

### SR41 TRAVELLING HOME: DEBUT FICTION

**May 17, 10-11am**  
Carrington Hotel, Katoomba  
Leah Kaminsky and Miles Allinson have each written debut novels about troubled Australians on a quest in their forebears' country. They speak with Carol Major about the psychology of memory and guilt.

### SR42 JAMES REBANKS: THE GOOD SHEPHERD

**May 17, 11.30am-12.30pm**  
Carrington Hotel, Katoomba  
James Rebanks is the Herdwick shepherd, whose family has farmed in England's Lake

District for more than 600 years. He speaks with Kate Fagan about his bestselling memoir, *The Shepherd's Life*.

### SR43 MAGDA SZUBANSKI: A TENDER RECKONING

**May 17, 1.30-2.30pm**  
Carrington Hotel, Katoomba  
One of Australia's most-loved performers, Magda Szubanski talks to Alison Manning about searching for skeletons in the family closet and her fearless journey of self-discovery, chronicled in *Reckoning*.

### SR44 LIFE IN THE HIVE

**May 17, 3-4pm**  
Carrington Hotel, Katoomba  
Mireille Juchau (*The World Without Us*) and Peggy Frew (*Hope Farm*) talk with Tegan Bennett Daylight about their elegiac and gripping novels of lost childhoods and broken families.

### SR45 THE WRITER'S MIND

**May 17, 4.30-5.30pm**  
Carrington Hotel, Katoomba  
Sylvia Martin and Mark O'Flynn have both written poignant tales of writers struggling with their sanity. They talk to Barbara Brooks about creativity, madness and the sometimes thin line between history and fiction.

### SR46 SELF-PUBLISHING: THE TOOLS OF THE TRADE

**May 21, 10am-1pm**  
Blue Mountains Cultural Centre  
Local authors share their self-publishing journeys and career professionals reveal the tricks of the trade. A half-day forum of insights into how to take your writing to the next stage.  
**\$15 Bookings [library.bmcc.nsw.gov.au](http://library.bmcc.nsw.gov.au)**

### SR47 THE MICE WHO ROARED: THE INDEPENDENT POETRY PRESS

**May 21, 2-3pm**  
Varuna, The National Writers House  
How do you fit a poet in your pocket? Join us at Varuna as we celebrate Ginninderra Press's 20th anniversary and the success of Ginninderra pocket chapbooks.  
**Free, no bookings**

### SR48 POETRY PARTY

**May 21, 3.30-4.30pm**  
Varuna, The National Writers House  
Gather around the fire in the gardens of Varuna to hear local poets read their work. Poets include Deb Westbury, Ignatius McGovern, Ron Pretty and Stephen Matthews.  
**Free, no bookings**

### SR49 WORKSHOP: BESPOKE BOOKMAKING

**May 22, 10am-1pm**  
Varuna, The National Writers House  
A handcrafted book always has a story to tell. Write a poem or pen a vision with Deb Westbury at a workshop dedicated to the people's press and the art of bespoke bookmaking.  
**\$60/\$55**

## Live and Local

Sydney Writers' Festival continues to expand its horizons with Live and Local, our digital live-streaming project, going national in 2016. We have partnered with local arts centres, libraries and writers' groups across the country to host events with a selection of sessions from the Festival program. Audiences at these venues have the opportunity to ask questions of the guest authors in Sydney via a live feed. This year, Live and Local will reach audiences in Adelaide, Albury, Alice Springs, Armidale, Bathurst, Brisbane, Broken Hill, Byron Bay, Cairns, Coffs Harbour, Darwin, Frankston, Horsham, Port Macquarie, Tamworth, Taree, Toowoomba, Wagga Wagga and Wollongong.  
**Learn more at [swf.org.au/live](http://swf.org.au/live)**

