

Recent Books from Australia - Aug 2023

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Anthropology/Archaeology

The difference identity makes : Indigenous cultural capital in Australian cultural fields/Bamblett, Lawrence (editor)
Australia : Aboriginal Studies Press, Australia 2023
xiv, 294 pages ; 22 cm
9781925302837
USD : 44.95 / PB
550 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=853980>

The editors introduce this innovative collection of essays with a path-finding argument that 'Indigenous cultural capital' now challenges all Australians to re-position themselves within a revised scale of values. Each chapter looks at one of five fields of Australian cultural production: sport, television, heritage, visual arts and music, revealing that in each the Indigenous/non-Indigenous distinction has effects that are specific. This brings new depth and richness to our understanding of what 'Indigeneity' can mean in contemporary Australia. In demonstrating the variety of ways that 'the Indigenous' is made visible and valued the essays provide a powerful alternative to the 'deficit' theme that has continued to haunt the representation of Indigeneity.

The Old Songs are Always New/Campbell, Genevieve
Australia : Sydney University Press , Australia 2023
362 pages, 25cm
9781743328750
USD : 50.00 / PB
715 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=853952>

It's really great. It's like they're all here. I hear all of these voices and I sing with them, you know? - Yikliya Eustace Tipiloura, senior songman and Elder Perhaps the most defining feature of Tiwi song is the importance placed on the creative innovation of the individual singer/composer. Tiwi songs are fundamentally new, unique and occasion specific, and yet sit within a continuum of an oral artistic tradition. Performed in ceremony, at public events, for art and for fun, songs form the core of the Tiwi knowledge system and historical archive. Held by song custodians and taught through sung and danced ritual, generations of embodied practice are still being created and accumulated as people continue to sing. In 2009 Genevieve Campbell and eleven Tiwi colleagues travelled to Canberra to reclaim over 1300 recordings of Tiwi songs, made between 1912 and 1981, that are held in the archives

at the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS). The Old Songs are Always New explores the return home of these recordings to the Tiwi Islands and describes the musical and vocal characteristics, performance context and cultural function of the twelve Tiwi song types, giving an overview of the linguistic and poetic devices used by Tiwi composers. For the past 16 years Campbell has been working closely with Tiwi song custodians, studying contemporary Tiwi song culture in the context of the maintenance of traditions and the development of new music forms. Their musical collaboration has resulted in public performances, community projects and recordings featuring current senior singers and the voices of the repatriated recordings. For this publication, Elders have enabled the transcription of many song texts and melodies for the first time, shedding light on how generations of Tiwi singers have connected the past with the present in a continuum of knowledge transmission and arts practice.

Biography/Memoirs

Old Boy/Tree, Georgia
Australia : Fremantle Press , Australia 2023
240 pages, 20cm
9781760991883
USD : 34.99 / PB
270 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=853979>

A daughter's telling of her father's tale of addiction, resurrection, dumb luck and love. Her whole life, Georgia's father has told her she will be the one to write his story. It's a story in which living is just a game of chance- why did Grant Tree survive when others didn't? Why did he find love and happiness, and a grown daughter to spill his story to so that she can record the whole beautiful, unlikely mess of it? Told in parallel to Grant's story is the life of his friend and dealer Brian Geoffrey Chambers, known in the book as Charlie, who was ultimately executed in Malaysia for drug smuggling.

I'd Rather Not/Skinner, Robert
Australia : Black Inc. Books, Australia 2023
176 pages, 20cm
9781760640354
USD : 34.99 / PB
180 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=853969>

From one of Australia's most wryly funny writers comes an original and utterly hilarious memoir of reaching for the stars while lying in a ditch I was sleeping in what might reasonably be described as a ditch, though I tried not to think of it in those terms for morale reasons ... Robert Skinner arrives in the city, searching for a richer life. Things begin badly and then, surprisingly, get slightly worse. Pretty soon he's sleeping rough and trying to run a literary magazine out of a dog park. His quest for meaning keeps being thwarted, by endless jobs, beagles, house parties, ill-advised love affairs, camel trips and bureaucratic entanglements. Sometimes a book catches the spirit of the times. I'd Rather Not is about work, escape and that something more we all need.

Helena Rubinstein/Trumble, Angus
Australia : La Trobe University Press, Melbourne Australia 2023
304 pages, 23cm
9781760644529
USD : 39.99 / PB
440 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=853973>

The captivating story of the first global cosmetics empire, the fascinating woman who built it, and the past she preferred to leave behind. This meticulously researched and wryly entertaining portrait of Helena Rubinstein (1872-1965) focuses on the years she spent in Australia as a young woman, recovering a 'lost' chapter in the grand narrative of the woman who created one of the first global cosmetics corporations. At its height, Rubinstein's brand was synonymous with elegance and employed 30,000 women around the world. Rubinstein arrived in Australia from Poland when she was twenty-three years old. She lived in Australia for the next eleven years, working first as a governess and then as a waitress, before opening her first beauty salon in Melbourne. In later years, owing to the degree of control she exercised over her glamorous image, many details of her early life in Australia were suppressed. But the events she airbrushed out of her own myth reveal the surprising origins of her extraordinary rise. In this absorbing book, we see her laying the foundations for a global empire. With a foreword by Sarah Krasnostein 'An unforgettable portrait of a four-foot ten-inch female Jewish business genius/dynamo. Apart from admiring the extraordinary scholarship, I chuckled at many points at the dry humour - concerning, for example, the mysterious doctor working with raw materials found only in the Carpathian Mountains. The author is also an excellent art and fashion critic.' -Robert Manne

Penny Wong: Passion and Principle/Simons, Margaret
Australia : Black Inc. Books, Australia 2023
384 pages, 23cm
9781760644185
USD : 39.99 / PB
520 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=853974>

An updated and extended edition of the bestselling biography of one of the most talented, poised and respected Australian politicians. Senator Penny Wong is an extraordinary Australian politician. Resolute, self-possessed and a penetrating thinker on subjects from climate change to foreign affairs, she is admired by members of parliament and the public from across the political divide. In this first-ever biography of Wong, acclaimed journalist Margaret Simons traces her story- from her early life in Malaysia, to her student activism in Adelaide, her time in the turbulent Rudd and Gillard governments, her key role as a voice of reason in the campaign to legalise same-sex marriage - and a new chapter on her elevation to the post of foreign minister in the Albanese government. What emerges is a picture of a leader for modern Australia, a cool-headed and cautious yet charismatic figure of piercing intelligence, with a family history linking back to Australia's colonial settlers and to the Asia-Pacific. Drawing on exclusive interviews with Penny Wong and her Labor colleagues, parliamentary opponents, and close friends and family, this is a scintillating insight into an Australian politician without precedence.

Border crossings : my journey as an outsider/Chowdhury, Mohammad
Australia : NewSouth Publishing, Sydney NSW 2023
xvi, 345 pages ; 21 cm
9781742238067
USD : 39.99 / PB
395 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=853966>

Whether negotiating the mind-games of the Israeli intelligence services or performing ablutions in a London bathroom, Mohammad Chowdhury's life as a British Muslim brings daily challenges. Border Crossings is the story of Chowdhury's journey, gripping in some parts and shame-inducing in others, as he describes a lifelong struggle to reconcile the British, Asian and Muslim sides of his identity, constantly dealing with the mistrust of Westerners alongside the hypocrisies of his own community and their misunderstanding of Islam. Personal, honest and uniquely narrated from the perspective of a man who grew up in South London, studied at Oxford, and has worked in eighty countries, Border Crossings echoes the stories of thousands of Western Muslims who since 9/11 have been subjected to a constant barrage of questions that obliquely cast doubt over the very goodness of their faith. Border Crossings is the account of a man who cries when England win the Ashes, yet screams in the face of racism and religious bigotry. This timely book powerfully rejects today's emerging narrative that Muslims can no longer be trusted as honest citizens of the West.

Cast Mates/Twyford-Moore, Sam
Australia : NewSouth Publishing, Sydney NSW 2023
336 pages, 20cm
9781742237541
USD : 42.99 / PB
345 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=853962>

Cast Mates is a group biography of Australian acting giants across the ages. Australia has a long cinema history starting with the world's first feature film, The Story of the Kelly Gang , made in Melbourne and released in 1906. Today, much of Australia's film talent goes to the United States, looking for bigger and more lucrative opportunities. But what does this mean for the history and future of Australian cinema? The larger-than-life personalities that form the heart of this book Errol Flynn, Peter Finch, David Gulpilil and Nicole Kidman have dominated cinema screens both locally and internationally and starred in some of the biggest films of their eras including The Adventures of Robin Hood, Network, Crocodile Dundee and Eyes Wide Shut among others. From the Golden Age of Hollywood in the 1930s to the streaming wars of today, the lives of these four actors, and their many cast mates, tell a story of how a nation's cinema was founded, then faltered, before finding itself again.

Ecology/Environment

Ending Plastic Waste/Hardesty, Britta Denise (Editor)

Australia : CSIRO Publishing, Australia 2023
190 pages, 23cm
9781486312290
USD : 64.99 / PB
495 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=853953>

Many informal organisations around the world are making a positive impact on the environment and their communities by turning waste into a resource, increasing the social capacity of their community and reducing the amount of pollution in their environment. Ending Plastic Waste: Community Actions Around the World presents a collection of stories, advice and information from experts in the fields of waste management, plastic pollution and environmental finance to give a broad outlook on how 19 programs from 15 different countries are protecting our planet. By sharing these journeys, the authors hope to encourage others to take a community approach to ending plastic waste. Perfect for decision-makers working in environmental and marine fields, industry stakeholders and citizen scientist groups, this book provides guidance on how to successfully implement a new program, what resources are needed and the lessons learned by the people behind these programs in overcoming barriers.

Economics/Development Studies

Invention to Innovation/Marshall, Larry
Australia : CSIRO Publishing, Australia 2023
288 pages, 20cm
9781486316373
USD : 59.99 / PB
385 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=853963>

Invention to Innovation charts a course for scientists, leaders, investors and policy makers to translate research into growing innovative, competitive companies and industries. With extensive experience and insights gained over three decades, Dr Larry Marshall demonstrates how science can generate new value that grows markets and creates jobs while also delivering social, environmental and economic benefit. Through a combination of practical advice, real-life examples and big-picture vision, this thought-provoking work shows how Australia's world-class science can navigate successfully across the 'Valley of Death' to become successful innovations and grow our economy. With contributions from leaders in business, research, venture and scientists who have made the leap to become 'Scientist CEOs', Invention to Innovation is essential reading for anyone who believes Australia's excellent science deserves a vibrant, globally competitive innovation ecosystem to ensure our sustainable and prosperous future.

History

Campus/Sangia, Andrew (Editor)

Australia : University of Western Australia Publishing 2023
430 pages 27cm
9781760800505
USD : 90.00 / PB
1685 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=853951>

University campuses are now a fixture of practically every major city in Australia but often go under-appreciated as built environments. This collaborative history sheds light on the origins and evolution of campus design from the Second World War to the current day. It explores built legacies and design strategies set against the backdrop of the development of higher education in Australia's continuing cultural evolution. Times change but what remains is the importance of the design, landscape and buildings of university campuses in shaping and supporting the quality of life and work of the university community. Campuses profoundly shape the immediate experiences, as well as the memories of significant times, in the lives of those who pass through them. They are substantial new manifestations of urban civic life. The essays on modern Australian universities presented in Campus are deep and wide, setting their features in the socio-economic, political and urban context in which they have developed. This is a particularly rich collection from which to reflect on the particularities and commonalities of the Australian university campus.

A River with a City Problem - A History of Brisbane Floods/Cook, Margaret
Australia : University of Queensland Press, Australia 2023
264 pages, 22cm
9780702266065
USD : 39.99 / PB
375 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=853975>

An engrossing account of the complex relationship between a river and the cities that grew up around it.' Nick Earls When floods devastated South East Queensland in 2011, who was to blame? Despite the inherent risk of living on a floodplain, most residents had pinned their hopes on Wivenhoe Dam to protect them, and when it failed to do so, dam operators were blamed for the scale of the catastrophic events that followed. A River with a City Problem is a compelling history of floods in the Brisbane River catchment, especially those in 1893, 1974, 2011 and 2022. Extensively researched, it highlights the force of nature, the vagaries of politics and the power of community. With many river cities facing urban development challenges, Cook makes a convincing argument for what must change to prevent further tragedy.

Literature

A Better Place/Daisley, Stephen
Australia : Text Publishing Company, Australia 2023
224 pages, 23cm
9781922458681
USD : 39.99 / PB

370 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=853976>

In a novel of stark and lyrical beauty, award-winning author Stephen Daisley portrays the brutal effects of war on two New Zealand brothers. People in the district would often say Roy Mitchell was not quite the same after he come back from the war. There was a twin brother, Tony. Killed on Crete in 1941. The hut he built when he returned was on a bit of flat ground above the Mangawhero Creek. He called it his whare. Corrugated-iron chimney on the south wall. Black maire firewood cut and stacked on the veranda. The kennels were north-facing with dry folded sacks for the dogs to sleep on. In 1942, Roy had driven seventy-five miles through the North African desert to see a litter of ten pups. Just to see them. Someone from the 5th Field Artillery had told him about them. Drove back to the New Zealand lines after that. From Stephen Daisley, winner of the Prime Minister's Literary Award (Australia) for *Traitor* and New Zealand's Ockham Prize for *Coming Rain*, a new novel of brothers at war. Beautifully written, brutal, tender and visceral, *A Better Place* is about art and violence, and love in its many forms.

Public. Open. Space/Larsen, Kate
Australia : Fremantle Press , Australia
128 pages, 20cm
9781760992163
USD : 34.99 / PB
125 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=853968>

Positioned at the intersection of poetic and digital culture, this collection explores the sense of placelessness increasingly resonant for all of us who live and working in the digital realm. *Public. Open. Space.* is a collection of poetry inspired by spaces, places and situations that are controlled and contested online and in real life. Looking at firewalls and feminism, activism and apathy, *Public. Open. Space.* explores freedom and suppression, censorship and silencing, propaganda and protest, as well as the difference between being told 'no' and choosing to say it ourselves.

Birth Canal/Wuri, Dias Novita
Australia : Scribe Publications, Australia 2023
160 pages, 20cm
9781922585769
USD : 29.99 / PB
200 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=853967>

A dazzling novella from a rising star of Indonesian literature that explores what it means to be a woman - whoever you are, wherever you are, and whenever it is in history and time. In today's Jakarta, an unnamed man tells the story of his lifelong friend Nastiti, and what happened on the day she vanished. In the Dutch East Indies' Semarang, a young Indo-Dutch girl, Rukmini, is captured by the Japanese military and made to be a comfort woman. Years later, Arini - the thread that connects these two - travels to the Netherlands to share her mother's dark past with a researcher. During the American occupation of Japan in

WWII, an American war photographer falls in love with Hanako, the wife of a traumatised former soldier, but can't escape his own darkness. And in present-day Osaka, a young Indonesian woman, Dara, haunted by her past and struggling to conceive, becomes obsessed with a Japanese porn star. Through these interconnected narratives, Dias Novita Wuri explores generational legacies, lost loves, the damage that war does to men, and the damage that men do to women.

On a Bright Hillside in Paradise/Higgs, Annette
Australia : Vintage Books, Australia 2023
320 pages, 22cm
9781761049736
USD : 39.99 / PB
405 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=853971>

Told from five different points of view, each one revealing something different, *On a Bright Hillside in Paradise*, tells the story of a family of convict descendants in the back-blocks of Tasmania, on a farm in a place called Paradise. They lead hard-scrabble lives. The drama begins when strangers arrive, Christian Brethren evangelists who hold big revival meetings in local barns. *On a Bright Hillside in Paradise* tackles big questions of faith and family but remains grounded in the dreams and strivings of its beautifully drawn characters. Higgs takes lives that history might have judged as small and imbues them with immense dignity and complex and compelling inner lives. Avoiding the myth of the 'frontier pioneer' *On a Bright Hillside in Paradise* instead shows how these convict descendants wanted nothing more than to retreat to the bush to heal from their trauma, developing a deep love of the landscape in the process. At its heart the novel is about a close-knit community, and home-making in the bush. Despite injuries, losses, deaths, and near-starvation the family survives.

In the Photograph/Beesley, Luke
Australia : Giramondo Publishing Company, Australia 2023
132 pages : illustrations ; 21 cm
9781922725752
USD : 32.95 / PB
170 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=853964>

The poems in *In the Photograph* unfold in domestic and suburban settings. They capture the exact moment of writing: how, from it, possibilities branch out into observation, memory, word play, analogy, fantasy, other artworks and other art forms. Cinema, photography, theatre, painting and music all move freely in and out of the poem's frame. The writing revels in humour and narrative surprise: twists in syntax, jump cuts in time, jump cuts from one category of experience into another. *In the Photograph* is intimate, familial, often moving; it is also sparkingly clever and alert to the imaginative possibilities that can open out from the minutiae of days.

Spore or Seed/Maling, Caitlin

Australia : Fremantle Press , Australia 2023
112 pages, 20cm
9781760992590
USD : 34.99 / PB
140 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=853970>

Written out of distinctively Western Australian settings, *Spore or Seed* is a narrative of pregnancy, birth and the early years of motherhood. *Spore or Seed* is a beautifully written and deeply moving exploration of the loss of self and the discovery of a new, expanded self. It traces themes of pregnancy, birth and childrearing against the backdrop of environmental threat, addressing the intersections of environmental care and caretaking. What does it mean to become a parent in a time of climate crisis? How do we decide whether or not to have children in a time of constant uncertainty amplified by the pandemic years? And how does motherhood change us? These are the questions that *Spore or Seed* raises and uses all the tools of poetry to explore.

Roseghetto/Jagger, Kirsty
Australia : University of Queensland Press, Australia 2023
320 pages, 22cm
9780702266041
USD : 39.99 / PB
475 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=853978>

An unforgettable novel about growing up in public housing in Western Sydney Shayla is on a newspaper assignment when she returns to the public housing estate where she grew up and finds it demolished. The locals have been evicted, their homes erased, their stories too. Standing among the rubble of Rosemeadow, Shayla is assailed by her memories of living there. The bad secret Daddy asked her to keep. Mummy rekindling a dangerous romance. Making friends with 'the gutter kids'. Surrounded by poverty, confronted by domestic violence, Shayla found her escape in reading. Now it's time to tell the stories of Rosemeadow, including her own. *Roseghetto* is an unforgettable and moving coming-of-age story, an account of breaking the cycle of violence and poverty.

The Crying Room/Shirm, Gretchen
Australia : Transit Lounge, Australia
249 pages, 23cm
9780645565379
USD : 39.99 / PB
345 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=853954>

The *Crying Room* movingly explores family boundaries and stories, finding original ways to express the contradictory experience of belonging to a family, and being an individual at the same time. When Bernie Rodgers and her husband move to the coastal town of Ballina, she finds that there is more than a physical distance separating her from her adult daughters. Bernie loves her daughters, but the problem she realises is with the way she loved them.

Bernie's daughter Susie is professionally successful, but her feelings remain distant, even to herself. When she takes on the responsibility for caring for her niece, the pieces of her life finally snap into place. The inexplicable disappearance of an aeroplane though, plunges her life into mystery once again. Morally acute and dazzlingly accomplished, this is an affecting novel about loneliness, love, family and the need to feel.

Audition/Adam, Pip

Australia : Giramondo Publishing Company, Australia 2023

217 pages ; 21 cm.

9781922725462

USD : 34.95 / PB

255 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=853965>

A spaceship called Audition is hurtling through the cosmos. Squashed immobile into its largest room are three giants: Alba, Stanley and Drew. If they talk, the spaceship keeps moving; if they are silent, they resume growing. Talk they must, and as they do, Alba, Stanley and Drew recover their shared memory of what has been done to their former selves experiences of imprisonment, violence and misrecognition, of disempowerment and underprivilege. Pip Adam's uncategorisable new novel, part science fiction, part social realism, asks what happens when systems of power decide someone takes up too much room about how we imagine new forms of justice, and how we transcend the bodies and selves we are given.

Traced/Jinks, Catherine

Australia : Text Publishing Company, Australia 2023

366 pages, 23cm

9781922790125

USD : 39.99 / PB

470 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=853972>

A contact tracer finds herself ensnared in her daughter's domestic nightmare in this new thriller from a master of the genre Jane is a contact tracer. She has to call a lot of people and some of them don't want to talk. Various reasons-tax or immigration issues, infidelity. Domestic abuse. Jane knows all about that. She and her daughter Tara have spent years in hiding from Tara's manipulative and terrifying ex. Now, as Jane talks to a close contact, she realises the woman on the phone is scared of the same man-and he's close. Too close. Suddenly the past comes slamming back into the present as Jane realises she and Tara can't keep running forever. One day, they're going to be found.

Politics

War on corruption : an Indonesian experience/Lubis, Todung, Mulya

Australia : Melbourne University Press, Australia 2023

xix, 244 pages ; 24 cm.

9780522879643

USD : 50.00 / PB
355 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=853977>

War on Corruption: An Indonesian Experience is a courageous, informed, and sober insider's account of the challenge for democracy and the rule of law within the fourth most populous nation. Corruption is a huge problem in Indonesia. Some reasons are easy to identify and flow on from the authoritarianism of the Soeharto New Order. Other factors are less apparent. As Todung Mulya Lubis, one of Indonesia's leading human rights lawyers and most influential legal thinkers, explains, 'Now corruptors come from the legislature, government, judiciary, and business communities, and they are not simply thieves but rent-seekers, benefiting from rapid economic development and weak law enforcement'. In his telling, the best efforts of the most unswerving and talented corruption fighters in Indonesia have been frustrated since the Soeharto regime was overthrown a generation ago. But as Todung also shows, there have recently been many successful prosecutions of corrupt officials, from the lowest levels to the very upper echelons of government and society. The creation of the Indonesian Corruption Eradication Commission, the KPK, in 2003, was an inspired move. For all its problems, arising from both internal dynamics and the often hostile social and institutional environments in which it has operated, the legal independence and dogged idealism of the KPK have made it a genuine force for renewal.

A Tiger Rules the Mountain : Cambodia's Pursuit of Democracy/Conochie, Gordon
Australia : Monash University Press, Australia 2023
384 pages 23cm
9781922633903
USD : 42.99 / PB
460 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=853955>

A propulsive and vivid insight into a complex country
Cambodia's Hun Sen is the world's longest-serving prime minister, in power since 1985. In 2013, Sen's rule came under threat when the exiled opposition leader, Sam Rainsy, unexpectedly returned just before a national election. One hundred thousand supporters hailed him at the airport as protests swept the country. On election day, millions voted for change. This narrative non-fiction account tells the dramatic story of that election and the subsequent multi-year wrestle for power, right through to the dramatic events of the present day.

This is Cambodia through the lens of the human stories. Gordon Conochie lived and worked in the country and interviewed many involved in the events, including government officials, journalists, young human-rights activists and opposition politicians. The story he finds is both complex and riveting: Cambodia's history is riven with trauma yet there is a powerful and swelling appetite for change. Looking ahead to Cambodia's future and the role of democracy in South-East Asia, Conochie examines whether we will continue to see a backslide in liberal democracy or if the region could gradually be on the path to a more liberal future.
