



The Wheeler Centre
Books Writing Ideas

176 Little Lonsdale Street
Melbourne VIC 3000 Australia
+61 3 9094 7809

Media Release

Tuesday 10 September

The Wheeler Centre to host Patrick Ness, Helen Garner and Ben Shewry this November

Genre fiction, memoir writing and incisive political analysis come together in **The Wheeler Centre's** latest events program, with appearances from bestselling fantasy author **Patrick Ness**, renowned restaurateur and chef **Ben Shewry**, incisive journalist and commentator **George Megalogenis** and national treasure **Helen Garner**.

Introducing the November and December event offering, **Erin Vincent, CEO, The Wheeler Centre**, said: 'We're thrilled to close out a successful year with another round of impactful public talks and storytelling. We've given audiences a taste of everything that The Centre does exceptionally well, and the final months of the year are no different.'

American-British novelist **Patrick Ness** is one of the most prolific and celebrated writers in contemporary fantasy and genre fiction. With a career spanning award-winning young adult novels like *The Knife of Never Letting Go* and *A Monster Calls* to adult fiction and screenwriting, Ness continues to push the boundaries of storytelling. In a special evening at The Wheeler Centre chaired by **Amie Kaufman**, Ness will take a broad look at his varied career, from his earliest novels to his latest release, *Chronicles of a Lizard Nobody* – his first foray into middle-grade fiction.

In **Helen Garner's** much-anticipated book *The Season* she turns her keen observational eye and sharp wit to the world of suburban footy, following her grandson's team through the highs and lows of the season. The celebrated author is joined by veteran broadcaster and journalist **Leigh Sales** at The Capitol to discuss Garner's newest work, the nobility of team spirit and the role sport plays in shaping young lives.

Celebrated chef and food innovator, **Ben Shewry**, heads to Montalto to serve up insights into his innovative approach to dining over a delicious two-course menu. The owner of Melbourne institution Attica is joined by writer and editor **Erik Jensen** to discuss and digest Shewry's newest book, *Uses For Obsession*, his illustrious career and deep passion for fostering an equitable and inclusive hospitality community.

The final edition of **The Fifth Estate** for the year sees host **Sally Warhaft** joined by expert commentator and journalist **George Megalogenis** for an hour of astute political analysis. They will reflect on the year that was, Australia's current state of political affairs and look ahead to what the 2025 Australian Federal election year might mean for the Australian voter. Presented in conjunction with the release of Megalogenis' forthcoming *Quarterly Essay, Minority Report: The New Shape of Australian Politics*.

wheelercentre.com

Trading as Centre for Books, Writing and Ideas
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As the Wheeler Centre's **Hot Desk Fellowships** wrap up for 2024, the latest instalment of the ever-popular **Next Big Thing** series will showcase writers from the third intake of fellows as they share excerpts from their works-in-progress. Be inspired as host **Diem Nguyen** joins **Megan Cheong, Ronia Imbrahim, Suri Matondkar, Lia Dewey Morgan, Frankie van Kan, Hannah Wu** and **Cat Yen** for an evening of creativity, craft and candour.

– ENDS –

Media contact

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Media centre

Images available [here](#)

The full list of events and dates are listed below. For more information, please visit wheelercentre.com/events

Ben Shewry at Montalto

Ben Shewry, Erik Jensen

6.30pm, Friday 8 November

Montalto Winery

Patrick Ness

Patrick Ness, Amie Kaufman

6.30pm, Friday 15 November

The Wheeler Centre

The Next Big Thing: Hot Desk 2024 Edition #3

Megan Cheong, Ronia Imbrahim, Suri Matondkar, Lia Dewey Morgan, Frankie van Kan, Hannah Wu, Cat Yen

6.30pm, Monday 18 November

Downstairs at The Wheeler Centre

Helen Garner: The Season

Helen Garner, Leigh Sales

7.00pm, Tuesday 26 November

The Capitol

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George Megalogenis: The New Shape of Australian Politics

George Megalogenis, Sally Warhaft

6.30pm, Tuesday 3 December

The Wheeler Centre

The Wheeler Centre is Melbourne's home for smart, passionate and entertaining public talks, and exists to support writers, readers and thinkers. Through live and digital conversations, debates, readings, performances and discussions, it deepens public engagement with the most pressing topics of the day. It is dedicated to creative collaboration, community engagement, diversity, and innovation.

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