



The Wheeler Centre
Books Writing Ideas

176 Little Lonsdale Street
Melbourne VIC 3000 Australia
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**THE WHEELER CENTRE ANNOUNCES EXCLUSIVE MELBOURNE APPEARANCES BY MICHAEL POLLAN AND
MAGDA SZUBANSKI AT MELBOURNE TOWN HALL**

Wednesday 15 July



The Wheeler Centre has announced two major additions to its 2026 program, with both headline events to take place at Melbourne Town Hall. Later this year, US author Michael Pollan and treasured Australian performer and writer Magda Szubanski will each make exclusive Melbourne appearances.

QUOTE ATTRIBUTABLE TO ERIN VINCENT, THE WHEELER CENTRE, CEO: ‘Magda Szubanski and Michael Pollan are two remarkable voices and these exclusive Melbourne appearances speak to the great importance of gathering for compelling conversations. We’re thrilled to add them to our year-round program this year.’

The Wheeler Centre brings people together through the exchange of stories and ideas, encouraging curiosity and thoughtful provocation. We’re so proud to bring Melbourne audiences together with these extraordinary writers whose work opens up space for curiosity and reflection.’

In September, Australian comedy icon, **Magda Szubanski**, will speak with acclaimed journalist and author **Julia Baird** on the day of the release of her much anticipated second memoir, *I Can't Tell You But I Will*.

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Trading as Centre for Books, Writing and Ideas
ABN 97 134 682 189





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Following her bestselling, award-winning *Reckoning*, Szubanski's new book traces her journey from daughter to orphan, from comedian to campaigner, as she grappled with the heartbreaking decline and death of her mother, Margaret, while also playing a vital advocacy role in the national battle for same-sex marriage in Australia.

With her searing honesty, Szubanski will unpack the true cost of caring, the courage it takes to keep going, and the impossible pull between public duty and private grief.

In November, acclaimed journalist and author **Michael Pollan** delves headfirst into what it means to truly connect with the world and our deepest selves.

Having transformed readers' understanding of drugs and food with bestsellers *How to Change Your Mind* and *The Omnivore's Dilemma*, the esteemed science writer turns his attention to the mind itself. Off the back of his latest deep dive, *A World Appears: A Journey Into Consciousness*, Pollan explores the unmapped continent that is consciousness, drawing on neuroscientific research, philosophy, literature and his own mind to illuminate what it means to be human.

Speaking with beloved broadcaster **Richard Fidler**, he brings his trademark wit, charm and intellectual curiosity to bear as he traces theories of the mind across different cultures and eras, touching on everything from Indigenous epistemologies to the possibility of machine consciousness.

– 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

Magda Szubanski: I Can't Tell You But I Will

Magda Szubanski, Julia Baird
7.00pm, Tuesday 29 September
Melbourne Town Hall

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Michael Pollan: A Journey into Consciousness

Michael Pollan, Richard Filder

7.00pm, Thursday 5 November

Melbourne Town Hall

The Wheeler Centre is Australia's only dedicated hub for Books, Writing and Ideas – a place where audiences connect with leading writers and thinkers from across Australia and the world.

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