SPEAKERS CONTINUED...

Kim Scott is a multi-award winning novelist whose most recent novel is Taboo. Proud to be one among those who call themselves Noongar, Kim is also chair of Wirlomin Noongar Language and Stories, which is responsible for a number of bilingual picture books and regional performances of story and song. Kim is currently Professor of Writing in the School of Media, Creative Arts and Social Inquiry at Curtin University.

Rabia Siddique is a history making humanitarian, author, international keynote speaker and a power house for change. She draws upon extensive experience as a former criminal, war crimes, terrorism and human rights lawyer, military career, psychology training and business.

Fadzi Whande is an award winning Global Diversity and Inclusion Strategist and Social Justice Advocate. Her work primarily focuses on addressing systemic and institutionalised barriers held towards historically underrepresented groups. Fadzi sits on the Board of Directors for the Museum of Freedom and Tolerance.

Yirga Gelaw Woldeyes is a researcher and lecturer at the Centre for Human Rights Education, Curtin University. His multidisciplinary research focuses on the critical study of development, education and law, and the importance of lived experience and epistemic diversity for decolonial and sustainable futures. Yirga researches African experiences and Ethiopian traditions, and writes creatively on belonging and diasporic lives.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- Auntie Mingli McGlade and Uncle Ben Cuiermarra Taylor
- The State Library of WA
- Curtin University’s School of Media, Creative Arts and Social Inquiry, with special thanks to Grace Bancroft, Anna Haebich, Paul Indaimo, Chris Lewis, Andrew McLean, Steve Mickler, Vicki Milic, Safiah Rind, Arun Raj and Anastasia Scala.
- The Museum of Freedom and Tolerance WA
- Yi Xiao Chen, Sultana Shamshi, Riadh Ali, Zhang Di Hua, Osama Mah for memorial artwork and Garden of Healing videos

Organising Committee: Michelle Bui, Sky Croeser, Thor Kerr, Marilyn Metta, Baden Offord, Ayman Qwaider, Antonio Traverso.

We acknowledge that this symposium takes place on the unceded land of the Whadjuk People of the Noongar nation, in a state and a country that has its own histories of massacre, a history that cannot be separated from today’s acts of racist violence.
Who are “we”? Who is “one of us”? Who are we part of? Whose humanity do we recognise as akin to ours?

Following the Easter bombings in Sri Lanka, we again face questions of them and us as national and global tensions play out in new configurations of violence and terror.

In this symposium, community members, academics and artists consider the fraught term, one of us, exploring questions of the normalization of racism, everyday Islamophobia, and the connections between various forms of othering – “us and them” – in Australia and elsewhere.

PROGRAM

5:00pm - Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony (Perth Cultural Centre Precinct, outside SLWA)
Auntie Mingli McGlade and Uncle Ben Cuiermara Taylor
Screening: From Garden of Healing by the Museum of Freedom and Tolerance artists
Introduced by Shaheen Hughes

5:30pm - Registrations Open (State Library Foyer)

5:45pm - Introduction: Rabia Siddique
‘One of Us’: Suvendrini Perera
Three Villanelles: John Kinsella (video)

6:15pm - Panel 1: Reflections
Speakers: Sabah Rind, Kim Scott, Ayman Qwaider, Sky Croeser
Chair: Rabia Siddique

7:15pm - Break (light refreshments served)

7:35pm - Panel 2: Ways Forward
Speakers: Marilyn Metta, Imam Yahya Ibrahim, Fadzi Whande
Chair: Yirga Woldeyes
Poem ‘This is not us...but it is’ - Marziya Mohammedali

8:30pm - Close

SPEAKERS

Sky Croeser works in Internet Studies at Curtin University. Her research focuses on how activists use, and reshape, the technologies we use every day. Her first book, Global Justice and the Politics of Information, came out in 2015, and you can find more of her research at skycroeser.net/publications.

Imam Yahya Ibrahim is Curtin University’s Muslim chaplain. He travels the world regularly from his base in Perth, to provide commentary on matters that are most important to Muslims in our time. His initiatives in Australia include diversity training, cultural sensitivity programs, educational lectures and media presentations.

Shaheen Hughes is the inaugural CEO of the Museum of Freedom and Tolerance, a virtual social change institution designed to promote the benefits of a socially cohesive society free from racial and religious discrimination.

John Kinsella (video) is the author of many volumes of poetry, including Peripheral light: New and Selected Poems, Jam Tree Gully, Drowning in Wheat: Selected Poems and most recently, Open Door, the final volume of his Jam Tree Gully trilogy. He has written numerous books of fiction and criticism, edited others, and taught poetry and literature in a number of countries.

Dr Marilyn Metta is a storyteller who has been working with marginalised communities and stories for the past twenty years. Marilyn’s work is centred on social justice and the importance of storytelling in education and social transformation.

Marziya Mohammedali is a wordsmith, photographer, designer, educator and artist. Their creative practice focuses on narratives of dissent, identity, migration and transition, working for social justice. They have documented several protest movements within Perth, and have been involved in creative and digital activism for various issues.

Suvendrini Perera is a John Curtin Distinguished Professor and Professor of Cultural Studies at Curtin University. Her books include Survival Media: The politics and poetics of mobility and the war in Sri Lanka.

Ayman Qwaider is a Research Assistant at Curtin University with a Masters degree in Peace, Conflict and Development Studies from The University of Jaume I, Spain in 2011.

Sabah Rind is a Muslim woman who grew up in Perth with Aboriginal and Balochi Afghan background. She has completed postgrad studies in Human Rights and is currently working at the Aboriginal Legal Service of WA as the Community Legal Education and Engagement Officer.