

AUGUST NEWS FROM YOUR LIBRARY

MUSIC IS BACK – FINGERS CROSSED!

COVID-permitting, the library's much-loved music program will resume in August with two offerings – one classical and one contemporary.

The Affinity Quartet, which was scheduled to perform at the library last year, will now perform on Friday 20th August from 6pm. Nicholas Waters (violin), Jenny Khafagi (violin), William Clark (viola) and Mee Na Lojewski (cello) have established themselves as one of the country's leading string quartets, with a host of critically-acclaimed performances in Australia, Europe and the UK. The members hold principal and contract roles with orchestras including the Melbourne Symphony, Sydney Chamber, Sydney Symphony and Australian Chamber.

The following Friday (27th August) it will be a contemporary music evening with Rebecca Barnard and Monique Brumby.

Rebecca, who has previously performed at the library, grew up listening to Billie Holiday and Louis Armstrong, and started singing with her father's band when she was just 13. At the age of 14 she heard Joni Mitchell and Bob Dylan and was hooked. Rebecca founded the band Rebecca's Empire, and has sung with artists including Stephen Cummings, Paul Kelly, Tim Rogers, Renee Geyer, Deborah Conway and You Am I.

Rebecca will be joined by first-time-library performer Monique Brumby, an Indie pop/rock singer-songwriter, guitarist and producer. Monique has had top 40 hits in Australia and collaborated and co-written songs with many artists, including Paul Kelly. She is committed to social justice and community engagement, singing in prisons and participating in music mentoring workshops.

Both events are free for members and guests pay just \$10. Bookings are essential, either by calling 9650 3100 or emailing library@melbourneathenaeum.org.au

If you RSVP and are unable to attend please let us know. We often have a waiting list.

MELBOURNE WRITERS FESTIVAL

The Melbourne Writers Festival has lined up a wealth of events, both live and online, from September 3 to 12. With a vast array of participants and topics, and venues spread across the city and suburbs, there's something to pique everyone's interest. The Athenaeum Theatre is the venue for the festival's keynote address on September 10, by 2021 Australian of the Year Grace Tame. Find program details and ticket sales at <https://mwf.com.au/program/>

BOOK CLUB MEETINGS AND READS

We anticipate a return to our book and screen clubs meeting in the library in the next week or two. All book and screen club members will be contacted. We look forward to having those club meetings back on-site.

If you've been inspired by the books chosen by our book clubs, these are the August offerings – The Chain (Adrian McKinty), Cold Comfort Farm (Stella Gibbons), The Yield (Tara June Winch) and The Thursday Murder Club (Richard Osman).

LIBRARY BAGS

Are you looking for a sturdy yet stylish bag to carry your books in? We have new stock of our handy library bags and they're only \$5. Please speak to the library staff if you would like to purchase one.

NEW BOOKS ADDED TO THE COLLECTION

The library purchases more than 100 new books each month, and new book lists are added to the library website within the first few days of each month. Please check the website soon for July's new books or contact the library for the book list.