



MARCH NEWS FROM YOUR LIBRARY

Upcoming Closures

The library will be closed on Monday 11th March for Labour Day, and on Friday 29th March, Saturday 30th March and Monday 1st April for Easter.

We will also be closing one hour early, at 5pm, on Thursday 14th March for an event (details in this eNews). We apologise for any inconvenience.



Emilie Collyer Play Reading

There are still a few seats available for members to enjoy a work by the library's 2023 Playwright-in-Residence, Emilie Collyer (pictured), on Friday 15th March.

Emilie will present her new work-in-progress, *The Grateful Shade*, which will be directed by Mark Wilson. *The Grateful Shade* tells the story of Mary and Maude, who drink from the fountain of eternal life, and explores how they spend their endless days.

The script, which was shortlisted for the prestigious Patrick White Playwrights Award, will be brought to life by Emily Tomlins, Katherine Tonkin and Marcus McKenzie.



Details

Friday 15th March

Doors open at 5.30pm, performance from 6pm

Free for members, non-members \$20

Book [here](#)



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Inaugural Gary Morgan Oration



Rare Books Melbourne is inviting library members and their guests to the inaugural Gary Morgan Oration, which will be delivered in the library on Thursday 14th March.

The Oration, which is free, will feature the University of Melbourne's Professor Andrew May (pictured) speaking about *Melbourne Inc. – little laws and the shaping of a frontier town.*

Drawing on visual images and archival treasures, this presentation will explore the ways in which Melbourne was shaped – materially and socially – through local government regulations in the decades following Melbourne Town Council's incorporation in 1842.

The Oration is named in honour of Gary Morgan, the Executive Chairman of Roy Morgan Research, who is a strong supporter of Melbourne Rare Book Week.

Details

Thursday 14th March

Doors open at 6pm, oration from 6.30pm

Free for members and guests but bookings are required

Book [here](#).



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Sally Ford and the Idiomatics

Novelist, short story writer and playwright Wayne Macauley will join Sally Ford and the Idiomatics for a special music and literary experience on Friday 22nd March.

Wayne will be reading excerpts of his work to the accompaniment of a lush electro-acoustic underscore.

Sally Ford and the Idiomatics (Sally Ford, Patick Cronin and Michael Havir) is a genre-defying trio that fuses the musical provenance of its members – from latin to film music via ska and funk. The band plays an expansive palette of keyboards, samples and electronica enhanced by trombone, saxophone and flute.



Details

Friday 22nd March

Doors open at 5.30pm, performance from 6pm

Free for members, non-members \$20

Book [here](#)



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Artist Alissa Duke

Our 2024 artist-in-residence, Alissa Duke, produced a lovely sketch from our members' night last month, which doubled as an event to celebrate our 185th birthday.

Alissa spoke about the event: "Sketching at the launch of Melbourn Athenæum Library's 185th year of operation. Some short but fascinating speeches, then chatting over drinks and nibbles. People are standing around the library loans counter... so much history and stories to tell. This sketch is not part of my residency... this one is just in my journal because I just love to sketch there."



Upcoming Events

- We look forward to welcoming Ultrafox (pictured) back to the library when they perform on Friday 12th April. Melbourn's own continental-style gypsy swing band, Ultrafox draws inspiration from Django Reinhardt and The Hot Club of France. Keep an eye out for the April eNews, which will have a booking link for this event.





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- The library will hold its Annual General Meeting on Monday 15th April from 1pm. Details will be in the April eNews.
- If you are looking for a laugh, check out the upcoming Comedy Festival shows at the Athenaeum Theatre. Details can be found [here](#).

Member Suggestions

Our member suggestion box is always available to members if you have an idea to improve your library.

And Aubrey who puts together our social media posts, is keen to get suggestions from members. If there's a story or book you'd like to share, let us know!

Contact us as library@melbourneathenaeum.org.au