



JULY NEWS FROM YOUR LIBRARY

Music Performances: Affinity Quartet

Affinity Quartet is returning to the library after a European stint to perform Beethoven's first foray into string quartets, the Opus 18, over three evenings.

The Opus 18 is considered by many to be an expression of total mastery of the string quartet form. With these six compact and groundbreaking string quartets, a young Beethoven, still in his twenties, created a striking new direction for this intimate medium.



This superbly inventive and passionate music will be performed at the library by the rising stars of the next generation of Australian chamber musicians on July 26 (String Quartet no. 4 in C minor and String Quartet no. 5 in A major), August 2 (String Quartet no. 1 in F minor and String Quartet no. 6 in B-flat major) and in November.

Members can book for one or both of the events using the links below. Booking information for the November event will be advertised closer to the event.

Details

Friday 26th July and Friday 2nd August - doors open at 5.30pm, performance from 6pm

Free for members, non-members \$20

Book [here for the July 26 event](#) and [here for the August 2 event](#).



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GOLD: An Animated Rhapsody

There are only a handful of seats still available for award-winning short film *GOLD: An Animated Rhapsody*, which will screen in the library on July 5.

Members and their guests will also be treated to an art exhibition and music by Ashley Davies and his band, The True Adventurers.

GOLD: An Animated Rhapsody was inspired by a series of 10 watercolour paintings left in a will from a family's favourite uncle. Drawing on archival material and his own art, Len Davies' eventful life story is interwoven visually through his paintings of Harold Lasseter's fateful search for gold in central Australia. It tells of Len's days as a 13-year-old drawing caricatures of passersby while selling newspapers in Perth, to World War II where he served as a rear gunner in a Lancaster Bomber, to his life as an artist.

The audience can view the real paintings used in the film while enjoying music by Ashley Davies (drums), Bruce Haymes (keyboards), Jeff Lang (guitar) and Rosie Westbrook (bass).

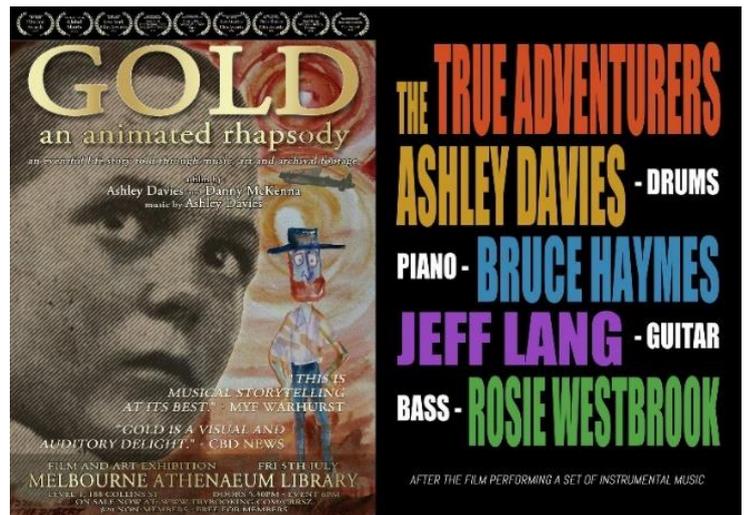
Details

Friday 5th July

Doors open 5.30pm, performance from 6pm

Free for members, non-members \$20

Book [here](#).





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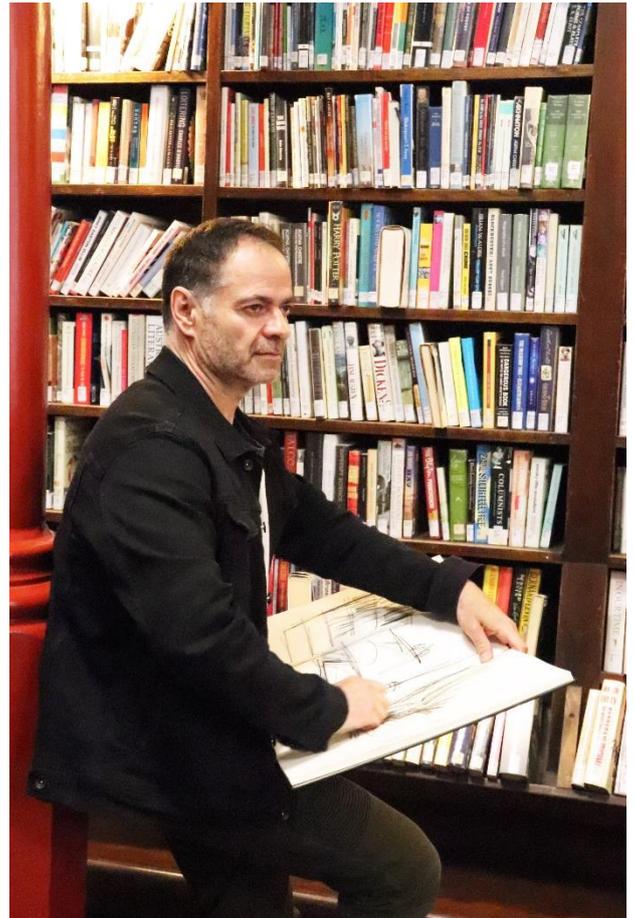
Artist Marco Luccio at the Library for Open House

Come along to the library during the Open House Melbourne weekend and hear insights from international, award-winning artist Marco Luccio (pictured).

On Saturday 27th and Sunday 28th July, Marco will work from the library and deliver a talk each day on the process and tips for creating drawings. Talks will be held at 11am on Saturday and 2pm on Sunday. No bookings are required.

Marco, who is working with the library throughout the year, has held 50 solo exhibitions and his work is represented in 42 public and corporate collections, including the New York Public Library, the National Gallery of Australia and the Museum of the City of New York.

Marco has had a studio in New York's Chrysler building for over 10 years and regularly returns to Manhattan to create new work and exhibit.



As well as interacting with Marco, Open House Melbourne offers a great opportunity to bring along some guests and take a self-guided tour of the Library and Reading Room. The library will be open from 10am to 4pm on Saturday 27th and Sunday 28th July.

For more information on Open House Melbourne click [here](#).



JULY NEWS FROM YOUR LIBRARY

Melbourne Rare Book Week Events

The library is thrilled to be hosting three free events for members and guests during Melbourne Rare Book Week (MRBW).

- On Monday 22nd July (doors open 6pm, talk from 6.30pm), MRBW program director Emeritus Professor Chris Browne will speak about the evolution of this important festival in Melbourne's cultural life, since its inception in 2012. He will also discuss how MRBW has become a model for similar festivals internationally. Book [here](#).
- On Friday 19th July (doors open 6pm, talk from 6.30pm), legendary Melbourne bookseller Mark Rubbo will be in conversation with author and literary columnist Jane Sullivan. From his days with one Readings outlet in Carlton to presiding over eight shops, Mark Rubbo nurtured new Australian writers and fought off a challenge from Borders. To join the booking waiting list click [here](#).
- On Saturday 20th July (12pm-1pm), authors Jane Sullivan and Lucy Sussex will discuss the sins and secrets of Melbourne as a brash young 19th Century goldfields town. Jane's latest novel, *Murder in Punch Lane*, is a thriller inspired by real events and people in 1868 Melbourne. And in 2025 Lucy will publish *Outrageous Fortunes*, a co-written biography about crime writer Mary Fortune and her criminal son George. To join the booking waiting list click [here](#).



A host of events will be held throughout July to celebrate MRBW. Details can be found [here](#).

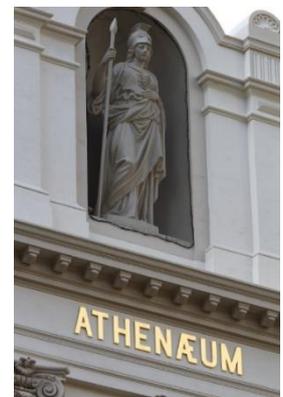
Member Tours

Have you joined one of our member tours yet?

Guests are welcome, tours are free and the next tour is on Monday 15th July at 11am in the foyer. Tours are held on the third Monday of each month.

Bookings are essential, by either calling the library on 9650 3100, emailing library@melbourneathenaeum.org.au or [via this link](#).

Wednesday evening and Saturday morning tours are being considered, subject to demand. Speak to library staff if you are interested.



ATHENÆUM



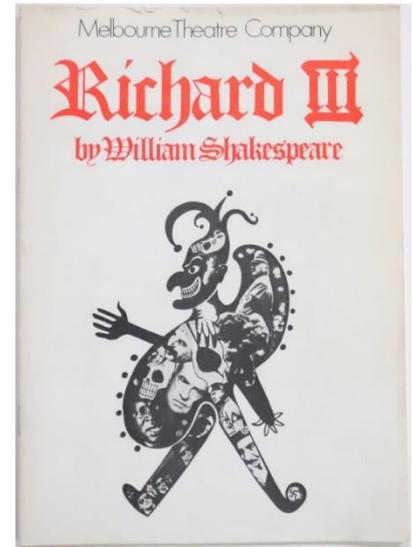
JULY NEWS FROM YOUR LIBRARY

Our Precious Archives

As one of the first venues to host live events, the Melbourne Athenaeum has a rich theatrical history. But did you know that it was also the home of the Melbourne Theatre Company (MTC) for many years?

Documentation held in the Melbourne Athenaeum Archives records that the MTC leased the theatre (now known as Ath 1) in 1977 after Hoyts Theatres vacated. The following year, the smaller upstairs theatre (now referred to as Ath 2) was also taken over by the MTC and used to stage smaller experimental productions.

The Melbourne Athenaeum Archives hold a large collection of MTC theatre programs spanning the entire duration of their occupancy. They provide a wonderful insight into the history of Melbourne theatre, the local and international adaptations of plays the MTC mounted as well as the other theatre companies they worked with. The programs also reveal a cavalcade of performers, writers, directors, and production staff were involved, many of whom are now considered as some of Australia's most important contributors to the theatre industry.



The Melbourne Theatre Company made a decision not to renew its lease at the Athenaeum in 1985, having moved its large stage productions to its new premises, the Playhouse at the Victorian Arts Centre (now known as Arts Centre Melbourne) in the previous year.

If you have any questions about our archives please send an email to archives@melbourneathenaeum.org.au

2024 Annual Giving Appeal

Thank you to everyone who generously donated to our Annual Giving Appeal for 2024. We are very grateful for your support.

Contributions will go towards a lighting upgrade in our library.

