

The 20th Annual Conference of the Australasian Association of Writing Programs



WRITING THE GHOST TRAIN Rewriting, Remaking, Re-discovering

Sunday 29 November - Tuesday 1 December 2015
Swinburne University of Technology

CALL FOR PAPERS

Reading and writing, we are at once visceral and ghost-like; in our bodies and out of them; making imagined places real—Martin Edmond

While this conference looks back to twenty years of work carried out in the field of creative writing studies by the Australasian Association of Writing Programs, it also looks forward to that which is 'in the making'. With the title of this conference, 'Writing the ghost train,' we pay homage to Martin Edmond's keynote address of 2014, 'riding the ghost train,' an insightful exploration of the creative drive of one singular writer. We also acknowledge that for the original inhabitants of this land, the white man was once—and perhaps still is—a ghost. As the planet moves, with a grim relentless urgency toward destruction brought on by our own spectral dreams, we also note both history and nature's examples: destruction makes room for creation. Working by association, linking the real with the imagined, the memory with the artefact, the archive with the avatar, this conference is an invitation to explore what such scholars as Todorov, Genette, Hutcheon, Eco and Kristeva have called hypotext, hypertext, genotext, phenotext, and, more generally, the recontextualisation of narrative and aesthetic motifs in our practice as writers and teachers.

The focus of the conference will be the question of rewriting, interpreting and adapting texts. It will be a site for rediscovering. It will showcase artistic works and highlight creative modes of research; it will enable understandings of how we make and remake and to what ends; it will provide opportunities to explore how creative artists engage with theory.

Papers are invited in three streams: 1) a refereed scholarly stream; 2) a refereed creative stream; 3) a general non-refereed stream for creative and scholarly texts. Presentations will be twenty minutes each, followed by a ten minutes discussion to allow for the exchange of ideas. Some presentations will be shorter, or longer, especially if they are part of an installation or interactive panel.

Papers and creative presentations are encouraged to explore, but are not limited to, the following **four thematic streams**, with variants of refereed and non-refereed academic papers and creative works, including installations and interactive panels.

1. 'Rewriting the historical event' will address the issue of interpreting or re-interpreting the past through the filters of memory, ideology and ethics.
2. 'Recovering narratives, re-crafting texts' will focus on reading drafts and archives against those rewritings that are corrective in nature and those that pay homage to the source, opening a space for modes of editing, teaching and publishing. This stream will also pay attention to the art of literary translation.
3. 'Rescripting the text, visual encounters in the text' will bring together an original literary text with adaptations, transpositions or variations.
4. 'Refashioning the self' will explore the effects of rewriting texts or remaking images in the experiences of the subject in the text as, for example, through the processes of self-editing, myth-making, and canon-formation.

In addition to this mix of standard academic, pedagogical and creative possibilities, there will be a series of panels and workshops. If you are interested in convening one of these events, or have other suggestions, you are most welcome to get in touch.

Abstracts for papers and creative texts

Abstracts for the refereed and non-refereed streams should be between 200 and 250 words and be accompanied by five keywords and a short biography (100 words max). Please indicate if you **do not** wish your work to be considered for the refereed stream. Send your abstract with the subject title AAWP Abstract Submission in your email. The call for abstracts closes on 15 May.

Some important dates for the 2015 conference

Conference information and updates are available here: <http://www.swinburne.edu.au/events/departments/health-arts-design/2015/11/writing-the-ghost-train--rewriting-remaking-rediscovering.php>

Conference registration opens **10 April 2015**

Abstracts due **15 May 2015**

Full papers and creative compositions due by **30 July 2015**

Final revised papers for inclusion in the refereed stream by **10 December 2015**



Contact

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