



## MAY NEWS FROM YOUR LIBRARY

### TWO MUSICAL PERFORMANCES IN MAY



Library members will be spoilt for choice with two contemporary music performances in May.

On Friday 4<sup>th</sup> May, Steve Lucas (left) will return to the library alongside Jerome Smith (right).

Steve, a singer/songwriter and producer, is the last surviving founding member of infamous Aussie punk band X, and *Rolling Stone* magazine recently dubbed him a living legend as part of his 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of playing professionally as a musician.



Jerome, who grew up in Harlem, was raised on country and western, and soul music by his father and gospel music by his mother. From the age of seven Jerome knew he was destined to play bass.

He has toured and recorded with music luminaries including Mick Jagger, the Divinyls, Billy Thorpe, Jimmy Barnes and Ian Moss. After moving to Melbourne in 2011, Jerome formed his band Ronimo, which has performed at festivals including The Melbourne International Blues Festival and the Wangaratta Jazz Festival.

Our second May musical performance is on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May, with Charles Jenkins (right) performing.

Charles is a songwriter/musician, producer and performer with more than 30 years' experience in the Australian music industry. He has recorded and released 14 albums, toured Europe and the USA and been nominated for two ARIA awards.

In 2014, his sixth solo album won the AGE/Music Victoria award for best folk/roots album.





Charles is a lecturer/teacher at various colleges and universities, and runs songwriting, vocal and performance workshops with a wide cross-section of the community, including the juvenile justice system.

Both music events start at 6pm and are free for members and \$10 for guests. Refreshments will be provided. Bookings are essential, either by calling 9650 3100 or emailing [library@melbourneathenaeum.org.au](mailto:library@melbourneathenaeum.org.au)

Why not make a night of it and add dinner at the Bistro d'Orsay to your plans? Library members enjoy a 10% discount off the total bill. Make a reservation by calling 9654 6498 and don't forget to present your membership card when paying your bill!

## MOVIE BUFFS WANTED FOR NEW SCREEN CLUB

The first meeting of our newest Screen Club will be held on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May to discuss 1950 American drama *All About Eve*. This second Screen Club has started due to overwhelming demand from members, and only has a couple of vacancies.

The group will meet on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 6pm. If you're interested in joining, send an email to [library@melbourneathenaeum.org.au](mailto:library@melbourneathenaeum.org.au) or call 9650 3100.



## LIBRARY HOSTS UN EVENT – Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> May, 6-7.30pm

In 2015, the international community agreed to 17 United Nations [Sustainable Development Goals](#) as a “universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity”.



United Nations  
Association  
of Australia  
Victorian Division

In 2018, the United Nations Association of Australia (Victorian division) is running a year of events to discuss the goals in a local context.

The second of these events to be delivered at the library on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> May from 6-7.30pm. The event will be a Q&A panel discussion on *Poverty*, and speakers from VCOS, the Red Cross and the Oaktree Foundation will lead the discussion.

Tickets for library members are \$15 (including a glass of wine). Non members are \$25. To book tickets visit [link](#)



## HIDDEN GEMS

At the library we love to uncover hidden gems, those books among our collection that are definitely worth revisiting.



This month we highlight Doris Lessing (pictured), who was born in 1919, and described her childhood as an uneven mix of some pleasure and much pain. Much of Doris's fiction emerged from her experiences in Africa, writing about the clash of cultures, the gross injustices of racial inequality, and the struggle among opposing elements within an individual's own personality.

In 1956, in response to her outspokenness, Doris was declared a prohibited alien in Southern Rhodesia and South Africa. In 2007 she was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature, six years before her death.

Doris Lessing's books include:

**The Grass is Singing** (1950) – When Mary Turner's husband becomes ill she takes over the running of their failing Rhodesian farm. Gradually she begins to develop a relationship with one of their black servants, Moses – a relationship the reader knows will end in tragedy.

**The Golden Notebook** (1962) – This account of the fractured lives of British women after the war has been hailed as a feminist masterpiece. The novel weaves together four of writer Anna Wulf's notebooks, which mirror the different strands of her life – Africa, the Communist Party, a doomed love affair and her journal – to arrive at a fifth, The Golden Notebook, which binds them all together.

**Shikasta** (1979) – The first in her five-volume series of science fiction novels, Shikasta is the story of a fallen paradise, a planet cut adrift from the influence of the advanced civilisation that has brought peace, prosperity and accelerated development. Johor travels to Rohonda and finds a world that has turned to greed, war and destruction.

**The Good Terrorist** (1985) tells the story of a well-intentioned revolutionary, Alice, who lives in a north London squat with a motley bunch of fellow militants. Caring, passionate, tireless Alice find herself gradually drawn into violence as the bourgeois revolutionaries' naïve fantasies turn into the chaos of real murder.

**Alfred and Emily** (2008) – Combining fiction and non-fiction, this exploration of her parents' lives begins with a 137-page novella, a golden-hued re-imagining of what might have happened if her parents had never married. The second half returns to reality: Alfred loses a leg in the trenches, meets Emily in the Royal Free Hospital and then leaves for Persia and Rhodesia. Would Emily have been happier if she could have become a matron, if she could have reconnected with her love of literature? Would her daughter have pursued a writing career of her own with such energy if her mother had found fulfilment?



These Doris Lessing books, and more, are available to borrow at the library. They can be reserved via the online catalogue.

### **BOARD GAMES DAY – SATURDAY 5<sup>th</sup> MAY**

The library's regular board games day is on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> May, so bring a friend or just turn up between 10am and 2pm and prepare to play a range of board, card and strategy games. Board games days will continue through 2018, on the first Saturday of every month.



### **NEW BOOKS ADDED TO THE COLLECTION**

More than 100 new books are purchased each month. Book lists are added to the library website within the first few days of each month. Please check the website soon for April's new books or contact the library for the book list.