



Communication, Speech &
Performance Teachers Inc.

Conference 2021

Friday 19th and Saturday 20th February, 2021

Iona College, 85 North Road, Lindum, Brisbane

Keynote Speaker: Isobelle Carmody



**Presenters: Lee Lewis, Thomas Larkin,
Katrina Bailey, Vicki Fuller**

FRIDAY EVENING 19TH FEBRUARY 2021

6.30-7.00pm **REGISTRATION**

7.00-9.30pm **SESSION ONE:
THE PLAY READING PROJECT**
Presenter: Lee Lewis

Step into the theatre with Artistic Director of Queensland Theatre, Lee Lewis for 'The Play Reading Project'. Lee will be working with members and their students throughout February on a variety of play readings for performance. Delegates will witness Lee in the director's chair and the outcome of the Project. Delegates will also have the opportunity to engage in a Q&A with Lee Lewis at the end of the performances.

Lee Lewis was appointed Queensland Theatre's Artistic Director in January 2020 and is one of Australia's leading theatre directors and arts leaders. Previously, Lee was CEO and Artistic Director of Griffin Theatre Company for seven years where she curated seven seasons of new Australian work, and produced 35 new mainstage plays, around sixty independent works and three festivals. Growing up in country New South Wales, Lee started as an actor in regional theatre. After completing a BA (Hons) at the University of Sydney, she moved to New York to study under Andrei Serban and Anne Bogart at Columbia University completing an MFA (Acting). A successful New York acting career saw her work on and off Broadway with the great directors Julie Taymor, Robert Woodruff, Andre Gregory, Andrei Serban, and Tina Landau. Returning to Australia in 2001, Lee was the first person to receive a Master of Fine Arts from NIDA in Directing. Her thesis was published by Currency Press as a Platform Paper under the title *Cross-Racial Casting: Changing the Face of Australian Theatre*. Lee has directed numerous new works and classics around the country. Many of her productions have received award nominations, with her production of Angus Cerini's *The Bleeding Tree* winning three Helpmann Awards including Best Play, Best Actress in a Leading Role, and Best Director. In 2007, Lee was the Richard Wherrett Fellow at Sydney Theatre Company.



SATURDAY 20th FEBRUARY 2021

9.00 -10.30AM **SESSION TWO:
PRIMED FOR PERFORMANCE**
Presenter: Thomas Larkin

Actor, Director and Educator, Thomas Larkin will conduct a physical and vocal warm up session to stimulate and activate reflexive responses prior to performance. Thomas' dynamic approach will trigger physical and emotional release, stimulate vocal freedom and get delegates primed for day two of the Conference.

Thomas Larkin is an award-winning actor, voice artist, and arts educator. A graduate of the Victorian College of Arts (VCA), his professional career spans over a decade. Highlights include lead roles in productions of *Death of a Salesman* (Queensland Theatre), *As You Like It* (La Boite Theatre Company) and *True West* (Brisbane



Powerhouse). He is fast becoming a sought-after voice artist, working with BMW, TattsLotto and Beyond Blue. Such experiences have also seen Thomas develop an extensive portfolio of clients as a teaching artist and acting coach, working across school, performing arts and corporate contexts. Thomas is one of five Co-Directors of Brisbane-based theatre collective MYTHS MADE HERE. Thomas can next be seen as Luca in the highly-anticipated new web series *Sexy Nails*, produced by Photoplay Films and directed by Tom Slater.

10.30-11.00am MORNING TEA

**11.00am-12.30pm SESSION THREE:
POETRY IN MOTION
Presenter: Katrina Bailey**

Speech and Drama Teacher, Katrina Bailey is renowned for her innovative and creative approach to text interpretation and staging. In this session, Katrina will share with delegates her creative approach to interpreting, staging and performing poetry. Delegates will have the opportunity of working collaboratively on various poetic texts and will walk away with fresh ideas to achieve poetry in motion.

Katrina Bailey works as a classroom and private speech and drama teacher at Fairholme College, Toowoomba. After graduating with a Bachelor of Secondary Drama Teaching in 1989 she spent six years at Kelvin Grove State High School, proudly establishing the School of Excellence in Drama program. After marrying she moved West to Dalby, where she continued to teach classroom drama to students at Dalby State High School, Our Lady of the Southern Cross College and in smaller country schools: Jimbour and Warra Primary. Her rural engagement offered a myriad of experiences, Katrina has directed/produced/choreographed school musicals and senior plays; supported and toured with Drama Festivals; prepared students for the local eisteddfod, both private and school groups; and written and performed for community Cotton Award Dinners; In 2011, Katrina accepted a position at Fairholme College where she continues to guide and motivate students privately and in the junior classroom, through eisteddfods/ auditions/ Co-production Musicals with the Grammar School, and in AMEB examinations.



12.30 - 1.30pm LUNCH

**1.30 - 3.00pm SESSION FOUR:
UNITS OF WORK
FOR INTERMEDIATE STUDENTS
Presenter: Vicki Fuller**

Vicki Fuller consistently attains excellent outcomes with her students at all examination levels. In this session Vicki will share her teaching insight and approach to a unit of work at intermediate level AMEB Voice and Communication. Specifically, delegates will gain insight into how Vicki teaches vocal preparation activities in engaging and functional ways, as well as the preparation and presentation of linking material, talks and stories. Delegates will witness two students' performance programs and be provided with a copy of a unit of work and lesson plans to take away.



Vicki Fuller is currently teaching Voice, Communication and Drama for Middle and Senior Years at Somerville House, Brisbane. She has taught Speech and Drama privately for many years in both her private studio and within the school environment. During that time she has taught in a 1 on 1 and small group environment, using both the AMEB Speech and Performance and Voice and Communication Syllabi. Vicki encourages student performances as a means of increasing self-confidence, presentation skills and the ability to communicate to an individual or audience, which will assist them in their future career paths.

3.00pm - 3.30 pm AFTERNOON TEA

**3.30pm-4.30pm KEYNOTE ADDRESS:
'THE LAST WORD'
Presenter: Isobelle Carmody**

In this keynote address, Dr Isobelle Carmody will talk about how her recent PhD dissertation arose organically from her creative life and the desire to understand why she chose to write fantasy and to return again and again to the theme of death. She will also touch on the ways in which her novels and stories have been reimagined and reshaped for screen and stage.

Isobelle Carmody is a well known Australian author who has written many novels and short stories for children and adults and has a host of award winning novels to her credit. She began the first of her highly acclaimed *Obernewtyn Chronicles* while she was still at high school and worked on it while completing a Bachelor of Arts and then a journalism cadetship. The series and her short stories have established her at the forefront of fantasy writing in Australia and many of her works have been published overseas. Isobelle recently completed her PhD at the University of Queensland and is currently working on editing a new book for Allen and Unwin called *Comes the Night*, and the final book in *The Kingdom of the Lost series*, *The Velvet City*, which she also illustrated, will come out with Penguin Random House next July.

4.30- 5.30pm ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Registration can be made via the CSPT Inc. website: csptinc.org.au or via post. Registration forms and a copy of the Conference brochure will be posted to current members along with Membership Renewal for 2021. Please note:

- to be eligible for Early Bird rates delegates need to register by the 31st January 2021.
- due to the uncertainty of COVID-19 regulations in 2021, delegates are asked to bring their own provisions (morning tea and lunch will not be provided).
- the cost of the Conference for delegates is reflective of the cost incurred by the Association for hosting the event and all efforts have been made to keep this cost to a minimum.
- that CSPT Inc. has a COVID-Safe plan in place for the Conference.
- due to venue restrictions, Conference numbers may be limited and therefore registrations will be taken on a first come first served basis.