

Media Release

Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

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Award-winning author explores fine line between fact and fiction in public talk

Award-winning Australian author Maggie MacKellar will explore the fine line between autobiography and fiction in the 2016 ASAL Patron's Lecture in Launceston next week.

Maggie MacKellar will present the talk *My Brilliant Career and the Wobble of Fiction: a journey along the boundary between autobiography and fiction* from 7pm at the Academy Gallery (Inveresk Campus) on Tuesday, 13 December.

Maggie is an award-winning author who has written both in history and memoir genres and is interested in the arbitrary boundaries between fiction and non-fiction.

Her talk will draw on examples including Miles Franklin's first and most famous novel, *My Brilliant Career*.

Maggie talks about readers eager for the immediacy of the personal story, and how writers continue to mine their personal histories for the seeds of larger stories.

She asks what can fiction do that non-fiction can't, and why, in this age of multiple truths are such definitions even necessary?

Maggie lives on the east coast of Tasmania.

She is the award-winning author of two books on the history of settlement in Australia and Canada, *Core of my Heart, My Country* and *Strangers in a Foreign Land*, and two bestselling memoirs, *When it Rains* and *How to Get There*.

The lecture is presented by the University of Tasmania, The Association for the Study of Australian Literature (ASAL) and Copyright Agency.

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