



NEW SPACES FOR NEW IDEAS

The Adelaide Festival of Ideas will spill out from its traditional North Terrace base in October to include a second city precinct and a new range of initiatives that will widen the debate started by some of the world's most eminent and provocative speakers.

The biennial event will this year include an informative program with current debate, lectures and panels throughout the North Terrace cultural precinct and a transformative program encouraging innovation, creativity and inspiration from a cluster of Pirie Street venues including Adelaide Town Hall, the Old Methodist Meeting Hall, RIAus, and the Telstra Theatre.

Adelaide Festival of Ideas Executive Producer Sandy Verschoor said the expanded program included initiatives for a more personal exploration of big ideas such as focus groups, a speakers' corner, a mini documentary screening program, live web streaming from festival events, a speed dating-style pitch session presenting innovative new ideas to key industry figures and festival fringe events.

The 2011 theme is *Planning for Uncertainty*.

"The Adelaide Festival of Ideas will this year inform, transform and inspire," Ms Verschoor said. "We're taking what has been a very successful festival over the past ten years and expanding it to start new conversations and give audience members even further opportunity to engage with some of the world's best thinkers over the big issues of today and the future."

Ms Verschoor announced the festival's first three speakers: behavioral economist and best-selling author, Paul Ormerod; Vladimir Nabokov expert and literature and evolution specialist, Distinguished Professor Brian Boyd; and human rights lawyer, Professor Sarah Joseph.

Speaker bios follow.

The Adelaide Festival of Ideas is a biennial event which was first presented in July 1999. Conducted over three full days and three evenings in Adelaide, the festival has become hugely popular, harnessing ideas, experience and intellect and attracting guests from all states of Australia and from overseas.

The 2011 Adelaide Festival of Ideas will be held from Friday, October 7 to Sunday, October 9.

Program information will be updated at www.adelaidefestivalofideas.com.au.

The Adelaide Festival of Ideas is proudly supported by the Government of South Australia.

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Paul Ormerod (UK)

Paul is the author of three best-selling books, *Death of Economics* (1994) translated into many languages including a cartoon strip version in Indonesian; *Butterfly Economics* (1998), which made the overall top 10 on amazon.com; and *Why Most Things Fail* (2005), a *Business Week* US Business Book of the Year. His main research interests are in networks and complex systems, how the increasing interconnectedness of the world requires us to completely rethink the basis both of economics and public policy more generally. An economist by training, he studied the subject at Cambridge and did a post-graduate degree in it at Oxford. He is currently Visiting Professor of Anthropology at the University of Durham, and collaborates with anthropologists, sociologists, physicists, psychologists, historians and mathematicians. Paul is a partner in the London-based Volterra Partners LLP, where he advises both public and private sector organisations

Brian Boyd (NZ)

Brian Boyd is University Distinguished Professor of English at the University of Auckland. His work on American, Brazilian, English, Greek, Irish, New Zealand and Russian fiction, drama, verse, prose and translations, from epics to comics, has appeared in sixteen languages and won awards on four continents. Best known for his many books on and editions of Vladimir Nabokov, he has also become known for his work on literature and evolution, including *On the Origin of Stories: Evolution, Cognition, and Fiction* (2009) and the co-edited *Evolution, Literature and Film: A Reader* (2010). He has just completed *On the Absence of Stories: Evolution, Cognition and Lyric Verse: Shakespeare's Sonnets* and is about to resume a biography of the philosopher Karl Popper.

Sarah Joseph (AUS)

Professor Sarah Joseph is the Director of the Castan Centre for Human Rights Law at the Faculty of Law in Monash University, and a Professor of Human Rights Law, having taught and researched in the areas of international and domestic human rights since 1992. Her areas of specialisation are Globalisation and Human Rights (focusing on trade and corporations), the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, Terrorism and Human Rights, and her current area of research concerns Media (including Social Media) and Human Rights. Sarah also teaches and researches in Australian constitutional law. Her latest book, *Blame it on the WTO: A Human Rights Critique* (344 pages) was published by Oxford University Press in April 2011. Sarah is also a compulsive tweeter and can be followed at @profsarahj, with more sensible tweets at @castancentre.

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