

Magic Mirrors: the Seen and the Unseen



5-8 June 2020

FCB '18

MAGIC MIRRORS: THE SEEN AND THE UNSEEN

Welcome to our fairy tale conference!



The imagery of fairy tales is as potent as any spell, whether through the power of the words to conjure magic, or the art that can present those words to our sight.

How appropriate then that in 2020 our conference will be entirely visual—using Zoom to see each other and our creations. There will be so much to take delight in—Kathleen Jennings, internationally renowned illustrator Keynote Speaker will open up the conference to all we can behold.

We will participate in book launches and panel discussions of artists, Fairy Tale Ring Leaders, and other modes of sharing fairy tales, starting with a Virtual Cocktail Party on Friday night.

We will enjoy performances of fairy tales by master Storytellers, and participate in online fairy tale games and quizzes.

We will also celebrate what the AFTS has achieved: the creation of the new Anthology of Australian Fairy Tales, the Annual General Meeting, and the AFTS Award

#aftsconf2020



PENING PARTY

Friday 5 June 6:30pm AEST



hosted by
Spike Deane

Let's ease in to the conference with a party!

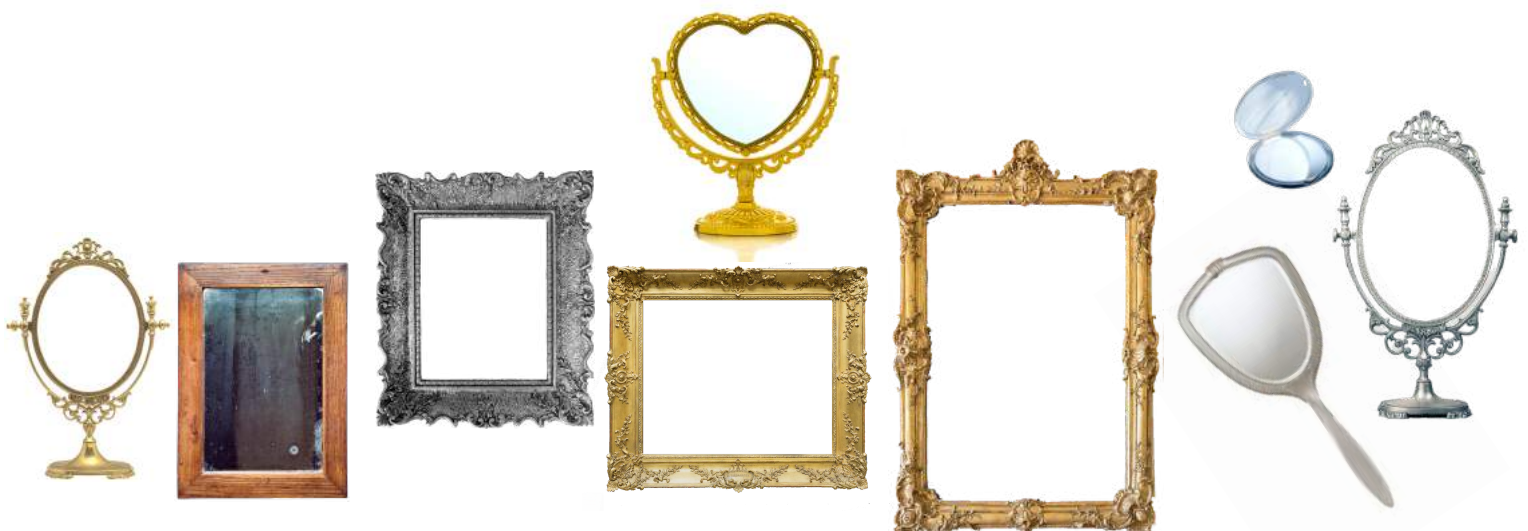
You can

- meet some new fairy tale folk
- figure out this zoom thing
- play some fairy tale games
- show off your mirrors

Optional

- Wear a crown
- Bring a mirror
- BYO drink & fairy food
- Dress up!

[Find your ZOOM Magic Mirrors backgrounds and cheat sheet here](#)



MARKET PLACE STALLS

Unique and beautiful fairy tale themed objects - books, art, crafts, and more, by talented Australian artists and writers - to reflect your own unique interests and beauty, will be for sale on our FaceBook Artists' Stall.



Click here
to visit

#magicmirrors

SESSION 1: Saturday morning 9:30-11:30am

KATHLEEN JENNINGS- Keynote: Magic Mirrors: Shifting Reflections — the looking-glass maze of fairy tale imagery



Kathleen Jennings is an illustrator and writer of fairy tales. She has been shortlisted for a Hugo Award and several World Fantasy Awards, and has won a number of Ditmars. She is currently working on illustrations for Juliet Marillier's *Mother Thorn*, for Serenity Press. Kathleen's short stories have been collected in US and Australian Year's Best anthologies, and her Australian Gothic/fairy-tale novella *Flyaway* will be published by Tor.com (US) and Picador (Australia) at the end of July 2020. She recently completed an MPhil on the beautiful sublime in Australian Gothic literature, and has started a PhD to pursue her fascination with contracts in fairy-tale novels. She can be found online at: [_tanaudel.wordpress.com](https://tanaudel.wordpress.com) [@tanaudel](https://twitter.com/tanaudel)

LINDY MITCHELL-NILSSON: Storytelling - An Australian Jack and the Beanstalk



Lindy is a storyteller, author and reformed glossophobe. After writing her first children's book, Lindy discovered her passion for oral storytelling. She trained at The International School of Storytelling, UK, where she met Swedish storyteller, Ulf Nilsson. They married and became Heart to Heart Storytelling; Storytellers, Celebrants, Imaginators. Lindy is currently President of the Australian Storytellers, NSW.

hearttoheartstorytelling.com/



MONIKA DIAK: Dissipating Fairytales artist talk



Monika Viktoria is currently completing her Honours degree at the University of Sydney through the Sydney College of the Arts. She is based in the Blue Mountains, where she paints in her home studio. She has been a practicing illustrator and painter since graduating from the National Art School in 2007, and has exhibited her works in Australia, Japan, Europe and the UK. Her work and research reflects her experience as a bilingual dual citizen who grew up in Australia with Hungarian heritage.

[@mvdiak](https://twitter.com/mvdiak)

JO HENWOOD: AUSLAN **'There was a Princess long ago'** PRACTICE session



Have a question?
Type QUESTION in
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#aftsconf2020

The Fairy Tale Rings are the circle of life for our Society, keeping us connected at a local level. Each Ring, currently in Adelaide, Brisbane, Canberra, Sydney, and Victoria, gather to investigate our five fairy tales each year, as a type of book club for fairy tales.

One of the delights of the Fairy Tale Rings is just how diverse they are, each having their own personality and focus. Meet the wonderful Ring Leaders who hold our far flung community together, and discover their similarities and differences, highs and lows, potential and challenges.

Want to join or start a Fairy Ring? Contact Jo at austfairytales@gmail.com

Jo Henwood
(Sydney)

Kathryn
Gossow
(Brisbane)

Carole
Weave-Lane
(Perth)

FAIRY TALE RINGS

Patsy
Poppenbeek
(Victoria)

Spike Deane
(Canberra & Virtual)

Graham Ross
(Adelaide)

SESSION 2: Saturday afternoon 2.00-4.00pm



KATHY SMART

Kathy has a Masters degree in Creative Writing. All Kathy's stories are ultimately about girls separating from strongly-knit families, and stepping into lives they choose. Fairy tales are often powerful demonstrations of girls earning womanhood through great travail. Kathy earned an Advanced Diploma in Game Design and Production to create the world's first full length, fully voiced, fully interactive English children's storybook based on *The Frog King* or *Iron Henry* by the Brothers Grimm.

To make *Frog's Princess*, she ran a studio in Adelaide for two years contracting with twelve game developers from around Australia. Kathy wrote the story, designed the storybook, and directed the artwork, programming, music, voice acting, sound effects and visual effects for *Frog's Princess*. However every creator followed their own vision when making assets for *Frog's Princess*. Kathy runs the Adelaide Game Developers discord and the Adelaide Game Developers website page and SA Women in Games.

[Frog's Princess website](#)

JOY EVERAFTER STORIES



MAGIC?

PANEL: Jo Henwood asks visual artists **Kathleen Jennings**, **Monika Diak** & **Spike Deane** about process, perspective, motifs, meaning and much more.

Have a question? Type QUESTION in caps followed by what you would like to ask in the Zoom chat for our hosts to pick up.



Kathleen
Jennings

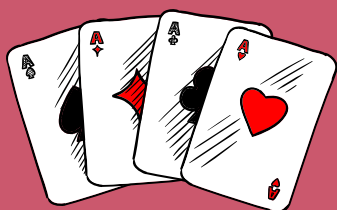


Monika Diak



Spike Deane

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Visual Art

SESSION 3: Sunday morning 9.30-11.30am

SARAH HART: Feisty but friendless: connection and collaboration between women in contemporary feminist fairy tales

Sarah Hart is a current Phd candidate at Deakin University. Her practice-led creative project explores positive collaboration between women in retold feminist fairy tales. She is keenly interested in the power of representation, particularly for girls and women, and sees connection and community as a beacon of hope in challenging socio-cultural times. Sarah is also a published creative writer and emerging artist, with a number of group and solo exhibitions under her belt.

[@huffinmade](#)



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Choose

AFTS AGM with returning officer Shirley Way

Breakout room with host Debra Philipps

PANEL: Shirley Way talks with **Kathy Smart, Livonne Larkins & K.A Last** about medium, research, perspective, narrative and much more.

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Kathy
Smart



Livonne
Larkins



K.A Last

multi modal
storytelling

#magicmirrors

SESSION 4: Sunday afternoon 2.00-4.00pm

K.A. LAST: Multi Modal storytelling

K. A. Last has been a graphic designer in the publishing industry for 20 years, and designing book covers since 2013. She has a BA with a major in English and minors in Children's Literature, Art History, and Visual Communication. She is the author of young adult fiction in the fantasy and urban fantasy genres, and has had two fairy tale retellings published, *Ella and Ash* and *Chasing Neve*, with others in the process of publication.

[Website](#) [Kila Designs](#)

LIVONNE LARKINS: Multi Modal storytelling

Livonne graduated from Nepean Arts & Design Centre with a Diploma of Photo-Imaging in 2015. Her work is predominantly Fine Art Composite Photography and uses her love of theatre, storytelling, mythology, history, costuming and fairy-tales to complement her art practice. [website](#) [@livonne_imagery](#)

RENÉE DAHLIA & PHILIPPA BORLAND- Queer Retellings of Fairy Tales: *The beauty of the fairy tale is the ability to take a trope and extend it to show a window into diverse lives, thus giving a mirror to those who don't often get one.*

Renée is a bisexual writer of romance novels. She is an unabashed romance reader who loves feisty women and strong, clever men. Her books reflect this, with a sidenote of dark humour. Renée has a science degree in physics. www.reneedahila.com

Philippa is a literature major with a life long interest in fairy tales, gaming and romance, who can be found at:

www.synaesthezia.com/



SESSION 4: Sunday afternoon 2.00-4.00pm

JO HENWOOD: AUSLAN
'There was a Princess long ago'
PRACTICE session



JO HENWOOD & GRAHAM ROSS- Storytelling: *Stone Bright and Stone Cold*

Jo is an Accredited Storyteller with the NSW Storytelling Guild, Tour Guide, Education Officer, museum theatre creative, public speaker, and workshop presenter (history, literature, storytelling, creative writing, and tour guiding techniques). She is the Public Officer, Ring Maiden and co founder of the Australian Fairy Tale Society, and coordinates a World Storytelling Day event in Sydney each year. She has a Master of Cultural Heritage, and qualifications in library science, museum studies, tour guiding, and gifted education.

Graham has been telling stories in an oral tradition for many years, sometimes under the auspices of the local chapter of Storytelling Australia. Currently, he is President of this group and also convenor of the Fairy Tale Ring in South Australia. His eclectic background includes: surviving the cobweb of hosting storytelling on Zoom; buying copies of Dark Emu to give away; critiquing a friend's Phd proposal on the life experiences of Baby Boomers spanning the analogue –digital cultural shift; and, acting the role of an undertaker in a recent theatre production, just pre Covid-19 !



SESSION 4: Sunday afternoon 2.00-4.00pm

LIVONNE LARKINS- *From Fractured to Fairytale*: fairy tales making unbearable stories bearable

Livonne graduated from Nepean Arts & Design Centre with a Diploma of Photo-Imaging in 2015. Her work is predominately Fine Art Composite Photography and uses her love of theatre, storytelling, mythology, history, costuming and fairy-tales to complement her art practice. Having been impacted by them, Livonne is a passionate advocate of de-stigmatising mental illness, grief and domestic violence. These subjects are principal elements in her work. Her art is her voice and it speaks, not only for her, but for those whose voices have been silenced. She recently had her first solo exhibition, *From Fractured to Fairytale* which is the story of the artist's life told as a fairytale. A six-part installation where you walk through a storybook, sit in a theatre, wade through grief, join the circus and follow the path to happiness. Told from a unique, interactive perspective it highlights hope and survival. *From Fractured to Fairytale* was first shown in May 2019 in the Blue Mountains NSW and will be on exhibition again at the Chrissie Cotter Gallery, Camperdown NSW from 4th to 15th March 2020. [website](#) [@livonne_imagery](#)

FIONA PRICE- Book launch of *The Ivory Tower*

Fiona is a writer by calling and a cultural diversity specialist by career. She fell in love with words as a child, and has been playing with them ever since. She talks too much, studies multiple languages and has tried her hand at writing everything from speeches and academic articles to a song for the Newport Community Choir. In her professional life, she runs cross-cultural training and reads out the names at graduation ceremonies. In her creative life, she is currently converting pop songs into sonnets on Instagram and trying to finish a fantasy trilogy. Fiona has an Anglo-Australian father and a Chinese mother, and lives in Melbourne by the sea.

[@readerofnames](#)

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SESSION 5: Monday morning 9.30-11.30am

KATE FORSYTH- Diamonds & Toads: The dichotomy at the heart of The Kind & Unkind Girls fairy tale motif

Dr Kate Forsyth is the internationally bestselling and award-winning author of more than forty books, including picture books, poetry and novels for both children and adults. Her books include *Beauty in Thorns*, a retelling of 'Sleeping Beauty'; *Bitter Greens*, a retelling of 'Rapunzel', which won the American Library Association award for Best Historical Fiction; and the collection of feminist fairy-tale retellings, *Vasilisa the Wise & Other Tales of Brave Young Women*, which won a silver medal in the 2018 Readers Favorite book awards in the US. An Accredited Storyteller, she has a Bachelor of Arts in literature, a Master of Arts in creative writing & a Doctorate of Creative Arts in fairy tale studies. Her doctoral thesis was published as *The Rebirth of Rapunzel: A Mythic Biography of the Maiden in the Tower* and won the William Atheling Jr Award for Criticism in 2017. kateforsyth.com.au/

Kate was voted the 2018 AFTS Award winner.

LINDY MITCHELL-NILLSON- Storytelling: Happy as Larry

Lindy is a storyteller, author and reformed glossophobe. After writing her first children's book, Lindy discovered her passion for oral storytelling. She trained at The International School of Storytelling, UK, where she met Swedish storyteller, Ulf Nilsson. They married and became Heart to Heart Storytelling; Storytellers, Celebrants, Imaginators. Lindy is currently President of the Australian Storytellers, NSW.

hearttoheartstorytelling.com/



SPIKE DEANE- Symbolism in Fairy Tale Art: Looking at symbols through a fairy tale glass

Spike is a visual artist who specialises in cast glass, making art about fairy tales, folklore and mythology. Her mixed media arts practice is focused on the underlying narratives found in folk and fairy tales to consider questions of becoming, transformation and 'the hopeful journey'. She graduated with Honours from Sydney College of the Arts (Glass) in 2012 and was a finalist in both 'Hatched' the National Graduate Art Prize and the National Student Art Glass Prize with pieces combining animation, glass and fairy tales. spikedeane.com [@spikedeane_art](https://www.instagram.com/spikedeane_art)

SESSION 5: Monday morning 9.30-11.30am

SERENE CONNEELEY- Book launch of *The Swan Maiden*

Serene is a Sydney writer with a fascination for history, travel, ritual, and the myth and magic of ancient places. She's the author of original Australian faerytale *The Swan Maiden*, the *Into the Mists* and *Into the Storm Trilogies*, and non-fiction books *Faery Magic*, *Mermaid Magic*, *Witchy Magic* and *Seven Sacred Sites*. She's studied magical and medicinal herbalism, bereavement counselling and other healing modalities, plus politics and journalism, and loves reading books, drinking tea, working out, visiting the swans in her backyard park, and celebrating the phases of the moon, the dance of the seasons and the magic of the earth.

Blessedbebooks.com



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SESSION 6: Monday afternoon 2.00-4.00pm

D.M CAMERON- **Story & Landscape:** Irish mythology transmogrified by the Australian landscape, mirrored against the contemporary Indigenous connection to country.

D.M. Cameron is an AWGIE nominated radio dramatist, award-winning playwright and celebrated short film writer. Donna's debut novel, *Beneath the Mother Tree* was listed as a top Australian fiction read for 2018 and long listed for the Davitt Awards. She is the author of several stage plays, including her critically acclaimed solo work, *'The Flowering.'* She has had four plays produced by ABC Radio National – *'Water Tight'*, *'The Salt Maiden'*, *'Bringing Down the Moon'* and *'Shopping for Lifeforms'*. Her film script of *'The Salt Maiden'* premiered at the 2014 Cannes Film Festival, won best screenplay and short film at the Port Stephens Film Festival, and was overall winner of the Coasties Film Festival 2015. She is a recipient of the Australian Writers Guild/Queensland Theatre Company Mentorship Scheme, a Varuna Litlink Residency and twice recipient of the Fresh Ground Scheme at the Judith Wright Centre.

www.dmcameron.com



SESSION 6: Monday afternoon 2.00-4.00pm

JO HENWOOD & YOU- Auslan choir:
There was a Princess long ago'



KATHRYN GOSSOW & PATSY POPPENBEEK- The Australian Fairy Tale: How can new Australian fairy tales and retellings reflect self, nation, the world?

Kathryn has been writing and publishing short stories and flash fiction in a variety of genres since 2006. Her debut novel Cassandra was published by Odyssey Books in 2017 and was a finalist in the Aurealis Award for Best Fantasy Novel 2017. Her collection of short stories, The Dark Poet, was released in May 2019. She is a regular blogger at www.kathryngossow.net and sometimes gardener of her two-acre garden in a pocket of the Brisbane River. kathryngossow.net/

Patricia has an MA in Literature, is chair of the AFTS anthology sub-committee, Ring Leader of the Victorian Fairy Tale Ring, and a trained teacher, editor and writer. She has had three romances published in Little Gems, the Romance Writers of Australia anthology. Other short stories have appeared in Timeless Tales, the AFTS Ezine, Tirra Lirra and Tango Australis. In 2014 her writing group won a grant to publish Melbourne Subjective, an anthology which includes three of her works.

[Visit the South of the Sun Anthology website here](#)

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SESSION 6: Monday afternoon **2.00-4.00pm**



The Australian Fairy Tale Society is delighted to honour LORENA CARRINGTON as winner of the 2020 AFTS Award.

We are so glad to be able to acknowledge Lorena's many gifts through this Award: her unique artwork, her wonderful and enchanting collaboration with Kate Forsyth, her willingness to share her art in AFTS events, and her insights and expertise to the general community, as well as all the wonderful and life-enhancing connections she has made within our Society.

Jo Henwood.

**2020 AFTS
ANNUAL AWARD**

Inspiration and contribution to
Australian fairy tale culture



[Lorena Carrington](#)

Zoya Makarova

Because of her love of the Australian bush life, something that means a lot to Lorena, and her talent in communicating its warmth and richness in her art, Zoya was selected to create the personal Award which Lorena will keep all her life. The painting is a celebration of an imaginative life in Australia, and so honours both artists.

zoyamakarova.com





Jo Henwood is an Accredited Storyteller with the NSW Storytelling Guild, Tour Guide, Education Officer, museum theatre creative, public speaker, and workshop presenter (history, literature, storytelling, creative writing, and tour guiding techniques). She is the Public Officer, Ring Maiden and co founder of the Australian Fairy Tale Society, and coordinates a World Storytelling Day event in Sydney each year. She has a Master of Cultural Heritage, and qualifications in library science, museum studies, tour guiding, and gifted education.



Shirley Way is a founding member of the Australian Fairy Tale Society, a former president of the Queensland Storytelling Guild, and a current member of South Burnett Arts. The passionate arts advocate is also the Local News Director for Queensland's Resonate Regional Radio Network.



Joe Vandermeer grew up on the edge of a life-size Grimm fairy tale forest called the Efteling in the Netherlands, where he fell in love with fairy tales. Apart from dabbling in music and various other hobbies as he grew up (oh, and raising a family), he spent a few decades out of the forest in the land of IT. But he now happily spends his time pouring coffee and exploring mythologies and real life tales of visitors as Director of the Swedenborg Centre in Roseville (4 Shirley Road, drop in sometime). He has already spent his three wishes, and so is not planning to retire any time soon but to jovially continue running the Centre until the happy ever after.

Debra Phillips

The gratitude of the Australian Fairy Tale Society as a community, and of every person who has attended this conference are due to these remarkably talented and generous people, “the seen and the unseen” -

The Conference Team

Responding positively to our need, contributing their technical and communication skills, reliability, talents, and warmth, and enormous quantities of time and professional attention to detail to create the program and activities, liaise with the Presenters, and bring our event to you in this new way.

Spike Deane – Opening party Host

Jo Henwood- Saturday Host

Belinda Morris- mistress of the Artists’ Stall

Joe Vandermeer- Monday Host and Zoom coach

Shirley Way – Sunday Host and AGM Returning Officer

The Conference Assessment Panel

Examining the many submissions to this conference, collaborating over vast distances and an extended time frame, to select the very best Presenters.

Dr Robyn Floyd

Danielle McGee

Bettina Nissen

Michael Patterson

The creators of our conference publications

Erin-Claire Barrow – creator of the original magic mirror art that has featured on all our publications.

Spike Deane – Graphic design for Social media & publications, form builder.

Promotions

Utilising years of experience, contacts, and knowledge and many, many hours to let the world know about us.

Sharon Johnston & Shirley Way

MC of the Non AGM Breakout Room Debra Phillips

The people who keep the Society going through the year

Ring Leaders: Graham Ross (Adelaide), Kathryn Gossow (Brisbane), Spike Deane (Canberra), Jo Henwood (Sydney), Patsy Poppenbeek (Victoria), Spike Deane (Virtual).

Anthology: Lorena Carrington, Rebecca-Anne DoRozario, Kathryn Gossow, Louisa John Krol, Monique Mulligan, Patsy Poppenbeek.

Ezine: Spike Deane,

Treasurer: Nicholas Simm

Social Media & website: Spike Deane



MAGIC MIRRORS: THE SEEN AND THE UNSEEN

AUSTRALIAN FAIRY TALE SOCIETY

6TH C O N F E R E N C E

THE AUSTRALIAN FAIRY TALE SOCIETY (AFTS) IS A NATIONAL NOT-FOR-PROFIT CHARITY FOCUSED ON COLLECTING, PRESERVING, DISCUSSING, SHARING AND CREATING FAIRY TALES.

Our aim is to encourage academics, writers, artists, performers and enthusiasts from around the country, to converse and share all things fairy tale, through a national website, conferences, social media and a growing number of local and interest based 'Fairy Tale Rings' in several states and online. We encourage fairy tale discussion and a variety of creative expression (from food to film, writing, stage, visual-art and much more!) All are welcome! Check our website to see , if there's a fairy tale ring near you, or how you can start one, with our help.