

NEW ZEALAND WRITERS: PART TWO

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All quotations are taken from *The Oxford Companion to New Zealand Literature* (Ed. Roger Robinson and Nelson Wattie)

CATHERINE CHIDGEY

Backchat: Series 01, Episode 19 (extract)

Gibson Group 1998. Duration 6:10

Catherine Chidgey was born in Lower Hutt in 1970. She is a novelist, short story writer and translator. 'In a Fishbone Church' won the best first book of Fiction Award at the 1998 Montana Book Award and the Best First Book Award in the South-East Asia/South Pacific section of the 1999 Commonwealth Writers Prize, and a Betty Trask Award in the UK. In 2002 she won the inaugural Glenn Schaeffer Prize. 'In a Fishbone Church' has been published in Australia, the UK and Germany.

Chidgey is asked about her novel *In a Fishbone Church*, Bill Manhire's writing course, and how one moves on from the success of a first novel.

ELIZABETH KNOX

The Big Art Trip: Series 01, Episode 09 (extract)

Screentime Communicado 2001. Duration 8:55

Elizabeth Knox was born in Wellington in 1959 and in 1999 her novel *The Vintner's Luck* won the Deutz Medal for Fiction at the Montana New Zealand Book Award, where it also received the Reader's Choice Award and booksellers awards. It was shortlisted for the 1999 Orange Prize and in 2001 was awarded the inaugural Tasmania Pacific Region Prize. The novel received international publication and acclaim. Knox, whose writing is distinguishable for its absence of linear narrative, and variety of narrative voices, often crosses into the world of fantasy. "Knox has provocative, disturbing things to say about how we define identity. She is obsessed with consciousness, sensation, memory, and the ways in which families mould, adapt, and define themselves".

Elizabeth Knox is interviewed in her home regarding graphic novels, the elaborate childhood game that she and her sisters played, and her book *Black Oxen*.

EMILY PERKINS

Backchat Series 01, Episode 12 (extract)

Gibson Group 1998. Duration 9:34

Born in Christchurch in 1970, Emily Perkins won the Best First Book award for Fiction at the 1997 Montana New Zealand Book Awards for her book of short stories *Not Her Real Name*. This also won the Faber Award in the UK. Her writing is noted for its dialogue which reflects her background in television acting. Perkins focuses on the lives of urbane youth. She “sketches the joyless lives of the young generation of the modern city, conducting relationships with the same sense of anesthetized necessity with which they work in shops or restaurants.”

In this extract she is interviewed in a London restaurant about the success of her novel *Leave Before You Go*, the transition from being a short story writer to writing novels, and being labelled the voice of Generation X.

JAMES GEORGE

Frontseat: Series 02, Episode 26 (extract)

Gibson Group 2005. Duration 4:09

James George was born in Wellington in 1962 of Ngapuhi, English and Irish descent. In 2001 his novel *Zeta Orionis* won the premiere award in the 2001 Maori Literature Awards. He is also chair of te Ha, Toi Maori Aotearoa's literature committee.

In this extract George is interviewed about writing *Showband! Mahora* the Maori Volcanics, and his novels *Hummingbird* and *Ocean Roads*. He discusses the lack of Maori literature in his own childhood.

KATE DE GOLDI

The Write Stuff: Programme 05 (extract)

Pinnacle Producing 1997. Duration 6:14

Kate Flannery, who writes under the pseudonym Kate de Goldi was born in Christchurch in 1959, She writes both adult and children's fiction. In 1997 her

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teenage novel *Sanctuary* won the New Zealand Post Children's Book Award, and her picture book *Clubs: A Lolly Leopold Story* won the Picture Book and Book of the Year Category of the New Zealand Post Book Awards in 2005. Her writing deals mainly with issues of teenage identity.

Kate de Goldi is interviewed in the studio about writing young adult fiction and her novel *Love, Charlie Mike*.

LLOYD JONES

The Book Show: Episode One (extract)

3rd Party Productions 2006. Duration 10:09

Born in Lower Hutt in 1955 the New Zealand Listener recently said that 'Lloyd Jones is likely to become the country's most successful writer with the international release of his new novel *Mister Pip*'. *The Book of Fame* was the winner of the Deutz Medal for Fiction at the 2001 Montana New Zealand Book Awards. Starting out as a journalist and consultant, Lloyd Jones' writing crosses genres between fiction and non-fiction challenging notions of reality and normality "the mixture of realism with the uncommon, absurd or fantastic is striking".

In this extract Lloyd Jones is interviewed about his childhood in Lower Hutt, his novel *Mister Pip*, and writing about sport.

MARILYN DUCKWORTH

The Write Stuff: Programme 07 (extract)

Pinnacle Producing 1997. Duration 7:15

Marilyn Duckworth was born in Otahuhu in 1935. She writes predominantly about relationships through the eyes of female protagonists. While the novels are usually set in suburbia they are developed against backdrops of contemporary political events. "Duckworth's novels have been praised for her sharp ear for dialogue, her brilliant powers of observation, and her skillful inquiries into *les affaires du coeur*". In 1984 Duckworth won the New Zealand Book Award with her novel *Disorderly Conduct*. In 1987 she was awarded an Order of the British Empire for writing.

Marilyn Duckworth talks about her experience living at U-Cross, a writers retreat in Wyoming, the difficulties in writing memoirs, and her novel Studmuffin.

KELLY ANA MOREY

The Book Show: Episode 02 (extracts)

3rd Party Productions 2006. Duration 8:25

Kelly Ana Morey was born in the Far North in 1968 and raised in Papua New Guinea. Her novel Bloom won the First Book Award at the Montana New Zealand Book Awards in 2004.

In this extract Kelly Anna Morey is interviewed at home about living in isolation, working as a writer and the disappointment of her second novel.

NIGEL COX

Frontseat Series 02, Episode 02 (extract)

Gibson Group 2005. Duration 8:07

Nigel Cox was born in Pahiatua in 1951. He worked as a novelist, senior writer at Te Papa Tongarewa and was the head of Communication and Interpretation at the Jewish Museum in Berlin. His novels play with popular mythology and notions of genre. He died in 2006 after a long battle with cancer.

In this studio interview Cox discusses the problems involved in publishing Tarzan Presley, the use of re-imagining in literature, and his time spent in Berlin.

PAULA BOOCK

Queer Nation: Series 6, Episode 27 (extract)

Big Sky Films 2002. Duration 7:35

Paula Boock was born in 1964 in Dunedin and is a writer of fiction for teenagers. Her female protagonists help her to explore issues pertinent to young adults growing up in contemporary New Zealand: the nature of friendship, families and love and the role of males and females in society. Her writing also explores the broader themes of death and grief. In 1992 Boock won the Best first Book Award for *Out Walked Mel* and in 1993 won the Esther Glen Award for *Sasscat to Win*.

Boock is interviewed at home about growing up in a family of six children, writing for teenagers, writing for television, first love and the media frenzy surrounding her lesbian novel *Truth, Dare and Promise*.

BARBARA ELSE

The Write Stuff: Programme 22 (extract)

Pinnacle Producing 1997. Duration 9:33

Barbara Else, who has also been published as Barbara Neale, was born in Invercargill in 1947. The New Zealand Herald says of her writing “Her humour is quieter, deeper, found in her dark, sardonic point of skew, in her quirky wry vignettes that are fond satire of modern middle class life and those who live it.”

In this studio interview Else discusses her novel *Gingerbread Husbands*.