Conference 1: 2012
WRITING THE SACRED
is a celebration and an exploration.

It is a celebration of international, prize winning novelist David Malouf whose contribution to literature students at ACU over the past 10 years has been immense.

It is an exploration of the ways in which the Sacred in human experience is articulated and made present in creative texts.

Join David Malouf and other well known writers and teachers as they talk about topics such as:
‘Metaphor as a Way of Releasing the Sacred’
and
‘Presence in Literature and Art’

Bookings essential to assist with catering

RSVP
Register your attendance on-line:
www.acu.edu.au/449502
by Monday 10 September

For enquiries, please email michael.griffith@acu.edu.au

Writing the Sacred in Literature and the Arts
The Aesthetic Dimension of the Sacred

ACU is committed to exploring the deep relationships between the Sacred & Literature and the Arts. During the last decade of the 20th Century Australian Catholic University hosted a series of annual international conferences that brought Religion, Literature and the Arts (RLA) into dialogue. This new series of conferences (SLA) will extend the RLA impulse into the 21st Century.
The Aesthetic Dimension of the Sacred
Mary’s Place Mural: Done on the Roadway
Lachlan Warner 1997

“If you were attacked & felled hard to the road & your personal possessions were torn from you & strewn down the lane, & then police came & later put your things in an evidence bag, what would you have?”

This conference will focus on text as an agent in expressing and connecting with the Sacred and will include:

- David Malouf in conversation with James Tulip
- Jeannette Siebols presenting her artwork, which takes the written word as a central subject
- Barry Spurr on the iconic 20th century poet of the sacred, T S Eliot
- Toby Davidson on Australia’s most significant Catholic religious poet, Francis Webb
- readings and discussion with Robert Adamson, Lachlan Warner, Martin Harrison, Elaine Lindsay and Michael Griffith.

An exhibition ‘Halo and the Glory of Art’ by artists with intellectual disabilities will be opened by curator and writer Peter Fay during the conference lunch.

WRITING THE SACRED
coordinated by Michael Griffith and Elaine Lindsay

DAVID MALOUF

DR BARRY SPURR
Professor Spurr holds the first Personal Chair of Poetry and Poetics at the University of Sydney. His most recent books are See the Virgin Blest: The Virgin Mary in English Poetry, 2007 and a study of T.S.Eliot’s Christianity, Anglo-Catholic in Religion 2010.

JEANNETTE SIEBOLS
Senior Lecturer at ACU. Jeannette’s interest is writing as painting. Writing scripts develop from an act of drawing and become symbols for the mapping of myth and metaphoric ideas. Jeannette has been a finalist in the Blake Prize 6 times. She is represented by Liverpool Street gallery, Sydney.

MARTIN HARRISON
Australian poet and teacher of creative writing at UTS, Martin was the founding producer of Radio Art in the 80s and produced the writers’ program Books and Writing. His latest book is Wild Bees: New and Selected poems, 2009.

DR MICHAEL GRIFFITH

DR JAMES TULIP
Former Assoc. Prof. of English Literature and Head of Studies in Religion, University of Sydney. He is one of the best known and respected critics on contemporary Australian writing. He is the author of the award winning book, David Malouf: Johnno, short stories, poems, essays and interview, published by UQP in 1990.

ROBERT ADAMSON
Robert is one of Australia’s leading poets and Professor of Poetry at UTS. He has published 15 volumes of poetry and an autobiography Inside Out which won the NSW Premier’s History Award in 2004.

DR TOBY DAVIDSON

DR LACHLAN WARNER
Senior Lecturer, ACU and winner of the Blake Prize for Religious Art. Lachlan’s current works are reflections on the Buddhist Fire Sermon. In part these works were prompted by the immolation of Mohammed Bouazazi, the catalyst for the Arab Spring.

DR ELAINE LINDSAY