

## The Alphabet of Women Created and produced by Miriam Hechtman Written by the following women:

A - ANNA FORSYTH B - BRURIA HAMMER
C - AMANDA COHEN D - DAIANE MORET
E - ERICA HACKER F - TANYA SOUTHEY
G - GABRIELLE JOURNEY JONES H - JANETTE HOPPE
I - ANNE CASEY J - JOANNE FEDLER
K - DEVIKA BRENDON L - RUTH FESSEHA
M - MARIE MCMILLAN N - STACEY COTTER MANIERE
O - EMMA ROSE P - MIRIAM HECHTMAN
Q - MIRIAM HECHTMAN R - ANDRIJANA MILER
S - SARAH TEMPORAL T - GINETTE BALL
U - RANA SALEM V - VANESSA LEE
W - ELLA MITCHELL X - LOU STEER
Y - JESSICA CHAPNIK KAHN Z - LIMOR FAYENA



**Anna Forsyth** is an editor, poet and event manager. In 2014 she founded Girls on Key, a feminist poetry organisation that hosts poetry readings for women and gender diverse poets. Her poems have appeared in journals in print and online including: FourW, Poetry New Zealand, Landfall, Not Very Quiet and Baby Teeth. Her collections of poetry are A Tender Moment Between Strangers and Beatific Toast. She was the joint winner of the NAIDOC Red Room poetry prize 2018. She is the publishing manager and editor of Girls on Key Press. @girlsonkeypoetry

**Bruria Hammer** is a full time law student, part time photographer and occasional writer. She lives in Sydney with her grandparents.

@bruria.hammer



Originally from the United States, **Amanda Cohen** has called Sydney home for over four years and is now a regular performer at poetry and storytelling events around the city. Through her writing, Amanda challenges herself to pour it all -- the good, the bad, and the vulnerable -- onto the page. She has featured at the Sydney Poetry Lounge and the Sydney Jewish Writers Festival, and will feature at Poetica later this year. @amandalaco

Daiane Moret is a spoken word poet and artist. Her work navigates personal experiences whilst deconstructing given identities. Brazilian roots paint the narrative as she retells stories, re-signifying herself through them. She has featured at Poetica, Sydney Writers Festival, National Reconciliation week, Newcastle Fringe Festival and Melbourne Spoken Word festival.Instagram account @daia gaia





**Erica Hacker** is an emerging force on the Sydney spoken word poetry scene, bringing a unique style and big emotions to the stage. She's worked in the Performing Arts for many years, including her current role as Head of Marketing at Word Travels, promoting Australian Poetry Slam and other major spoken word events. She will be performing as feature poet at POETICA in 2020. @ericahacker

Tanya Southey is a people-collector, tea-drinker, dog-lover, poetry-junkie and a published author. Her children's adventure story Ollie and the Starchaser subtly explores grief and loss. In 2018 Tanya completed a poetry challenge – #52words52weeks – where she collaborated with London Street Photographer, Denise Smith, to create a poem a week. This project was published as a coffee table book "StreetWise" late last year. They enjoyed 2018 so much they have continued their weekly connection and are now in week 114 of collaborating. Tanya's mission, whether in writing or work, remains to help people reach their full potential.

@tanyasouthey





Gabrielle Journey Jones is a poet, percussionist, event producer and community builder living on Yuin Country, Far South Coast NSW. She has established ongoing projects including Creative Womyn Down Under (2006), Poetic Percussion (2018), and Womoon Tide Feminist Writers (2019). Gabrielle has shared her spoken word performances on open mics and by invitation at local, national and international events for over 20 years. Her first collection of poetry "Spoken Medicine" was published in October 2017 by Ginninderra Press. Gabrielle is currently working on her second spoken word poetry anthology which will be available in audio formats in 2020. www.poeticpercussion.com.au



H
Janette Hoppe's poetry reflects her New
Zealand Maori and Australian heritage. She is
the creator of Papatuanuku Press; an indie
publication that oversees The Women of Words
Project, The Blue Series and Blue Youth Series
Projects; and the Poetry Bomb.
@janettehoppe

Sydney-based **Anne Casey** is an award-winning Irish poet/writer and author of two collections—out of emptied cups(Salmon Poetry 2019) and where the lost things go(Salmon Poetry 2017). A journalist, magazine editor, legal author and media communications director for 30 years, her work is widely published internationally and ranks in The Irish Times' Most Read.

@1annecasey



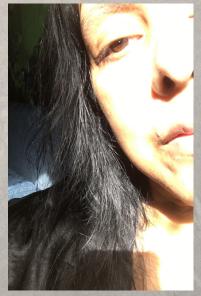


Joanne Fedler is an internationally bestselling author of 11 books, writing mentor and publisher. She runs writing retreats all over the world and has three signature online writing courses for aspiring authors.

@joannefedlermedia



Devika Brendon is a writer of poetry, and short stories. She was awarded the Henry Lawson Memorial Prize for Poetry and the Adrian Consett Stephen Prize for Prose, in 1989 at the University of Sydney. Devika teaches English Language and Literature, and is an academic, editor, reviewer and columnist. She is Consultant Editor at FemAsia Magazine, and a member of the Editorial Board of New Ceylon Writing. Her writing can be viewed on her blog sensoryaccentuation.blogspot.com @devikabrendon



Ruth Fesseha is a Sydney University Law student by day and a creative spoken-word poet by night having performed at numerous events around Sydney; from the Bankstown Poetry Slam, to Shalom's Moth evening, the Women Writes Movement, Afrikapital Slam and Jam, the Women of Diversity Dinner and even at NSW Parliament House. Ruth's spoken-word poetry journey developed at the intersection of her love for singing, writing and storytelling. @ru.tah





## M

is for **Marie McMillan** who would prefer to be N for naughty and nude. A spoken word performer – who tends towards self-deprecating, satirical humour – Marie has given readings of her work at the Woollahra, Newcastle and Sydney Writers' Festivals, Woollahra Poets' Picnic, libraries, clubs and art galleries, not to mention Joycean Bloomsday events. Several of her poems and short stories have won or been placed in minor competitions, short and/or long-listed in overseas' competitions and/or been published, including Transnational Literature.

Stacey Cotter Manière is a Poet and Creative Director recently relocated to Sydney from Paris. She enjoys storytelling across various mediums and the cross-pollination that happens as a result. Stacey has been published in The Artisans (France), The Lissome Magazine and in an anthology with Andrew McMeel Publishing to be released late 2020. staceycottermaniere.com @stace.c.m





Emma Rose Smith is a writer, educator, and arts organiser living on Gadigal-Wangal land.

She is interested in accountability, queerness, mental health, and the politics of representation.

@earmemos

## P+Q

Miriam Hechtman is the founder and curator of The Alphabet of Women. She is an Australian writer, poet, creative producer and curator. She founded and hosts POETICA, a monthly open mic night for poetry and music in Sydney. She has been commissioned to write + perform her poetry for several organisations including Australia ReMADE for which she is the current Poet Laureate. Miriam runs a poetry club at her daughters' primary school and presents poetry workshops + events for several organisations including Sydney Jewish Writers Festival. She is one-half of the poetry duo Fourlines. @ fourlines







## R Andrijana Miler

is Bosnian woman using Art,
Health and Creativity as a way of
connecting to nature and
community. She is also the artist
of the front cover of this
booklet.
@kayakatinka



Sarah Temporal is a prizewinning performance poet and poetry educator from the Northern Rivers NSW. She is the author of 'SlamCraft' and director of Poets Out Loud. sarahtemporal.com



Ginette Ball is a teacher, writer and poet. She regularly shares her poetry at Poetica and has helped run the night since its launch in 2017. Ginette has contributed her poetry to several online platforms and was a feature storyteller at the Mama Creatives' Story Slam in 2018 and a feature poet at Sydney Jewish Writers Festival in 2019.





**U** @the.poets.daughter

**Rana Salem** Affectionately known as "Jacque the melancholic" among friends. A mental health social worker, wistfully obsessed with the human condition. Her poetry is infused with coffee, loneliness and other common post-modern addictions.

@the.poets.daughter
Artwork by Mira Lou @Miraalou

Vanessa Lee-Ahmat is from the Yupungathi and Meriam people, Cape York and the Torres Strait. Vanessa is a poet, writer, published author, a social epidemiologist and a cultural broker. She has performed her poetry at the Sydney Writers Festival and more recently was a producer with the Unspoken Word poetry project. Vanessa has been an invited panelist with the Sydney Festival of Dangerous Ideas and has worked with a choreographer from NASIDA to turn one of her poems into a seven-minute dance performance. Vanessa's poetry publication 'Cockatoo in the Mangroves' is due to be released mid-May 2020.





Fila Mitchell is a Melbourne based content producer; a poet and writer; photographer and filmmaker. Her work has been published in Womankind Magazine, TAKE Magazine, on BBC News, ABC News, and in The Age and the Sydney Morning Herald. Her work was also invited into the archives of the National Library of Australia. She is one-half of the poetry duo Fourlines.

@\_fourlines\_

This ain't your mama's poetry but **Lou Steer** is your poetry mama. She speaks of hearts and flowers, but the hearts are fractured and the roses have thorns - like her poems.

@louisemsteer

Y



Jessica Chapnik Kahn is an Argentinian Australian singer-songwriter, actress and writer who has worked in theatre, tv and film. As a musician she has released 2 solo albums under the moniker Appleonia and worked with some of Australia's finest musicians including Ben Lee, Lior and Sarah Blasko. As a writer she has published the children's book, Lenny and the Ants, as well as her stunning book of poetry, MADRE.

@jessicachapnikkahn



Australian. She likes promoting social justice changes via articles, poetry, and cultural events productions. Limor is a software engineer and a film lecturer.

