

2007 HRC SEYMOUR LECTURE in BIOGRAPHY
RESEARCH SCHOOL of HUMANITIES
ANU COLLEGE of ARTS & SOCIAL SCIENCES

BIOGRAPHY & the
STRUGGLE for the
Soul of
AUSTRALIA
PROFESSOR JILL ROE

Jill Roe AO is a well-known historian with a special interest in historical biography. She chaired the editorial board of the *Australian Dictionary of Biography* (1996-2006) and is a past President of the Australian Historical Association. In this lecture she will examine Manning Clark's 1962 proposition, that the story of Australia is a story of the struggle between the forces of Catholicism, Protestantism and the Enlightenment, through the prism of biography. She will look at developments in biography in Australia since Clark's day, paying attention to such influences as religion and secularism, and heredity and environment.

The Biography Institute was established by the Humanities Research Centre to encourage and promote biographical work of various kinds including autobiography, memoir, life-writing and in various media. A principal aim of the Institute is to host an annual Seymour Lecture on Biography, with associated activities, including seminars and workshops. The lecture, which has been generously endowed by Dr John Seymour and Dr Heather Munro AO, is delivered first in Canberra, and then in two other Australian cities. It will be published in the *Australian Book Review*.

Convenor: Dr Paul Pickering, Director, Graduate Studies, Research School of Humanities

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For further information regarding the lectures see: <http://www.anu.edu.au/hrc/>

These lectures are free and open to the public.

6 pm on Wednesday 5 September.
National Library of Australia, Canberra

6 pm on Wednesday 3 October.
NGV Australia: The Ian Potter Centre
at Federation Square, Melbourne

6 pm on Wednesday 10 October.
National Maritime Museum, Sydney



The Australian National University

The views expressed in these lectures are those of the presenter and do not necessarily represent the views of the Australian National University.