

# BEHIND THE LINES

The year's **BEST** political cartoons 2019

# THE GREATEST HITS TOUR



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# MEDIA RELEASE

Friday, 6 December 2019

## **MoAD is giving visitors an all access pass to enjoy the witty political cartoons of the year that was**

### **Behind the Lines: The year's best political cartoons 2019 opens at MoAD**

Framed by the world of rock music and under this year's theme song of *The Greatest Hits Tour*, Australia's leading political cartoonists amped up the satire on 2019's greatest political hits.

MoAD's director, Daryl Karp, notes that a free press is important for a healthy democracy, and political cartoons have a part to play.

"*Behind the Lines* celebrates Australia's long and proud history of political cartooning, a vital part of a free press," explained MoAD Director, Daryl Karp.

"There is a clear link between a free press and healthy democracy. The *Behind the Lines* exhibition is one demonstration of this, but this theme is also explored in our new Truth, Power and a Free Press exhibition.

"Each year the *Behind the Lines* exhibition captures the story of the entire year through humour, wit and striking visuals. At a time when news media in Australia is dramatically changing, it is reassuring that our political cartoonists are still ready, pen in hand, to make us laugh or cry over the politics of the day," Ms Karp continued.

Jennifer Forest, the curator of the 2019 iteration of *Behind the Lines*, said that the theme for this year's exhibition is grounded in the musical undertones of many of the political cartoons featured in the exhibition.

"The theme, *The Greatest Hits Tour*, represents the loud and noisy year of politics in 2019 both in Australia and overseas.

"The 2019 Federal Election played out like a battle of the bands, with a playlist of old favourites and some brand new tunes," Ms Forest said.

This year, *Behind the Lines* features over 80 artworks from over 30 political cartoonists from across Australia.

Ms Forest noted, "Working in a range of styles, the cartoonists' featured in the exhibition strive, with humour and insightfulness, to ask questions and keep decision makers accountable."

At the launch of the exhibition, special guest Tim Freedman announced the 2019 Cartoonist of the Year—Jon Kudelka.

An award winning political cartoonist, Mr Kudelka's cartoons have appeared in leading newspapers such as *The Australian*, and he has recently joined the team at *The Saturday Paper*.

Mr Kudelka said, "As the main aim of political cartooning is puncturing the pompous and the puffed-up, it would be unwise for a political cartoonist to make grandiose claims about the importance of



the profession, but one thing I can say with the utmost confidence is that at least it keeps us off the streets.”

*Behind the Lines* opened at MoAD on 6 December 2019 and will run for 12 months. The exhibition features a family activity space which includes rock star themed dress ups and board games that will keep the whole family entertained for hours.

The exhibition will be headlining at the following places in 2020:

- Cowra Regional Art Gallery
- Old Treasury Building, Melbourne
- Parramatta Riverside Theatre
- Western Plains Cultural Centre, Dubbo
- State Library of South Australia

MoAD is open 9am to 5pm daily. For more information visit [moadoph.gov.au/btl](http://moadoph.gov.au/btl)

### **About MoAD**

The Museum of Australian Democracy celebrates Australia’s proud history as a democratic nation and actively promotes the participation of its citizens in determining its future.

MoAD is a museum not just of objects but of ideas. In our iconic heritage building, we tell the story of Australia’s journey to becoming one of the world’s most vibrant and multicultural democratic nations.

MoAD is a place where stories, conversations and narratives from myriad perspectives can be heard and discussed.

**ENDS**

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For further information, please contact Annika Scott, [annika.scott@moadoph.gov.au](mailto:annika.scott@moadoph.gov.au), (02) 6270 8120 or 0400 946 608

### **INTERVIEW OPPORTUNITIES:**

- Daryl Karp, MoAD Director
- Jennifer Forest, Behind the Lines exhibition curator
- Cartoonist of the Year, announced at the event
- Tim Freedman, musician
- Cathy Wilcox, featured cartoonist

**IMAGES:** <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/lws179j55udsvvn/AADIGqnVuZ9qk9RQaNLiB9S6a?dl=0>



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## FACT SHEET:

### EXTRACT FROM BEHIND THE LINES 2019 CATALOGUE

### INTRODUCTION – DARYL KARP, MOAD DIRECTOR,

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Election years always yield a bumper crop of political cartoons and 2019 has been no exception, with cartoonists publishing across a wide range of Australian media highlighting the strengths and weaknesses, policies and personalities of our politicians and their parties, in their own inimitable styles. But the federal election in May was not the only story of the year and in this year's *Behind The Lines* the story of the entire year is told with both visual and verbal wit in images of striking artistic quality, demonstrating that the long tradition of Australian political cartooning lives on.

But while the tradition continues, the environment in which it operates is changing and this affects cartooning for both good and for ill. In recent years there has been a marked increase in the number of Australian cartoons dealing with international news stories, reflecting our increasing exposure to globalised media. It also reflects an increasing awareness by Australian cartoonists that they have a global audience for their unique, often less inhibited, take on global events. But with the lure of an international audiences may come a heightened awareness of their sensitivities and the risk that our cartooning tradition may lose some of its uniqueness.

Daryl Karp

Director

# FACT SHEET:

## EXTRACT FROM BEHIND THE LINES 2019 CATALOGUE

### FOREWORD – KATE MILLER-HEIDKE

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There has been a lot of talk about bubbles this year and on May 18 2019, much of Australia experienced an emotional rollercoaster as two bubbles collided – Canberra and the Eurovision Song Contest.

A political and pop-culture collision like this was too good an opportunity to miss for political cartoonist Mark Knight and he effortlessly combined both moments in the one frame with Sco-mo and Shorten in drag on the Eurovision stage. Sco-mo even wore the crown, proving that cartoonists have their fingers on the pulse more closely than the polling companies (but he doesn't get *douze* points, as he missed the obvious opportunity to work in a pun about poles).

It's a political cartoonist's job to pop bubbles, which is ironic because just like songwriters they work in their own solitary bubbles. Songs and ideas rattle around in our heads until it's time to put pen to paper and create something meaningful. This is often a pretty introverted undertaking, working within the strictures of a 3-minute pop song, or a 3" by 3" frame above the letters page. Our job is to create meaning out of chaos be it personal, political or ideally both. My favourite songwriters, like my favourite cartoonists, are illuminators of truth. They prick the bubbles of the status quo.

Please take the time to reflect, laugh, cry and be outraged or inspired by the work in *Behind the Lines 2019*. These cartoons are a reflection and a history of Australia at this point in time and a reminder to never, ever take free speech for granted.

Oh, and please enjoy the bubbles.

Kate Miller Heidke

## FACT SHEET: CURATORS'S TOP FIVE CARTOONS – AVAILABLE FOR MEDIA USE

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Exhibition curator, Jennifer Forest, explains her Top Five Picks from *Behind the Lines: The year's best political cartoons 2019*. The curator's top five cartoons were selected for their use of humorous insight into, or poignant summary of, an issue of prominence in 2019. To make it into the top five, the cartoon must also have substantial artistic merit, with refined use of visual imagery, colour, words or other graphic devices to communicate a clear and effective message.

High-resolution images of the curator's top five cartoons are available via here.

Supplied photo credits must accompany publication.



**Artist:** David Rowe

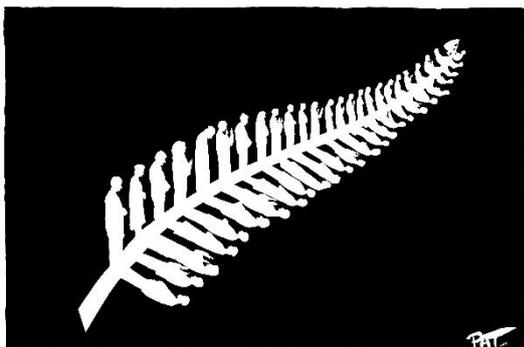
**Publication:** The Financial Review

**Date:** 22nd February 2019

**Title:** *Julie Bishop's red shoes*

David Rowe's cartoon appeared shortly after Julie Bishop announced her resignation from parliament. Her red shoes have come to symbolise the defiance, and the fate perhaps, of a capable female politician

amidst the turmoil of politics. Rowe continues in this tradition by placing Julie Bishop in her red shoes on the battlefield. In the background he references two players in the 2018 leadership spill Peter Dutton and Mathias Cormann.



**Artist:** Pat Campbell

**Publication:** The Canberra Times

**Date:** 18th March 2019

**Title:** *The Christchurch Massacre*

Pat Campbell reflects on the pain and horror felt around the world following the terrorist attack by an Australian man on two mosques in Christchurch, New Zealand.

Likewise Campbell's image of the New Zealand silver fern with people at various stages of prayer also went global. In Campbell's cartoon many viewers found a message of hope and resilience, and our common humanity staring back at the face of hatred.



**Artist:** Mark Knight

**Publication:** The Herald Sun

**Date:** 16th May 2019

**Title:** *This is the Australian election campaign*

Mark Knight layers the Australian election over the extravaganza of Australia's entry into Eurovision 2019 by placing Scott Morrison and Bill Shorten onto the five-metre theatre 'sway poles' used by Kate Miller-Heidke. With colour, movement and clever layering of two different concepts, Knight invites the viewer to reflect on just what political parties and individuals will do to get elected.



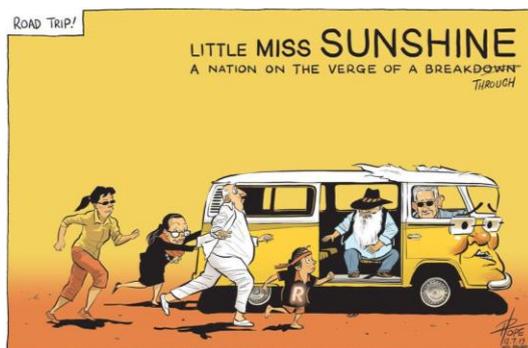
**Artist:** Jon Kudelka

**Publication:** The Australian

**Date:** 14 June 2019

**Title:** *Those things will kill you, you know*

Jon Kudelka juxtaposes two small human figures in the bottom left hand corner against a line of large coal trucks. Simple and effective with only seven short words, Jon Kudelka invites the viewer to laugh out loud at individual and societal actions. This cartoon is selected for the curator's pick due to its use of succinct, humorous and insightful commentary on the nature of coal as an energy source, relevant to our theme on land, water and climate.



**Artist:** David Pope

**Publication:** 12 July 2019

**Date:** The Canberra Times

**Title:** *Little Miss Sunshine*

David Pope's cartoon offers a ray of sunshine on the announcement by the Minister for Indigenous Australians, Ken Wyatt that he would work towards a referendum on constitutional recognition for Indigenous Australians. Using a popular movie reference, Pope inserts politicians from both sides to show the bipartisan support for recognition in the constitution. Ken Wyatt drives the bus that wears the face of Scott Morrison, while ALP Senator Pat Dodson sits in the bus giving a hand to the next generation, symbolised by the child, and Linda Burney, ALP member of the House of Representatives pushes the bus from behind.

# FACT SHEET:

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

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### Dean Alston

Dean Alston is an editorial cartoonist for *The West Australian*. A past Walkley Award winner for best cartoon, Alston has also worked as a cartographer and publican.

### Peter Broelman

Peter Broelman is a nationally syndicated editorial cartoonist based in Adelaide. He has won three Stanley Awards for his editorial cartoons and, in 2005 and 2009, was awarded the prestigious Gold Stanley for Cartoonist of the Year. His work appears in regional newspapers including the *Geelong Advertiser* and *Sunshine Coast Daily* and on his website

### Warren Brown

Warren Brown is the editorial cartoonist for *The Daily Telegraph* in Sydney, for which he also writes a weekly motoring column. Brown has won three Stanley Awards for best editorial cartoon.

### Pat Campbell

Pat Campbell is a cartoonist and illustrator who worked for *The Canberra Times* until recently and Fairfax Media for the past 20 years. He has also done illustrations for various publications, government departments and organisations such as the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission, the Law Institute of Victoria, *Macworld* and numerous design groups. He is a Walkley Award winner, has won seven Stanley Awards and was a recipient of the Bill Mitchell Memorial Award.

### Costa A

Costa A splits his time between cartooning and academia, teaching law at an Australian university. His political cartoons have been published in *GOAT*, *Inside Film Magazine*, *New Matilda*, *SameSame* and *The Vocal*.

### Mark David

Mark David is a Queensland-based cartoonist who has previously worked for the *Australian Financial Review*, *The Bulletin*, *The Sydney Morning Herald* and several other publications around the world. He currently produces political cartoons for the online news journal *Independent Australia*.

### John Ditchburn

John Ditchburn has been the cartoonist for *The Courier* in Ballarat since 1990. He is also regularly published in *The Farmer* and his work is included in numerous international educational books. He won the Quill Award for Best Cartoon in 2006 and 2013 and has been shortlisted six times.

### Christopher Downes

Christopher Downes draws two cartoons a week for the Hobart *Mercury*. He has also drawn quite a lot of things for the Museum of Australian Democracy (MoAD, Canberra) and the Lore podcast. He

also works at MONA (Museum of Old and New Art, Hobart), where his mind is being slowly corrupted.

### **Andrew Dyson**

Andrew Dyson is a dual Walkley Award winning cartoonist and illustrator for *The Age* in Melbourne.

### **Danny Eastwood**

Danny Eastwood is a member of the Ngemba Tribe of western New South Wales. For more than two decades, Eastwood has made his living as an artist doing commercial work, including cartoons, for the *Koori Mail* and for companies such as Coca-Cola. He has also created various pieces of public art and murals around Sydney. Danny has won numerous awards for his artwork, including NAIDOC Artist of the Year, the NAIDOC Poster Competition and the Parliament of New South Wales Aboriginal Art Prize.

### **First Dog on the Moon**

First Dog on the Moon is the Walkley Award–winning political cartoonist for *The Guardian – Australia edition*. He has written and illustrated various books, illustrated numerous others, performed live on stage in a number of shows and is currently working on ‘more exciting projects than you can poke a stick at’, including another book. He was MoAD Political Cartoonist of the Year in 2011.

### **Matt Golding**

Matt Golding is a political cartoonist with the *Melbourne Age* and *Sunday Age*. He draws weekly cartoons for the *Melbourne Times*, *The Melbourne Weekly Magazine* and *The Sunday Age*. He also contributes to *The Sydney Morning Herald* and a range of other publications and corporate clients. He has won a Walkley Award and seven Stanley Awards. He was MoAD Political Cartoonist of the Year in 2018.

### **Judy Horacek**

Judy Horacek is a freelance cartoonist and picture book creator. Her cartoons have been published widely in newspapers and magazines, including *The Australian*, *The Canberra Times* and *The Sydney Morning Herald*. They currently appear regularly in the *Melbourne Age*. She has published nine collections of her cartoons.

### **Fiona Katauskas**

Fiona Katauskas is a freelance cartoonist based in Sydney. Her political work has been published in a wide range of newspapers and magazines including the *Melbourne Age*, *The Australian*, *The Sydney Morning Herald* and *The Bulletin*, and currently appears regularly in *Eureka Street*.

### **Mark Knight**

Mark Knight is an editorial cartoonist for the *Melbourne Herald Sun* and *Sunday Herald Sun*. Knight previously worked for the *Australian Financial Review* and the *Melbourne Herald*. He won the Gold Quill Award in 2005 for the best cartoon of the year and has also won several Walkley Awards. He was MoAD’s Political Cartoonist of the Year in 2014.

**Jon Kudelka**

Jon Kudelka is a freelance cartoonist based in Hobart. His work appears in the Hobart *Mercury*, *The Saturday Paper* and on his website. Until recently his work also appeared in *The Australian* but he moved on to spend more time on his new gallery, The Kudelka Shop, in Salamanca Place, Hobart. In 2008 Kudelka won the Walkley Award for best cartoon and the Stanley Award for best political cartoonist. He won the Walkley again in 2018 and the Kennedy Award for best cartoon in 2019. He is MoAD's Political Cartoonist of the Year for 2019.

**Johannes Leak**

Johannes Leak is an illustrator based just north of Sydney. After formal art training at the Julian Ashton Art School, he explored figurative painting for some years before switching to both natural media and digital illustration. He has been working as a freelancer ever since, specialising in cartooning, caricature, storyboarding and commercial art. He contributes regularly to *The Australian* and *Tracks* surfing magazine. He is also the illustrator of the *Grover McBane Rescue Dog* children's book series with Claire Garth.

**Sean Leahy**

Sean Leahy is a political cartoonist for *The Courier Mail* in Brisbane. He also writes and draws the comic strip *Beyond the Black Stump*. He was previously cartoonist for Brisbane's *Sunday Mail*, *Sunday Sun* and the *Daily Sun*, as well as Perth's *Sunday Times* and *The West Australian*. In 2000 Leahy was awarded a Churchill Fellowship to undertake research into cartooning overseas.

**Glen Le Lievre**

Glen Le Lievre's drawings have appeared in the *Melbourne Age*, *The Sydney Morning Herald*, *MAD*, *Private Eye*, *Reader's Digest*, *The New Yorker*, *Time* and the *Wall Street Journal*.

**Eric Löbbecke**

Eric Löbbecke is an award-winning illustrator and cartoonist for books, newspapers, magazines and advertising since 1988. He has worked for News Limited on *The Australian* and the *Sydney Sunday Telegraph* and *Daily Telegraph*. He has won Walkley and Stanley awards for illustration and two Bald Archy Prizes for satirical portraiture.

**Michael Leunig**

Michael Leunig is an Australian cartoonist, writer, painter, philosopher and poet. His commentary on political, cultural and emotional life spans more than 50 years. He often explores the idea of an innocent and sacred personal world and the fragile ecosystem of human nature and its relationship to the wider natural world. His newspaper work appears regularly in *The Age* and *The Sydney Morning Herald*.

**Peter MacMullin**

Peter MacMullin is an editorial cartoonist for Adelaide's *Sunday Mail*. He previously worked as a designer, illustrator and cartoonist for *The Australian* between 1990 and 1999, and for the *Adelaide Advertiser* between 1999 and 2010. MacMullin has won three South Australian Media Awards for his cartoons.



### **Alan Moir**

Alan Moir is an editorial cartoonist for *The Sydney Morning Herald*. He has also worked for *The Bulletin* and the *Brisbane Courier Mail*. He has won three Stanley Awards, two Walkley Awards and the prestigious Gold Stanley Award.

### **Wes Mountain**

Wes Mountain is a Melbourne-based cartoonist and Multimedia Editor for *The Conversation*, where he puts together all kinds of other fun interactive and animated things in between drawing cartoons and comics.

### **David Pope**

David Pope worked as a freelance cartoonist and illustrator for many years, including at the *Sydney Sun-Herald*, before joining *The Canberra Times* as a staff artist in 2008 after the retirement of local cartooning legend Geoff Pryor. His cartoons have appeared in range of publications, including *AEU News*, *Arena*, *Common Cause*, *The Diplomat*, *Hard Hat*, *The New Doctor*, the *Northern Rivers Echo*, *Overland*, *The Queensland Nurse* and *The Republican*. He was MoAD's Political Cartoonist of the Year in 2012.

### **David Rowe**

David Rowe is a daily editorial cartoonist for the *Australian Financial Review*. Rowe has won numerous awards for his political cartooning, including being named MoAD's Political Cartoonist of the Year in 2013 and 2017.

### **Chris 'ROY' Taylor**

Chris 'ROY' Taylor has been a professional cartoonist and illustrator for over 25 years and his work also appears in the Melbourne *Herald Sun*. ROY creates daily cartoons and illustrations and, in 2014, also published a children's book, *The Great Big Book of Aussie Inventions*.

### **John Shakespeare**

John Shakespeare is a Walkley Award-winning illustrator and cartoonist for *The Sydney Morning Herald*. He has previously worked for the *Brisbane Courier Mail* and the *Sydney Sun*.

### **Greg 'Smithy' Smith**

'Smithy' (aka Greg Smith) was born in Perth, Western Australia. He started his cartooning life at Perth's *Daily News* and is now editorial cartoonist for the Perth *Sunday Times* and Seven West Media.

### **Jos Valdman**

Jos Valdman is a cartoonist for *Adelaide's Advertiser* and the *Northern Territory News*. With a career spanning two decades, he joined the *Advertiser* in 2008.

### **Andrew Weldon**

Andrew Weldon is a freelance cartoonist whose work appears regularly in the Melbourne *Age* and *The Big Issue Australia*. His work has also appeared in *Private Eye*, the *Spectator* and *The New Yorker*.



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Weldon has published several children's books, including the *Don't Look Now* series with Paul Jennings, as well as two collections of his cartoons.

### **Cathy Wilcox**

Cathy Wilcox is a Sydney-based cartoonist for *The Sydney Morning Herald* and the *Melbourne Age*. She has published two collections of her cartoons, and has illustrated numerous children's books. Wilcox has won three Walkley Awards for cartooning and several Stanley Awards for single-gag and political cartoons. In 2016 she was MoAD's Political Cartoonist of the Year.

### **Paul Zanetti**

Paul Zanetti is a Queensland-based freelance cartoonist whose work is syndicated nationally and internationally.