



HUNTER WRITERS CENTRE

THE LONG AND THE SHORT OF IT

A short story writing workshop with Patrick Cullen

A great short story is a compact, powerful, and — at its best — breath-taking piece of fiction that can transform the way a reader sees the world. It can linger in the mind for many years.

Despite Frank Moorhouse's recent declaration that the short story is "sub-economic" (that is, there's no money to be made in it), it still remains one of the most popular forms for both new and experienced writers. But many writers admit that they still find the short story the most difficult form of writing, and they wish that they were better prepared for the challenge of writing a great short story.

This workshop is ideal for new or experienced short story writers. It will help you:

- Discover what a short story is, what it isn't, and – in the hands of an accomplished writer – what a short story might possibly become
- Experiment with techniques and make better choices when it comes to plot and point of view, characters and characterisation, dialogue and description, style, setting, shape and structure
- Understand the value of rewriting to get the most out of your story
- Find out if size matters by considering a range of stories, from *short* short stories (and micro or flash fiction) to *long* short stories (and novellas) and everything in between
- Work out where your story belongs as we discuss competitions, publications and other opportunities for short story writers.

Participants will have an opportunity to read their own work and discuss the work of other writers. This workshop includes many practical exercises and we'll look at how famous writers such as Ernest Hemingway, Alice Munro and Raymond Carver created their own masterpieces. Participants will also receive a workbook of additional advice, writing exercises, suggested readings, and the contact details of relevant publications and organisations.

Patrick Cullen's writing has been recognised in national and regional literary awards, including the 2003 and 2004 *Age* Short Story Awards, the 2005 Alan Marshall Short Story Award, and every Roland Robinson Literary Award since 2002. His short stories have been broadcast on ABC Radio National and published in several anthologies including the 2005 and 2006 editions of *The Best Australian Stories*. He is now completing a collection of short stories as part of a PhD in creative writing at the University of Newcastle.

Venue:	Hunter Writers' Centre, 90 Hunter Street, Newcastle
Date:	Saturday 14 April 2007
Time:	10am–4pm
Cost:	\$50 HWC Members / \$60 Non-members
Bookings:	ph 02 4926 3485 / hwcentre@optusnet.com.au