

# International House magazine



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**SYDNEY**

International  
House

Celebrating 50 years of international  
understanding and friendship

**iNight: A vision  
of cultural diversity**

**Samah Hadid:  
Keeping it real**

**Book review: *Made in  
China*, Joan Rowlands AM**

**Alumni profile:  
Julia Krattli**







## From the editors

Anyone who has lived at International House knows the feeling of being exposed to a diverse wealth of new ideas and different people. This issue offers a snapshot of that experience; one that can and should be shared beyond the walls of the House.

It is one of the great privileges of living at International House that residents meet extraordinary people, encounters which add enormous breadth to their time at college. Residents in the 1970s will doubtless remember Dr Joan Rowlands, whose astonishing life story is captivatingly recalled in her latest memoirs, *Made in China*, reviewed here by IH alumnus James Kane.

Earlier in the year, IH residents also enjoyed a special encounter with leading University alumna, Samah Hadid, who recently became Deputy Director, Middle East (Campaigns) with Amnesty International. Samah described how her increasing work in humanitarian aid at a global level was the product of seeking out new opportunities, and making some important mistakes along the way.

Our diverse array of cultures is celebrated with exuberance and talent in the House's annual International Night, while the quiet yet moving experience of inner enlightenment is illuminated through a generous loan of art by IH alumna Lyn Woodger Grant. We celebrate all of these unique experiences and more in this second issue of the International House magazine.

**Dr Bradley Kunda**  
**Rochelle Whatman**

Image left: Sakthi Ramesh (USA)  
performing at iNight 2016

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Above: Lyn Woodger, Grant *Ascension VII*, 2015, acrylic on canvas 61x90cm

Front cover: iNight 2016

Photo credit (cover and inside cover):  
Sharon Hickey

## From the Director

### Help us celebrate our 50th year in 2017

As we approach the 50th anniversary of International House, we also look back on its history. Throughout events that have changed the world over the past half century, International House has continued to provide a supportive community for students and scholars from around the globe. Today International House continues to build on its historic and educational position as a home in the heart of Sydney for all students, and I am honoured to have been serving as its Director for the past 14 years.

As you know, the House and its extended community have a far-reaching impact, building qualities of respect, understanding and global friendships. Many residents arrive at IH not knowing anyone and find an instant circle of friends, and perhaps for the first time in their lives find themselves in a place where political, religious, geographic and ethnic boundaries are transcended. In this community, where respect and understanding are valued above all, residents know they can exchange ideas openly and freely. In every connection residents



Nevami Sunil (India); Jessica Carroll; Hesham Badr (Egypt)

make here, the complexities of the world are reflected on a more human scale. It is an important experience for any citizen of the global community – and essential for those who aspire to leadership roles in their own countries.

In 2017, International House will be hosting a range of events to celebrate 50 years of international understanding and friendship, and I hope that you will be able to attend many of them. I am especially looking forward to welcoming alumni back to the House.

I would also encourage you to consider making a gift to International House to mark our anniversary. As a former resident, I know firsthand how

living and learning at International House can be a transformative experience. For many residents the opportunity would not be possible without outside financial support. In these challenging and competitive economic times, every gift, no matter what size, has a direct impact. From supporting resident scholarships and bursaries to the IH program and events, the generosity of alumni and friends like you enable a new generation of hardworking students from around the world to seize this once in a lifetime opportunity.

**Written by Jessica Carroll**



## From the Chairperson of the International House Members' Association (IHMA)

2016 has been a fantastic year for IHMA, and it has gone by all too quickly. The introduction of Intramural Sports – and placing first in the women's division to boot – are achievements we feel incredibly proud of. Moreover, a spectacular Food Fair and iNight performance stood out for many members of the community this year. These events reflect the true spirit of the resident community at IH: the ability of individuals from every corner of the globe to come together under a single, unified identity.

The introduction of Intramural Arts for next year brings us hope for further and deeper engagement with the wider university residential community, and we could not be prouder a team to have laid down that groundwork for future years to come. With

2016 IHMA Executive: Florence Fermanis (Australia), Andrew Collins (Australia), Moe Hassan (Pakistan)



the 50th anniversary around the corner, it is my pleasure to introduce and hand over to the new IHMA executive team for 2017: Stephen Sanders (Australia) as Chairperson, Pippa Herden (Australia) as Secretary and Wei Shern Wong (Malaysia) as Treasurer.

It has been an honour to serve International House as Chairperson for 2016, and I wish all residents the very best.



2017 IHMA Executive: Wei Shern Wong, Stephen Sanders, Pippa Herden

# iNight: A vision for cultural diversity

Across the western world, politicians are declaring multiculturalism a failure and far-right groups are on the rise. The election of Pauline Hanson to the senate in Australia reflects a worrying trend. Even among the intellectual elite, there appears to be confusion about how to discuss cultural difference.

This year at the Brisbane Writers Festival, Lionel Shriver displayed boundless failure of empathy when she donned a sombrero to demonstrate her belief that charges of cultural appropriation are a symptom of the coddled mind.

Writing about multiculturalism for Foreign Affairs, Kenan Malik describes how the term itself is employed to describe both cultural diversity and the policies designed to manage it. Paradoxically, the solution and the problem are conflated. If the starting assumption underpinning multiculturalism is that cultural diversity is problematic, it is little wonder that governments right now are pronouncing multiculturalism a failure.

How can we imagine a world in which cultural diversity is not viewed as a problem? How can we share and exchange our cultures respectfully, when confronted by difficult histories of colonialism, racism and exploitation? How do we create a community built not only upon the acknowledgement of difference, but the celebration of it?

A showcase of the talent at International House, iNight presents a vision of one such community. Some of the performances were hybrids of different styles: Hindi and Bangladeshi dances, for example. Dances ranged from the contemporary to the more traditional – typically a combination of both – but often the unique dance moves of individuals were placed at the centre and highlighted. Residents of different backgrounds collaborated together on the same performance, bringing not only their distinctive cultures, but also their individual histories and personalities to create a truly original production.

In one sense, the performances of iNight symbolise the limitation of culture as a way of identifying people in a world that is becoming increasingly globalised. But the immense effort that went into putting together the show is testament to the ability of individuals from different backgrounds to work together in a respectful environment, with sensitivity and warmth toward the complex histories created by colonialism and racism. On a small scale, iNight demonstrates that cultural diversity is not only possible or successful, but that is a benefit to all those who seek to embrace it.

**Written by Penny Cummins**  
IH resident, Bachelor of Arts

Nijika Hayashi (Japan),  
iNight 2016

Photo credit: Sharon Hickey







# Keeping it real

International human rights and social justice campaigner, **Samah Hadid**, speaks to International House as part of the Global Leadership Program.



I often get asked what the secret is to my supposed success, and what my definition of leadership is. While I don't consider for one second that I have been entirely successful, I think that within my short career I've been able to have influence and create impact around many of the issues that I'm passionate about.

I've really relished the opportunity to inspire and empower the people and communities that I've come across. But today I'd also like to keep it real. I want to give you a different version of leadership, the one that you don't often hear. Nowadays we're too frequently given a sanitised, glossy version of what leadership entails; a story of achievements and success. But truthfully, what I really needed growing up was someone to tell me that the road was actually quite bumpy and non-linear, and that great leadership is also about making great mistakes.

My pathway, a very bumpy pathway, has led me to head up a non-government organisation at the age of 24, and lead a number of human rights campaigns and humanitarian responses in very difficult parts of the world. So here is my take on getting it wrong in order to get it right, and more importantly, getting in right in order to have an impact.

If my experiences have taught me anything, it's that centring all that you do on your purpose is absolutely necessary. Finding the best way to have an impact is also absolutely necessary. I only realised this lesson when I got lost in the process of achieving and over-achieving. Studying the right course or degree, ensuring you're doing enough extra-curricular activities, networking, getting the right job; these

are all important steps to attaining leadership positions in your field. But what is often lost along the way is the purpose driving your pathway.

I grew up thinking that I could champion social change and social justice, and that was my purpose in life. This was sparked at the early age of 14, when I faced discrimination and racism growing up in Australia because of my religious and ethnic identity as an Arab-Muslim woman. I saw and felt disadvantage for the first time, which led me to view discrimination and injustice on a broader scale. Facing social alienation because of who I was definitely shaped my worldview, and led me to pursue human rights on a national and international level. I've spent a very significant part of my career trying to achieve that purpose through civil society movements. But initially I thought that change would happen from the top down, from well-established institutions of power such as governments or the United Nations.

I spent years working in the UN system, thinking that I could ultimately make a difference in global human rights through these means. It was during my time as the Australian Youth Representative to the UN when I realised that while my purpose was well-placed, my pathway wasn't necessarily so.

I was privileged to be in this position. I had dreamed about being in those corridors of power, amongst diplomats and creating change for vulnerable groups around the world. I remember one day sitting in the UN building in New York where I was representing Australia as a negotiator for the UN resolution in ending extreme poverty. On one level I felt that I had



finally made it to the decision making table and it was a huge milestone for me. However I spent many, many months negotiating sentences, full-stops, commas and resolutions that didn't actually advance progress in human rights issues, but sought to undermine them.

I worked with a lot of diplomats who in fact did everything to perpetuate the status quo. I don't fault them on an individual level, but I question the politicisation of the UN system and its core structure that delivered this process and outcome. I began to question whether I could actually have impact on the social issues that I cared about.

One afternoon, after spending five hours in a room with hostile diplomats who failed to budge, I remember turning to a window to see thousands of young people along the street protesting for greater change to end extreme poverty. They were championing and pushing for progress on the millennium development goals and ultimately holding decision makers to account. It was in that moment that I realised I was supposed to be outside, not inside; my role was actually as an advocate and a campaigner. What I had grown up with in terms of grassroots campaigning and community development was really important, and it spoke to me as the pathway that I needed to take.

My lesson here is that finding your purpose is key, above all else it will define the impact you will have in the world, but it's equally as important to find the most effective way that will allow you to realise that purpose.

Finally, the biggest mistake I initially made in my career was becoming too comfortable. As a second-generation migrant raised by parents who fled war – personal, social and economic security was everything to me.

So instead of taking a gap year I worked, and instead of studying politics I initially studied economics. It was when I found myself plateauing and unfulfilled in my 9-5 job that something profound happened. As I sat down for dinner watching the news one evening, I saw millions of young Arab people taking to the streets to demand freedom, dignity and justice. Although I had never been to the Middle East

before I was captivated by these images of mostly young people leading this unprecedented movement of change, challenging authoritarian systems and dictators.

As an Arab and an activist I was extremely moved by this and compelled to find out more. So in early 2011, I decided to move to Egypt. I spent a year volunteering with human rights defenders, Arab feminists, social justice activists, learning more about their causes and inspiring them to stand up for their rights. Moving to Egypt was a massive risk, but one that changed the course of my life. I went from leading women's rights and human rights campaigns in the middle of the Arab spring, to leading humanitarian responses on Syria and Yemen for Oxfam International.

I've been based in the Middle East for almost four years now, and virtually every single day I have had to take risks that affect entire populations, my staff and my own personal and operational safety. Indeed my role as a global humanitarian officer is 80% risk management. I could not have succeeded in this without taking the initial risk of overcoming my fears.

Now don't get me wrong, I'm not saying you should all jump on a plane into a war zone, rather my message is to not hold off on the goals and dreams that challenge and inspire you. Fear of the unknown or the familiarity of your comfort zone should not keep you from taking risks. In a broader sense, it is clear given the political, social and economic challenges of today, we need leaders who are willing to take risks with the aim of creating good. Leaders who are willing to lose the election or the profit margin in order to achieve a greater vision for their constituencies, clients and communities.

I'd like to sum up with a quote by Dennis Waitley, which really summarises my mistakes and the need to try again, a message that is so key and necessary to leadership today. He says 'failure should be our teacher, not our undertaker. Failure is delay, not defeat. It is a temporary detour, not a dead end. Failure is something we can avoid only by saying nothing, doing nothing, and being nothing.'

*Excerpt from Samah Hadid's lecture on 19 May for the International House Global Leadership Program.*

# A hidden light

International House welcomes a new addition to its growing art collection, on generous loan from Australian artist and IH alumna **Lyn Woodger Grant**.

Abstracted forms and a carefully considered colour palette combine in Lyn Woodger Grant's contemplation of esoteric subjects in *Ascension VII* (2015). This vertically hung work is resplendent with symbolist evocations, which in the artist's words express 'the concept of the transmutation of the soul.' Lyn succinctly surveys the historical pursuit of spiritual and intellectual transcendence in her book *Alchemical Gold* (1985), from which central themes of 'spiritual transmutation', 'the unification of mind, body and soul', and 'the integration of material and immaterial worlds' recur throughout her painterly corpus, including in the six works preceding the present one in her *Ascension* series, which dates back to 1968.

With esoteric subjects in mind, the large yellow orb is an appropriate focal point for its connotations of wholeness and undividedness, as well as for being 'a universal symbol of integration, harmony and transformation' (Woodger Grant, 1985). The artist employs the golden ratio to give the orb its own space in the composition. Its structural antecedent then becomes the darker concentration of purples and blues, which frames the canvas at its base.

There is perhaps much meaning that can be discerned from this simple composition. The movement from the closely overlapped, suggestively earthy colours at the canvas's base, towards the more expansive use of greens, yellows and blues at the painting's centre, draws the viewer's eye upwards towards the yellow-green orb. Indeed, there is much movement in the curvilinear shapes that demarcate this almost geometric colour composition. One might be forgiven for recalling Roy de Maistre's *Rhythmic Composition in Yellow Green Minor* (1919) for its similar colours and featured circular focal points, although Lyn's work is perhaps structurally more linear in its clear upwards direction towards the quintessential orb (as opposed to the backwards and forwards

rocking movement implicit in de Maistre's dynamic work). *Ascension's* compositional fulfilment is in the glorious space surrounding the golden circle, where the heady tonal vibrancy of purples, greens and blues dissipates in a translucent palette of softly highlighted pinks and greens.

There is perhaps symbolic meaning in the artist's use of colours, particularly in the fiery yellow-orange streak which winds suggestively upwards through the painting's centre, falling just short of penetrating the similarly luminous circle. By carefully controlling the diffusion of colours towards the upper frame of the canvas, Lyn evokes great movement; a movement that is pointedly directed towards the lustrous orb as it floats towards the upper frame of the canvas.

This is a work that fundamentally has to do with movement; an upwards lift out of a metaphoric darkness towards increasing clarity, light and spaciousness. This alchemical association preoccupied Australian symbolist poet, Christopher Brennan, who in his *Poems* (1913) mused:

But these deep fibres hold  
the season's mortal gold,  
by silent alchemy  
of soul set free.

For Brennan, spiritual and intellectual enlightenment emerges out of the deep fibres of one's own subconsciousness, the suggestion being that enlightenment emerges from within us, and is perhaps not extrinsic to us but rather intrinsic. The *Ascension* of Lyn's orb out of the murky recesses of earthy baseness thus becomes a poetic, as well as a rhythmically dynamic, evocation of this alchemical ideal.

**Written by Dr Bradley Kunda**  
**Acting Deputy Director, International House**





Lyn Woodger, *Grant Ascension VII*, 2015, acrylic on canvas 61x90cm

# Enriching young minds

IH residents **Sayan Mitra** and **Al Siam Siddique** travelled to Madagascar to improve education prospects for the children of Merimandroso Ivato Village School in Tsarasaotra.

## Tell us about your project

There is an identified shortage of teachers in Madagascar, one of the reasons for this being the political and economic instability arising from ongoing intra-governmental conflict. According to UNICEF, nearly 69% of the population is currently considered 'poor' and 44% 'extremely poor'. Most children drop out of schools by the end of grade one, the most common reason being the lack of money for tuition and the distance they have to travel to get to school. More than 16% of communities in Madagascar have no school, and a traditional approach to teaching plus a high number of untrained teachers means that 20% of children repeat at least one grade of primary school.

Our project aimed to redress some of these barriers to education by supporting a Madagascan village school to improve its infrastructure, curriculum and sustainability measures. Our approach aimed to ensure not only greater access to education, but also improvements to the quality of tuition, equipping older students to provide teaching support to their peers. Increasing the number of tutors in this school will fill a gap in the local government's ability to provide a sufficient number of trained teachers. In the long term, we hope that improved access to quality education will lead to economic and political reform.



From left to right: Principal Olga (the village school principal), Mme Volol (chief contractor and project engineer), Avotra (village school teacher), Sayan Mitra (India), Al Siam Siddique (Bangladesh)





### How is it sustainable?

In order to support local ownership of education and a self-perpetuating system of tutor training, we travelled to the school to teach best practice self-learning techniques. These included the Cornell note-taking system and the SQ3R reading comprehension method.

We facilitated the dissemination of these learning systems by pairing more experienced students with younger students, providing a peer teaching and learning environment aimed at supporting future students as they progress through school. Our plan will see the teacher nominate the two most competent students to be trained as peer tutors for the rest of the students. These shall be paid positions so as to provide a meaningful incentive for greater performance accountability.

### How does your project contribute to peace?

Education is well known to be the key to breaking the cycle of poverty, ensuring that children grow into responsible adults capable of improving their own communities. Our vision of promoting self-sufficiency through peer learning will encourage peace in the long-term as the current generation of children grow up learning the value of education. This will enable them to one day effect a positive and informed influence on the governmental policies that are currently inadequate for providing a sustainable education for all.



### About the Davis Project for Peace

Inspired by the late philanthropist and internationalist, Kathryn W. Davis, the Davis Projects for Peace grant provides US\$1 million each year to colleges and universities in the Davis United World College Scholars Program, to design and implement grassroots projects that promote peace. International House, the University of Sydney, as part of the International Houses Worldwide community, participates each year in this initiative. To learn more visit:

– [www.davisprojectsforpeace.org](http://www.davisprojectsforpeace.org)

# Humans of International House

## #HumansofIH

sydney.edu.au/internationalhouse

International House

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“My twin sister and I were born 11 weeks early and kept in hospital for two months. I weighed as much as a tub of butter, and my Dad’s wedding ring could fit around my leg. It was such a crazy way to start our lives as twins, which is a crazy relationship in itself.

“Living at IH, I feel much more like an individual person than I ever have because people always see us as two inseparable parts of a whole. I’ve really been able to forge an identity that is entirely my own, and it’s been the most liberating element of my time here.”

**Nicole Dunn, Australia**  
#HumansofIH





“I’ve been drawing since as long as I can remember. It’s not only a method for me to express myself, but also my form of meditation. The moment I pick up the pen, all the thoughts in my mind dissipate and I am left to only concentrate on the next stroke.”

**Tsenguunee Ganbaatar Zeerdnuud,**  
Mongolia  
#HumansofIH



“The best thing about IH is the friendships. I’ve only been here one year and already I’ve made friendships that will last decades.”

**Caleb Niethe, Australia**  
#HumansofIH

Photo credit: Nicholas Shackleton

# A world of experience, lived and shared

Dr Joan Rowlands AM,  
*Made in China: Echoes of a Transcultural Lifetime*  
(Melbourne, Joan Rowlands, 2014)\*.

\*246p. AUD\$26.95.

‘Memory,’ writes Inga Clendinnen in her acclaimed memoir *Tiger’s Eye* (2000), ‘is less a crystal than an eel, wily, evasive, as hard to hold as any truly vital thing.’ Joan Rowlands acknowledges a similar problem in the prologue to this lively and eloquent account of her life: ‘Even personal memories, etched in the emotion of a moment and eroded by years, can only present facets of the truth...’ Although there are understandably several ellipses in this book — after all, ‘a single memoir [can hardly] take account of nearly 100 years’ — Rowlands does a wonderful job of collecting jagged shards of memory and shaping them into a coherent narrative of personal reflection that is full of colour and insight.

Without being explicitly labelled as such, *Made in China* serves, in a way, as both sequel and companion volume to Rowlands’ first published work, *Voluntary Exiles: From Tamatave to Peking* (2000), which explores the fascinating history of her well-travelled grandparents and parents, all missionaries of Welsh or Scottish extraction. After a brief sketch of their careers and experiences, the book opens with Rowlands’ birth in 1921 and

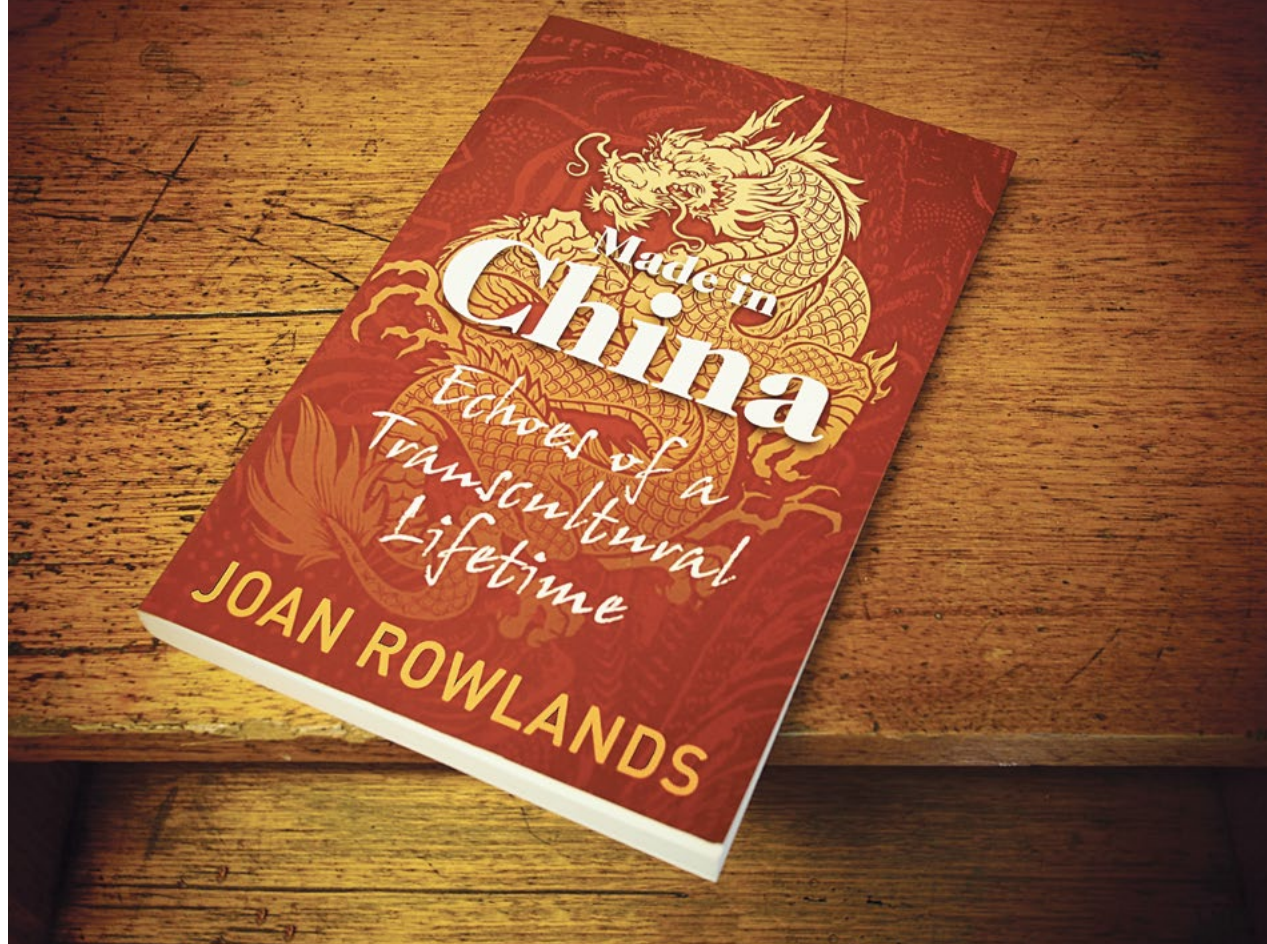
her earliest memories of life in the village of Siao Chang (Hebei province) on the North China Plain. This fascinating glimpse into childhood in a world far removed both in time and material reality from that of most 21st-century readers is one of the highlights of the book, told with the consummate skill of a novelist and a historian’s eye for detail. It sets the scene for a story that stretches across four continents over a period of more than 60 years and takes place against a backdrop featuring some of the most tumultuous events in human history.

Rightly or wrongly, the upheavals and sweeping changes of the 20th century often seem to draw our retrospective gaze more easily than those of certain earlier periods. Much of the appeal of Rowlands’ book lies in its perspective on what it was like to live through these unstable times. Her descriptive account of her experiences in China during the 1920s and early 1930s, a period when the country was wracked by intense political struggles, leaves a vivid impression on the reader, as do her recollections of some

unpleasant boarding school years at Walthamstow Hall in Kent at a time when Britain was beginning to brace itself for another global conflict. Rowlands’ sobering reflections on her duties as a nurse at Lewisham Hospital, Dartford Fever Hospital and Doncaster Royal Infirmary during World War II are similarly absorbing.

Of the many elements that make this story so remarkable, the most striking is Rowlands’ account of her achievements as a doctor. At a time when the idea of a female practitioner was still unusual, Rowlands forged a successful career in medicine that saw her establish her own ophthalmic practice in Launceston after moving to Australia in 1956. Her later work as a school medical officer led to frequent encounters with Tasmanian children hampered by misunderstood (or barely acknowledged) learning difficulties such as dyslexia. Out of a desire to address Tasmania’s severe deficiencies in educational support for such students, Rowlands was inspired to undertake international research trips and further study with the completion of a Diploma of Public Health at





the University of Sydney, where she was a postgraduate resident of International House in 1970. In retelling this inspiring part of her life, Rowlands opens an important window onto the history of medicine and women's contribution to it in the 20th century.

Like all good autobiographies, *Made in China* is strewn with personal anecdotes that help to balance out the weight of its broader context. While many of these are humorous or downright surprising (for example, a brief childhood meeting with Joseph Goebbels, remembered as 'a small, dark man with a limp'), Rowlands does not shy away from recounting many sadder episodes, such as the death of a young Canadian soldier under her care at Doncaster and her struggles with depression and marriage in the 1970s. Her openness in this regard imbues the

book with a sense of honesty that invites readers from all walks of life in the same way as the very best self-reflective writing.

I can pay this book no higher compliment than to say that it reminds me in some ways of Margaret Atwood's brilliant historical novel *The Blind Assassin*, which won the Booker Prize in 2000. The difference, of course, is that *Made in China* is true. Like all personal memories, the book 'can only present facets of the truth', but it does so in a clear and engaging style that testifies to its author's literary talents and lays out valuable insights gleaned from a life of diverse experience. We can only hope that Joan Rowlands has plans to publish even more.

**Written by James Kane**  
**IH alumnus (2007-2009)**  
**SUIHAA Committee Member**

## Dr Joan Rowlands AM

Dr Joan Rowlands has had a far-reaching influence on the lives of residents at International House, first as a resident herself in 1970, later as resident Assistant Director (1979-80) and subsequently as President of Sydney University International House Alumni Association (2000-2003). Joan was also a student of the University of Sydney in the area of Public Health.



# IH events



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- 1/ Faculty Dinner 2016
- 2/ Jessica Carroll, Pippa Herden, Professor Juanita Sherwood (Academic Director, National Centre for Cultural Competency) at the Candlelight Dinner
- 3/ Bernie Lee and Jessica Carroll, Intramural Sports presentation at the Candlelight Dinner
- 4/ Sayan Mitra, Professor Gwendolyn Gilbert (Clinical Professor, Westmead Clinical School), Shivaughn Hem-Lee Forsyth, Luke Massey



- 1/ iNight 2016
- 2/ Joyeeta Iqbal and Fatema Adiba, mid-Autumn/Mooncake Festival
- 3/ Mid-Autumn/Mooncake Festival
- 4/ Dr Haydn Washington, 2016 Walter Westman Lecture
- 5/ Stargazing 2016

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# News from Sydney University International House Alumni Association (SUIHAA)

## 2017 SUIHAA Committee: celebrating our internationalist goals and history

SUIHAA's Annual General Meeting was held on 24 September 2016. SUIHAA Executive members were re-elected:

- Dr Rosamond Madden AM (President)
- Dr Dominick Ng (Secretary)
- Joshua Lee (Treasurer)

General Committee members, spanning a range of IH generations are:

- Andrew Collins (2015-16)
- Tessa Gastrell (2012-15)
- James Kane (2001-09)
- Julia Krattli (1991-2001)
- James McGloin
- Gwen Ng (1968-70)
- Paul Reisner (1983-86)
- Karen Rowe-Nurse (1980-81)
- Evan Voroney (2011-14).

Our committee members are all working hard to make 2017 a landmark year celebrating the IH mission to promote international understanding and friendship, and the ongoing work of alumni in perpetuating the mission in the wider community.

## Congratulations Julia Krattli

We are delighted with the news that Julia Krattli has been inducted as a Fellow of International House. Julia's contributions to the IH community are well known to SUIHAA, having been involved since her student days with the Members Association, followed by diverse roles within SUIHAA and now the Bo Children's Hospital Foundation Board. Julia's capacity for giving is tremendous on both a personal and community level, and we are thrilled that she has been formally honoured for her dedicated service.

## SUIHAA and the 2017 celebrations

SUIHAA is a proud co-sponsor of several of the 50th anniversary events, notably the concert, public roundtable, and the reunions around the world. We hope people travelling to Sydney will keep the following key events in mind; the April concert featuring a specially commissioned work, the December gala lunch, and the cluster of events in early July including an art and history exhibition, roundtable, and a major reunion at International House.

**Written by Dr Rosamond Madden AM**



Left to right back: Evan Voroney, James McGloin, Dr Bradley Kunda, Andrew Collins  
Middle: Paul Reisner, Julia Krattli, Karen Rowe-Nurse, Gwen Ng, Tessa Gastrell  
Front: Dr Dominick Ng, Dr Ros Madden, Joshua Lee



# Alumni profile

## Julia Krattli

I was drawn to International House as I liked the idea of meeting students from all over the world. The fact that it was one of the few co-educational colleges was also appealing.

At the time I joined the House I'd commenced a Bachelor of Science with the intention of becoming an industrial chemist. As it turned out, I much preferred psychology which ended up becoming my major.

After finishing my undergraduate degree, I completed a Graduate Diploma in Education and went on to teach high school mathematics. Four years ago I retrained to become a school counsellor and then completed my registration to become a psychologist. I'm currently working as a school counsellor with the Department of Education at four schools in Sydney's east. It's great to be putting my psychology studies to use and I've enjoyed the change from the classroom.

Living at IH was immensely enriching on both a personal and professional level. I've maintained friendships with people from all over the world, which has certainly instilled a love of travel - it's wonderful to be able to combine it with visiting friends.

My most cherished memories of the House are the formal dinners, discos, and trips away on the bus to the log cabin, Kangaroo Valley and the North Coast. I also have fond memories of my time spent as a social coordinator and a



senior resident (memorably managing to drop the duty phone down the toilet on one occasion!).

The opportunity that IH offers for people from so many different cultures to live together in harmony is unquestionably unique. The flag ceremony and Candlelight Dinner really are very special traditions. The connection to other International Houses worldwide and the involvement of the alumni community also set IH apart.

As an alumna I've held various roles on the SUIHAA committee and I'm very excited to be coordinating overseas reunions for the 50th anniversary celebrations next year. I'm thrilled to have been awarded the 2016 Fellowship of IH, and look forward to the opportunity to reconnect with fellow alumni at the 2017 anniversary events.

**Written by Julia Krattli**  
**IH alumna (1999-2001)**  
**SUIHAA Committee Member**

# Celebrating 50 years of International House

**50** Years International House has served as a unique, diverse and inclusive residential community

**6,000+** Students and scholars have called International House home since we opened our doors in 1967

**95+** Different countries represented by International House residents

**20+** International House and SUIHAA scholarships and bursaries awarded annually

International House has a lot to celebrate in 2017, and your gift is important in continuing our many achievements.

Your donation will provide a student, who may not otherwise have the means to afford residency, with the life-changing opportunity to be part of the International House experience. By supporting the IH program, you will help ensure the exceptional geographic, cultural, and economic diversity that is central to our mission.

Make your anniversary gift of \$50 or more to International House via mail using the gift form below, or online at:

– [sydney.edu.au/donate-ih](http://sydney.edu.au/donate-ih)

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# Creating global friendships since 1967

Join us to celebrate 50 years of International House



## **Celebration Concert** **Saturday 8 April 2017** **Sydney Conservatorium of Music**

Featuring the world-premiere of a new work by celebrated Australian composer Chris Bowen, specially commissioned for the International House anniversary year.



## **Public Roundtable** **Monday 3 July 2017** **Venue TBA**

'Is the World Coming Together or Falling Apart?' A panel of high profile thinkers will examine questions such as, what have been the major drivers of change in the past 50 years, and what is the best role for International House over the next 50 years?



## **Art and History Exhibition** **7 - 21 July 2017** **The Wool Room** **International House**

The Art and History Exhibition will feature the public unveiling of a specially commissioned work by Australian Aboriginal artist Bronwyn Bancroft, and will celebrate the artistic talents of notable artists from our alumni community.



## **Gala Luncheon** **Saturday 2 December 2017** **Strangers' Function Room** **NSW Parliament House**

Australia's oldest house of parliament provides an auspicious setting for this culmination of the golden jubilee celebrations.

Bookings and further information:  
[sydney.edu.au/internationalhouse](http://sydney.edu.au/internationalhouse)



Photo credit: Nicholas Shackleton

### Our community

International House brings together Australian and international students from all over the world. Our diverse and close-knit community has been home to over 6000 students and scholars since we opened our doors in 1967.

As a member of International Houses Worldwide, we offer an immersive residential environment unique on the campus of the University of Sydney where cross-cultural understanding and friendship can thrive.

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### For more information

#### International House

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