



## 2007 BYRON BAY WRITERS FESTIVAL

### Festival Writer: Irina Dunn



Irina Dunn has been the Executive Director of the NSW Writers' Centre since December 1992. She is the author of *The Writer's Guide: a Companion to Writing for Pleasure or Publication* (Allen & Unwin 2002 2nd ed), which was shortlisted for the Australian Publishers' Association National Education Awards in 2003. She has an Honours Degree in English Literature and Language from the University of Sydney, and a Graduate Diploma in Russian from Macquarie University. She has worked variously as a tutor in the English Department at Sydney University, as a journalist, book editor, film-maker, school and TAFE teacher and university lecturer.

The book she co-authored and co-edited with two scientists, *A Natural Legacy: Ecology in Australia*, won the Royal Australian Zoological Society Prize in 1979 for best text on the subject. Irina received an international prize for her documentary about the Australian women's peace movement, *Fighting for Peace*. She represented NSW as an Independent Senator from 1988 to 1990.

Irina was born in Shanghai, China, and is of Russian, Irish, Portuguese and Chinese background. In her annual holidays she takes Australian travellers to Russia, the Baltic States, Mongolia and China cultural tours.

*the festival for thinkers*