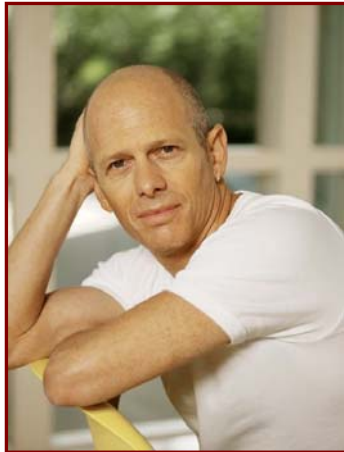


2007 BYRON BAY WRITERS FESTIVAL

Festival Writer: David Leser

David Leser was born in Montreal, Canada in 1956 and raised and educated in Sydney.

In 1979 he joined the (Sydney) *Daily Telegraph* and in the early to mid 1980s worked as a feature writer for the (New Orleans) *Times Picayune* newspaper and as a Washington DC-based correspondent.



In the mid-1980s he joined the *Australian* before moving in the late 1980s to the Middle East to work as correspondent for the *South China Morning Post*.

During the early 1990s he was a feature writer for *HQ* magazine and the *Bulletin* before moving to *Good Weekend* in 1994.

In 2000 he began working for the *Australian Women's Weekly* and today is their writer-at-large, covering profiles and social issues.

David has been a Walkley award finalist four times and in 1999 won the feature writing award for his profile of radio personality Alan Jones. He has also won three national magazine awards for feature writing, reporting and story of the year.

David is the author of four books. His latest, *Dames and Divas: 21 Remarkable Women*, was published by Park Street Press in 2006.

David lives in Byron Bay with his wife and two daughters and is currently working on a fifth book

The festival for thinkers