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From: Progressive PR and Publicity on behalf of *Australian Book Review*

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Same-Sex Marriage – Yes for Equality

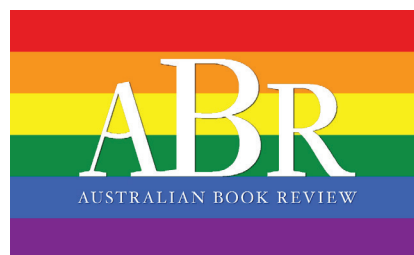
Ratification of the marriage equality postal survey by the High Court of Australia prompted *Australian Book Review* to invite a number of writers, artists, directors, lawyers, commentators and public figures to sign an open letter on the subject. The response was positive and immediate. The [Open Letter](#) (available online and linked below), which appears in our October issue, is intended as a respectful contribution from some of the most prominent people in the arts in Australia.

This debate is about equality – no more, no less. Homosexual acts are perfectly legal in Australia. Gays and lesbians (tax-paying and law-abiding citizens) seek the same right that applies to heterosexuals: the freedom to marry their partners if they so choose. This right applies in many countries, including Britain, Germany, and the United States. Gays and lesbians serve in our defence and police forces, they educate our children and work in our hospitals, they entertain us and illuminate our lives through literature and the performing arts. The time for distrust and discrimination is over.

Peter Rose, Editor and CEO, *Australian Book Review*

To date more than 100 people have signed the [Open Letter](#). They include:

Neil Armfield	Eddie McGuire AM
Geraldine Brooks AO	David Malouf AO
J.M. Coetzee	Kerryn Phelps AM
Li Cunxin	Peter Singer AC
Michelle de Kretser	Magda Szubanski
Helen Garner	Christos Tsiolkas
Anna Goldsworthy	Jacki Weaver AO
Benjamin Law	Kim Williams AM



[Click here to read the Open Letter](#)

Peter Rose is the Editor and CEO of *Australian Book Review*.

Further information

More information about *Australian Book Review* can be found on the [ABR website](#).

Please direct interview requests to Darren Saffin at Progressive PR and Communications on (03) 9696 6417 or darren@progressivepr.com.au