

## Is our fascination with the US election good for Australian democracy? *Australia's leading cultural magazine asks key commentators why we care so much*

'We live in the slipstream of the American Dream, even if, on the surface, our politics move to a different rhythm.'

- **Dennis Altman**

'To paraphrase Clive James, we are a nation settled by prison officers passing judgement on a nation made by rebels. We fetishise authority.'

- **Timothy J. Lynch**

'In Australia, where populist politics around refugee policy and Indigenous power have been extremely successful, it is no wonder why people are watching the US election so closely. It can happen here, too.'

- **Clare Corbould**



In the November issue, *ABR* surveys longtime US observers and commentators **Sheila Fitzpatrick, James Curran, Clare Corbould, Clinton Fernandes, Marilyn Lake, Timothy J. Lynch, Michael L. Ondaatje** and **Emma Shortis** on Australia's obsession with American politics, providing insights about our own discourse, media, and democracy.

High-profile workplace lawyer **Josh Bornstein** on **corporate cancel culture** examines the creeping invasion of corporations into employee lives: 'Companies now routinely censor their employees far more repressively than any liberal democratic government does.'

**Ruth Balint** reviewing *The Holocaust and Australian Journalism* by Fay Anderson, argues that while today's media routinely nods to the lessons of the 1930s Anderson's book 'challenges us to be more critical ... and to beware of the politics of the mob'. Also in the November issue, **Paul Giles** praises **Tim Winton's new novel** and leading critics consider new works by **Michelle de Kretser, Alex Miller and Alan Hollinghurst**. Reviews also examine books on film, theatre, law, heritage, robot tales, medicine, information networks, and much, much more.

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**About *ABR*** *Australian Book Review (ABR)* is Australia's leading literary and cultural magazine. It publishes in-depth literary and arts reviews as well as essays, commentaries, interviews and creative writing. *ABR* covers all the arts, not just literature. *ABR* is committed to highlighting the strengths of critical and creative writing around Australia and to presenting them to an international audience.