



Monday 23 September 2019

## **Professor Marcia Langton AM to deliver annual oration honouring Walter Lippmann**

**Melbourne Town Hall:** Professor Marcia Langton AM will join a long-list of luminaries in delivering a human rights lecture that honours the outstanding legacy of one of the ECCV's founders, Walter Lippmann. The 9th Annual Walter Lippmann Memorial Oration at the Melbourne Town will be delivered by Professor Langton, an outstanding Australian, who has held the Foundation Chair of Australian Indigenous Studies at the University of Melbourne since 2000.

The 2019 Walter Lippmann Memorial Oration seeks to honour the United Nations International Year of Indigenous Languages through Professor Langton's oration.

"The Oration is an opportunity to reflect on the civil rights movement in Australia during those difficult times when fundamental changes to the old conservative Australia were instigated by people like Walter and (his wife) Lorna," says Professor Langton.

"Lorna Lippmann was one of the stalwart associate members of Federal Council for the Advancement of Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders - the national association that was the precursor to the present day Indigenous political movement. She served for many years with great distinction working with the members to achieve Indigenous rights."

"I feel that I have come full circle: to be able to present this Oration in honour of her husband Walter Lippmann"

"It would be a tragedy for Australia if the great achievements of that period were to be replaced by retrograde values that damage our democracy and threaten the most important step yet in achieving full civil rights for Indigenous Australians: a constitutional status and Voice as envisioned in the Uluru Statement from the Heart."

Walter was an influential opponent of assimilation policy and an advocate of multiculturalism. Recognising that Australia gave the Lippmann family a second-chance, Walter devoted his life to ensure that racially inspired civil destruction could not happen in Australia as it had done in his home country Germany.

"ECCV continues its advocacy work toward a successful multicultural Victoria, with the same vigour and zest that drove our founding leaders. Walter Lippmann was one of these outstanding leaders," says Cr Kris Pavlidis, ECCV Board Chair.

**For interview opportunities, please contact:**

**Anjali Nambissan – ECCV Communications & Membership Coordinator**

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ETHNIC COMMUNITIES' COUNCIL OF VICTORIA

# voices of multicultural Victoria

- MEDIA RELEASE -

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“ECCV’s annual Walter Lippmann Memorial Oration honours the legacy of the ECCV forerunners whose value in and dedication to, a rich culturally diverse Victorian community keep us in good stead.”

“Now in its 9th year, the memorial event has seen highly esteemed Orators take to the dais and in this year of Indigenous Languages we are delighted that Professor Marcia Langton will deliver the oration,” she said.

“As a family, we are delighted that someone who has had a critical voice in Australian public life for so long is giving the oration to honour Walter this year. Marcia Langton is sure to offer a unique perspective on the importance of promoting multiculturalism in modern Australia,” said Matthew Albert, Walter Lippmann’s grandson.

For more information, please visit: [lippmannoration2019.eventbrite.com.au](http://lippmannoration2019.eventbrite.com.au)

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*Ethnic Communities’ Council of Victoria (ECCV) is the peak advocacy body for culturally diverse communities in Victoria, since 1974. As the voice for multicultural Victoria, ECCV is the conduit with government and other stakeholders. We are a member driven organisation representing over 220 organizations on behalf of 70,000 members across Victoria. [www.eccv.org.au](http://www.eccv.org.au)*

## Event Details

**9th Annual Walter Lippmann Memorial Oration**

**Date & time:** 6-8pm on Thursday 3 October 2019

**Venue:** Swanston Hall, Melbourne Town Hall

**Media stop:** 5.45pm – 6pm and 7.45pm – 8pm

**To arrange interviews during these time slots, please contact us in advance.**

For interview opportunities, please contact:

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