

# THOMAS KENEALLY & ARI ROTH

## Public event

Thurs 5 July, 6:45 for 7 pm,  
State Library of Victoria,  
Village Roadshow Theatrette

\$25, \$18 VWC member

(generously supported by the  
State Library of Victoria)

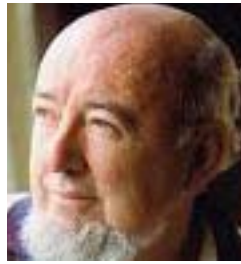
## Masterclass

Fri 6 July, 10 am to 1 pm,  
Glenfern 417 Inkerman Rd  
(cnr. Hotham St) St Kilda East

\$90, \$80 VWC member  
(includes lunch from 1-2 pm)

**Bookings:  
9654 9068**

Victorian Writers' Centre & Tashmadada present



**THOMAS  
KENEALLY  
& ARI ROTH**  
in conversation  
with **MARK BAKER**



Thomas Keneally and international guest, Ari Roth, playwright and Artistic Director of Washington DC's Theatre J, discuss Keneally's new play. *Either Or* had its world-premiere at Theatre J this year. The play is based on the real events of Kurt Gerstein, an evangelical Christian youth leader and SS officer who dared to attempt sabotage by alerting the West (even approaching the Pope) to what was transpiring under Nazi occupation.

Described as provocative, riveting and chilling Keneally reveals the tragic nature of a man's moral awakening. Keneally sees the play as a contemporary analogue to the many bureaucrats and technocrats in the Western world, including Australia. In describing the play, Ari Roth said, "In expurgating some of the most painful details of Holocaust history, Keneally finds a way to tell a cautionary tale for our times."

Keneally and Roth will discuss the nature of their collaboration and the themes of the play with Associate Professor Mark Baker, Monash Uni, who runs a Program in Holocaust and Genocide Studies, part of the Australian Centre for Jewish Civilisation.

**Thursday July 5th**, 7pm sharp until approximately 8:30 p.m.  
The State Library of Victoria Village Roadshow Theatrette  
Entry 3, La Trobe Street, Melbourne  
\$25/\$18 (VWC members) - Limited Seating – Book Early



**State Library  
of Victoria**  
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Victorian Writers' Centre & Tashmadada  
present

## Masterclass with Tom Keneally & Ari Roth

Thomas Keneally (*Schindler's Ark* and *The Chant of Jimmie Blacksmith*) and international guest, Ari Roth, playwright and Artistic Director of Washington DC's Theatre J, will talk to an intimate group of practitioners addressing the issue of 'Novel versus Script' writing.

The two have recently worked closely in collaboration on Keneally's newest script *Either Or*.

Ari Roth: *After first reading Either Or, I emailed Keneally to express my admiration, but also pointed to certain story-telling challenges I thought needed to be addressed.*

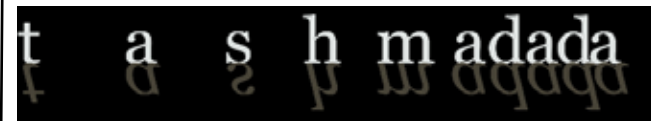
Thomas Keneally: *"Your notes had great resonance, and I would like to work along the lines you suggest to make the play immediate and intriguing. But above all, I am a bugger for exposition – and as you no doubt know, exposition is the besetting sin of novelists, and much easier to scrape by on in the novel than on stage."*

And so began a fruitful artistic collaboration that has resulted in a production described as powerful, bracing and provocative.

People attending this workshop should be published novelists and/or established theatre practitioners.

### Friday 6th July

10am – 1pm followed by lunch from 1-2 p.m.  
Glenfern Writers' Centre - East St Kilda  
\$90/ \$80 (VWC members) including lunch



About Tashmadada: In 2006 Deborah Leiser-Moore and Richard Zimmermann founded Tashmadada, a Contemporary Performance Company that is committed to bringing together Jewish artists, as well as providing a forum for discussion about the arts.