

# The Australian Women's Register

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**Entry type:** Person

**Entry ID:** AWE0095

## Spinner, Suzanne Sylvia

(1951 - )

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**Born** 11 November, 1951, Dromana Victoria Australia

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**Occupation** Critic, Playwright, Writer

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### Summary

Feminist playwright Suzanne Spinner's works include: *Not still lives*; *Edna for the garden*; *Running up a dress*; *Dragged Screaming to Paradise*; *Overcome by Chlorine*; *Radio for Help* and *The Ingkata's Wife*.

A founding member of the Home Cooking Theatre Company, in 1987 Spinner moved with her family to Darwin and established Paradise Productions. A board member of The Australian National Playwrights Centre, in Sydney, and 24 HR ART: the Northern Territory Centre for Contemporary Art, she has been the recipient of Fellowships from the Literature Board of The Australian Council in 1988, 1991 and 1994. Both *Dragged Screaming to Paradise* and *The Ingkata's Wife* were highly commended by The Jessie Litchfield Award for Northern Territory Literature.

## Events

### **1977 - 1978**

Co-ordinator of the feminist journal *Lip*

### **1987 - 1987**

With family moved to Darwin

### **1994 - 1994**

One of 12 playwrights chosen to represent Australia at the 3rd International Women Playwrights' Conference in Adelaide

### **1988 - 1988**

Recipient of a Fellowship from The Literature Board of The Australia Council

### **1991 - 1991**

Recipient of a Fellowship from The Literature Board of The Australia Council

### **1994 - 1994**

Recipient of a Fellowship from The Literature Board of The Australia Council

### **1977 - 1979**

Senior tutor at Deakin University

### **1978 - 1978**

Seconded to Open University in the United Kingdom

### **1978 - 1980**

Film and theatre reviews, articles and interviews in journals and magazines

### **1979 - 1979**

Conducted a weekly radio programme on theatre for 3RRR FM

### **1975 - 1975**

Co-ordinator of the International Women's Film Festival in Melbourne

### **1972 - 1972**

Graduated BA Hons from the University of Melbourne

### **1973 - 1973**

Graduated Dip Ed from the University of Melbourne

### **1979 - 1979**

Married Ian Gray (later Chief Magistrate of Victoria), they have 2 children

### **1980 - 1980**

Lecturer in Australian studies and theatre for the School of Drama at the Victorian College of the Arts

### **1979 - 1979**

Victorian editor of *Theatre Australia*

### **1976 - 1978**

Reviewer of the *Melbourne Times*

### **1981 - 1981**

Reviewer of the *Melbourne Times*

## Published resources

### Play

Running up a dress, a mother daughter dialogue, Spinner, Suzanne, 1988

Dragged screaming to paradise, Spinner, Suzanne, 1994

Not still lives: a play and an exhibition about Margaret Preston and Thea Proctor, Spinner, Suzanne, 1989

Edna for the garden, Spinner, Suzanne, 1989

Safe 'n sound : the driver as mother, Spinner, Suzanne, 1989

### Edited Book

Who's Who of Australian Women, Lofthouse, Andrea, 1982

Australian women's drama : texts and feminisms, Tait, Peta, 1953- and Schafer, Elizabeth, 1959-, 1997

### Videorecording

Tea and pictures, Spinner, Suzanne, 1989

### Resource

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

## Archival resources

### Special Collections, Academy Library, UNSW@ADFA

[Suzanne Spinner manuscript collection](#)

### Fryer Library and Department of Special Collections

[Dragged...screaming to paradise by Suzanne Spinner.](#)

### Author Details

Elle Morrell

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