



Although tempered by the Victorian bush fire tragedy, the launch of the book "Native Born"- songs of Neil Murray was well received at the Writers at The Convent, Readers Fest in Abbotsford on Sunday February 15th.

Billy Pinnell conducted an interview interspersed with Neil performing a few songs, then Martin Flanagan completed the proceedings with a fine speech praising Neil's body of work. Martin revealed some of his personal favourite Neil Murray songs as being- High On A Hill, Tom Wills Would, Lights of Hay, Melbourne Town, Myall Creek, Over the Moon, Sing Your Destiny, Far Away and Where My people Go.

The following is an excerpt of Martin's speech:

"Just a dot on a great trackless plain, thinking I was home."

"It's all there – the lonely epic that has been Neil Murray's journey could be a metaphor for our nation in its quest to feel at home in this strange land which, once again, in the wake of last weekend's fires, suddenly seems hostile to us".

A complete transcript of Martin Flanagan's book launch speech will be posted on the website soon.

Reminding all Melbourne based supporters to get along to Neil Murray's show at the Oakleigh bowling Club this Friday March 6th 2009. He will be performing solo and with a band.

For the rest of this month Neil has commitments to the Healing walk and the Lake Bolac Eel festival on March 28th where he will be delivering a set with a band comprised of musicians from South West Victoria.

Please support this fabulous little festival on the shores of the now dry lake. It promises to be great day's activities. See www.eelfestival.org.au and attached poster for line-up details.

John King

www.neilmurray.com.au

www.myspace.com/neilmurraymusic

island.home.music@bigpond.com



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