

BYRON WRITERS FESTIVAL 2020 SCHOOLS PROGRAM

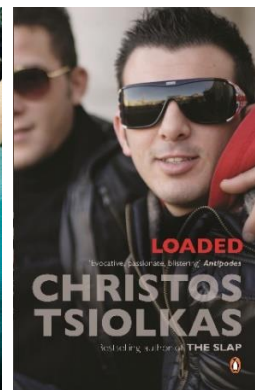
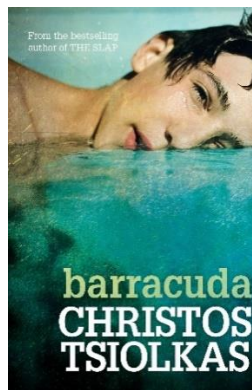
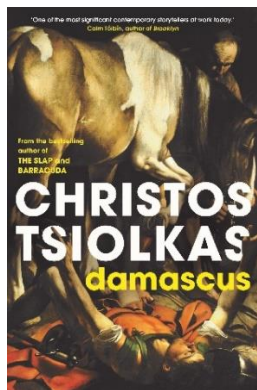
Teacher Resources

Curated by Southern Cross University

Session Title

Finding Your Unique Writing Style and Voice

Christos Tsiolkas in conversation with Benjamin Law



About the author

Christos Tsiolkas is the author of six novels including the international bestseller *The Slap* and *Barracuda*. His most recent novel is *Damascus*. He lives in Melbourne.

Relevant titles:

- *Damascus* (2019)
- *Barracuda* (2015)
- *Loaded* (2011)

Curriculum guidelines for teacher resources

Curriculum Links: English

General Capabilities: Literacy, Critical and creative thinking, Ethical understanding, Intercultural understanding

Suitable for: Stages 5-6/ Grades 9-12

Activities and resources

The following activities and resources provide a link between the texts *Barracuda*, *Loaded* and *Damascus* and the application of related topics such as sexuality, faith and doubt, belonging, family, adversity and cultural identity presented in classroom and educational contexts.

Do:

- Read and discuss related ideas presented in the following texts:
 - Christos Tsiolkos interview in *The Guardian*:
<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2019/nov/22/christos-tsiolkos-on-jesus-sex-and-the-power-of-doubt-i-get-shivers-when-i-think-about-it>
 - *Sydney Review of Books* – The Australian Face: *Barracuda* by Christos Tsiolkas:
<https://sydneyreviewofbooks.com/review/the-australian-face/>
 - Allen and Unwin, Reading Group Notes: *Barracuda* – Points for discussion:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1gYhZ7Gc27coZ_knxixZ2JjLiDOw14o_j/view

Watch:

- Annabel Crabb interviews Christos Tsiolkas on ABC TV 7.30 Report:
<https://www.abc.net.au/7.30/race-and-racism-drive-tsiolkas-after-the-slap/5030010>

Listen:

- *ABC Radio National* interview feat Christos Tsiolkas - Christos Tsiolkos gives a masterclass on the art of writing – on Big Weekend of Books:
<https://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/specialbroadcasts/big-weekend-of-books-christos-tsiolkas-sarah-lestrange/12295946>
- *The Garret* podcast featuring Christos Tsiolkas, *Writers on Writing*:
<https://thegarretpodcast.com/christos-tsiolkas-live/> **(language and content warning – teachers advised to listen first)**

Note for teachers: If you encounter problems accessing the links, make sure you are logged into the G Suite app on the DoE portal before opening them. You may have to restart your computer for this action to be effective. At the time of publication the third party links contained in these resources have been checked for suitability, however we advise teachers to review the content independently. These resources are intended to be used as a guide only.