

Actorsfor Refugees

bring to life
stories that
unite us

Artists have a history of speaking out against the abuse of human rights throughout the world. Actors, at their best, bring to life stories that unite us as human beings and that transcend political agendas.

Actors for Refugees (AFR), founded by Kate Atkinson and Alice Garner in September 2001, is an informal network of actors ready to use their performance skills and their public profile to tell the stories of people fleeing terrible conditions to seek shelter in our country.

As Australian citizens, we are deeply concerned about our government's policies on asylum seekers and the opposition's unwillingness to take a moral stand against them. We are appalled that they have won support for these policies by fuelling unreasonable fears in our community.

As actors, we have an established and privileged relationship with this community. AFR will reach out to Australian audiences by finding creative ways to humanise this increasingly politicised issue. To counter prejudicial media coverage, we will also work with other community groups to direct people towards independent and credible information. In these ways, we will encourage Australians to ask what kind of country they want to be part of, and to demand from our leaders a sustainable and far-reaching humanitarian vision in our name.

Let's give voice to the persecuted men, women and children who are being locked up and turned away by a nation that considers itself "compassionate".

If you would like to join our campaign in any capacity, or require further information, please visit our website; **www.actorsforrefugees.org**

Some of the actors who have supported us to date include: Tom Long, Claudia Karvan, John Howard, Annie Phelan, John Wood, Joel Edgerton, Corinne Grant, Genevieve Picot, Kevin Harrington, Rachael Maza, Caroline Craig, Sacha Horler, Rupert Reid, Georgina Naidu, Kate Beahan.