



You and your guests are invited to

Ching Chong China Girl

From fruitshop to foreign correspondent

by Helene Chung

launched by Max Angus



at 5.30pm

on Thursday 22 May 2008

Hobart Bookshop

22 Salamanca Square, Hobart Tasmania 7000

Phone: (03) 6223 1803

A hilarious and bittersweet memoir of growing up different in a very eccentric but traditional Chinese-Tasmanian family.

Warning: Not to be read by convent girls not wearing their gloves.

'Ching Chong Chinaman' girls taunted Helene Chung in her Catholic school playground in 1950s Hobart. An Australian-born Chinese, Helene not only dealt with being different from her blonde-haired blue-eyed classmates at St Mary's College but suffered the shame of having divorced parents. And she kept a shocking secret - her mother, Miss Henry, was a nude model, who also lived in sin with a foreign devil and drove a red MG.

Surviving the embarrassment of childhood, Helene discovered the thrill of the stage, fell into journalism, became the first non-white reporter on Australian TV and the ABC's first female foreign correspondent. *Ching Chong China Girl* is filled with honesty, humour, love and loss, and gives insight into life that traverses cultures East and West.

Helene, a former Beijing correspondent, is a honorary research fellow at Monash Asia Institute, Melbourne, and author of *Shouting from China*, *Gentle John My Love My Loss* and *Lazy Man in China*.

Publicity enquiries to Louise Cornege
on (02)8333 3982 or cornege.louise@abc.net.au

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