

La Trobe University Press

Media Release

# It's Alive!

## Artificial Intelligence from the Logic Piano to Killer Robots

Toby Walsh

Artificial Intelligence has made the world what it is today. But where will it take us in the future? *It's Alive!* is a survey of the technology we can't afford to ignore.

The development of thinking machines is an adventure as bold and ambitious as any that humans have attempted. And the truth is that Artificial Intelligence is already an indispensable part of our daily lives. Without it, Google wouldn't find out whatever you need to know. Your smartphone would be . . . just a phone.

We know AI technologies will continue to change society, but how? Will AI destroy our jobs? Could it even pose an existential threat? What should we be doing now to prepare for the future?

In this new book, Toby Walsh provides a fascinating survey of Artificial Intelligence for the general reader: where it came from, the state of the art today, and where it will take us tomorrow. His ten predictions of what AI will have achieved by 2050 will surprise you! Walsh discusses how AI will transform our societies, our economies and even ourselves, and what we can do about this.

**Toby Walsh** is one of the world's leading researchers in Artificial Intelligence, and has spent his life dreaming about and researching machines that might think. He is Professor of Artificial Intelligence at the University of New South Wales and leads a research group at Data61, Australia's Centre of Excellence for ICT Research. He has been elected a fellow of the Association for the



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Advancement of AI for his contributions to the field, and has won the prestigious Humboldt research award. He has previously held research positions in England, Scotland, France, Germany, Italy, Ireland and Sweden.

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