2015 HIGHLIGHTS

CONFIDENTIAL

UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND PRESS
INNOVATION INSPIRATION IMAGINATION

PUBLICATION DETAILS ARE CORRECT AS OF 10 DECEMBER 2014 BUT ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE
A striking new collection of poetry from highly acclaimed poet and novelist

Open House reveals Brook’s award-winning talent as a writer and imaginative scholar. The poems in this volume take a number of forms, drifting between nature and philosophy, evoking a meditative quality that is both contemplative and full of grace. Spare and honed, Brooks’ poems range in scale, from investigations into microscopic detail observing the smallest creatures and textures underfoot - stepped over, left in peace in the harmonious ‘open house’ - to the telescopic, revealing the smallness of human endeavour from a thoughtful distance. This much anticipated new volume is invigorated by new love and is at once powerful, resonant and unreserved.

PRAISE FOR THE BALCONY (2008)

‘The result is The Balcony, with some 70 luminous, highly sensual love poems as well as several elegant hymns to moments of discovery and wonder scattered through them, all leavened by some sharp political satire and ironic wit. It is an electric performance.’
SYDNEY MORNING HERALD

‘Fresh from the esteem rightfully accorded to his demanding novel, The Fern Tattoo, David Brooks has had published his fourth volume of verse, The Balcony. Brooks commands a poetic style that is energetic, exacting, but also happy to be plain.’
CANBERRA TIMES

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY

DAVID BROOKS, poet, novelist, essayist and translator, is co-editor of Southerly and until recently was Associate Professor of Australian Literature and Director of the Writing Program at the University of Sydney. His latest books are The Sons of Clovis: Ern Malley, Adoré Floupette and a Secret History of Australian Poetry (UQP 2011), and his fourth novel, The Conversation (UQP 2012). A Vegan and animal rights advocate, he lives in the Blue Mountains and, when he can, on the coast of Slovenia.
Twenty-year-old Ted lives with his father, the local magistrate, in the small coastal town of Lion’s Head. All Ted knows about his mother is that she died when he was a boy, and that his father – despite moving halfway across the world to start anew – still grieves for her privately.

When he is hospitalised after a swimming accident, Ted meets Anthony and Claire, and is immediately captivated by the older pair. Intelligent and perspicacious, they introduce him to poetry and art, and he feels a sense of belonging at last. But as the trio’s friendship intensifies over the years, Ted must learn to negotiate the boundaries of love, and come to terms with a legacy of secrets and silence.

PRAISE FOR THE PROMISE OF ICELAND

‘A memorable, finely crafted book.’ SATURDAY AGE

‘A powerful memoir about landscape and identity.’ ADELAIDE ADVERTISER

‘A deeply charming account of displacement, of not really knowing where you come from and how that makes it difficult to know where you belong.’ SUNDAY MAIL

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY

KÁRI GÍSLASON is a memoirist, travel writer and creative writing teacher. He has taught English Literature and Writing at the University of Iceland, the University of Queensland, and Bond University, and currently lectures in Creative Writing and Literary Studies at QUT. His first book, The Promise of Iceland, (UQP, 2011) told the story of his secret Icelandic family history and his journey to know his father.
DAMON YOUNG & PETER CARNAVAS

MY POP IS A PIRATE

On the heels of the popular My Nanna is a Ninja comes the second picture book from a talented author and illustrator duo, this time celebrating our much-loved pops.

Some pops scream ‘Huzzah!’
when they dive in dazzling pools.
But my pop is a pirate …
he yells ‘Aaarrggghh!’ and buries jewels.

All pops are different. But what if your pop was really different?
What if your pop was a … pirate?

A vibrant and comical picture book that celebrates pops everywhere in poetic prose.

PRAISE FOR MY NANNA IS A NINJA

‘Oh, but this book is fun!’ KIDS’ BOOK REVIEW

‘Celebrating difference in simple rhymes, it’s a funny look at challenging stereotypes.’ SUNDAY AGE

‘A laugh aloud picture book that celebrates how unique, vibrant and special all nannas are. Lots of fun!’ LITTLE FRIENDS

‘A great story to read aloud with its rhymes and rhythms. Carnavas’s illustrations burst with colour and movement.’ BUZZ WORDS

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY

DAMON YOUNG is a philosopher and writer. He's the author of several popular nonfiction books, including Distraction, Philosophy in the Garden and How to Think About Exercise. Damon's books have been published internationally, and translated into several languages, including Dutch, Spanish and Turkish. He lives in Melbourne with his wife, Ruth, and two editors (also known as children). www.damonyoung.com.

ILLUSTRATOR BIOGRAPHY

PETER CARNAVAS grew up in Queensland. His first book, Jessica's Box, was shortlisted for the 2008 Queensland Premier's Literary Award and the 2009 CBCA Crichton Award for Emerging Illustrators. He has since written and illustrated many picture books, which have been translated into German, Italian, Portuguese and Dutch. Peter lives on the Sunshine Coast with his wife, two daughters and a scruffy dog that occasionally escapes. www.petercarnavas.com
The much-awaited sequel to Age Non-fiction Book of the Year winner Ten Hail Marys

Indigenous author Kate Howarth's extraordinary life story began with Ten Hail Marys, which detailed her disadvantaged childhood and her teenage pregnancy and battle to keep her son in the era of forced adoption. Her extraordinary story continues in Settling Day (April 2015) as the loss of her infant son at the age of 19 drives her to succeed. She climbs the corporate ladder, makes and loses fortunes, survives tragedy, injury and bad relationships, all the while fighting injustice and prejudice to reclaim her son.

PRAISE FOR TEN HAIL MARYS

‘A frank account filled with dark humour owing much of its power to an honest compulsion to finally reveal her tale.’ SYDNEY MORNING HERALD

‘She writes without self-pity and with a robust sense of humour.’ AGE

‘A powerful memoir ... It is a harrowing read.’ SUNDAY AGE

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY

KATE HOWARTH was born in Sydney in 1950 and grew up in Sydney's Darlington and Parramatta, and far western New South Wales. At the age of fifty-two she began writing her memoir, Ten Hail Marys, which in 2008 was shortlisted for the David Unaipon Award for Indigenous writers. After publication it won the Age Book of the Year - Non-fiction and was shortlisted for the Victorian Premier's Literary Awards. Settling Day is her second volume of memoir.
It must mean something, a dream that can propel you to the other side of the world. Couldn’t it be the heart wanting something it needs, this longing for elsewhere? After all, we are all strangers wandering around this planet, apparently lost most of the time, looking for something or someone – or some place.

What does it mean to fulfil a dream long after it seems possible? When Patti Miller arrives to write in Paris for a year, the world glows ‘as if the light that comes after the sun has gone down has spilled gold on everything’.

But wasn’t that just romantic illusion? Miller grew up on Wiradjuri land in country Australia where her heart and soul belonged. Mother of grown-up boys with lives of their own, what did she think she would find in Paris that she couldn’t find at home?

She turns to French writers, Montaigne, Rousseau, de Beauvoir and other memoirists, each one intent on knowing the self through gazing into the ‘looking glass’ of the great world. They accompany her as she wanders the streets of Paris – they even have coffee together – and they talk about love, suffering, desire, motherhood, truth-telling, memory, the writing journey, how to know who we are in the family and in the cultures that shape us.

This story, of a year spent writing and reading in Paris, explores truth and illusion, self-knowledge and identity – and evokes the beauty, the contradictions and the daily life of contemporary Paris.

PRAISE FOR THE MIND OF A THIEF

‘Miller produces compelling prose ... beautifully rendered and perceptively evoked’. 
**AUSTRALIAN BOOK REVIEW**

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY

KAREN LAMB
INVENTING HER OWN WEATHER:
A BIOGRAPHY OF THEA ASTLEY

The Australian literary biography of the year

Inventing Her Own Weather is the long-overdue biography of beloved Australian author Thea Astley (1925–2004). Over a fifty-year writing career, Astley published more than a dozen novels and short story collections, including The Acolyte, The Slow Natives and, finally, Drylands in 1999. She was the first person to win multiple Miles Franklin awards – she won four. With many of her works published internationally, Astley was a trailblazer for women writers. In her personal life, she was renowned for her dry wit, eccentricity and compassion.

Karen Lamb has drawn on an unparalleled range of interviews and correspondence to create a detailed picture of Thea the woman, as well as Astley the writer. She has sought to understand Astley’s private world and how that shaped the distinctive body of work that is Thea Astley’s literary legacy.

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY

KAREN LAMB teaches literature and communication at the Australian Catholic University and has held teaching and research positions at the University of Queensland, Monash University and the University of Melbourne where she taught in literary studies, media and communication and cultural studies. Her research interests include Australian literature, life writing, and the cultural context of authorship. She has edited a book of Australian short stories, and published book chapters and articles on Australian authors, including a book on Peter Carey. She lives in Sydney.
A fascinating account of what happens when ancient culture meets modern media

Tucked between Tibet and India in the Himalayas, the kingdom of Bhutan is one of the most isolated countries in the world. With its extraordinary beauty and unique culture, it has been mythologised as Shangri-La by many in the West.

In The Dragon’s Voice, journalist Bunty Avieson provides a rare glimpse beyond the country’s exotic exterior. She chronicles the twelve months she spends as a media consultant to The Bhutan Observer, a fledgling local newspaper with inexperienced staff but distinctive editorial values. As she advises the proprietors on how to run the paper, and teaches journalists to craft a news story, she witnesses the nation’s transition to democracy and the tensions that arise as it opens itself up to the wider world. How can deference to authority be reconciled with the need to ask hard questions of our leaders? What place does activism have in a culture that prioritises peace?

Vividly and incisively written, The Dragon’s Voice is a fascinating account of a country on the cusp of revolutionary change. Set at the dawn of the Information Age in Bhutan, it is also an insightful commentary on the power of the media in our modern world.

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY

BUNTY AVIESON is a journalist, author and media scholar. She has published three novels, a novella and travel memoir; been translated into Japanese, German and Thai; and is the recipient of two Ned Kelly Crime Writing Awards. In the 1990s she was editorial director of mass market women's magazines, Woman's Day and New Idea. She is currently on staff in the Department of Media and Communications at the University of Sydney.
JANE CARO
JUST A QUEEN

The refreshing and enthralling second young adult book in the trilogy about one of history’s greatest women.

How on earth did a young woman, with a disputed claim to the English throne, rise above and stamp her authority on her all-male government and the English population?

Following on from Just a Girl (2011), Just a Queen is written from Queen Elizabeth I’s perspective as she attempts to make sense of doing something she swore she’d never do: behead an anointed Queen.

As she attempts to understand the path that has brought her to this terrible moment, Elizabeth muses over her thwarted romances, her various suitors, her relationships with her courtiers, her near death from smallpox and – most crucially and intimately – her troubled relationship with Mary Queen of Scots.

PRAISE FOR JUST A GIRL

‘Her elegantly rendered portrait draws out the horror and honour of Elizabeth’s formative years in an era when power and life itself were momentary fortunes.’ SUN HERALD

‘This confident and well-structured novel draws the reader in almost immediately.’ SYDNEY MORNING HERALD ‘Pick of the Week’

‘This is elegant historical fiction, deserving – but not depending on – a sequel.’ WEEKEND AUSTRALIAN

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY

JANE CARO wears many hats, including author, novelist, mentor, social commentator, columnist, speaker, broadcaster and award winning advertising writer. The common thread running through her career is a delight in words and a talent for using them to connect with other people.

Today, Jane runs her own communications consultancy and is a sought after speaker, panel facilitator, MC and media personality. She appears regularly on Channel 7 Sunrise and Weekend Sunrise and was a regular panelist on the ABC’s top rating Gruen Transfer. She has appeared frequently on a host of other shows including Q&A, The Nation, The Drum, and The Project. She also wrote, produced and presented a six-part radio series on RN’s iconic Life Matters program For Better, For Worse which aired in 2013.

2015 HIGHLIGHTS
NOVA WEETMAN
FRANKIE AND JOELY

Young Adult | 978 0 7022 5363 8 | May 2015 | B-format paperback | $19.95 | Author location: Brunswick, VIC

A magnetic young adult novel about friendship, rivalry and the heartache of new love.

Frankie and Joely are best friends. At the age of fifteen they share the things most teenage girls share. Until now …

Staying with Joely’s relatives in the small town of Payne for their summer holiday, Frankie and Joely have grand plans. Frankie dreams of flirting with Joely’s cute cousins and working on her tan. Joely wants to escape her controlling mother and finally introduce Frankie to the people she loves.

Neither of them expects to meet a boy who has plans of his own …

Catch your breath on this novel from an unflinchingly honest Australian voice.

PRAISE FOR THE HAUNTING OF LILY FROST

‘Weetman’s deft, chilling prose moves us compulsively through this enthralling novel.’

AUSTRALIAN BOOK REVIEW

‘An atmospheric debut. The novel’s mild supernatural chills are well balanced with real-world drama.’

BOOKS + PUBLISHING

‘A gripping ghost story.’

READPLUS

‘Lily’s story gave me chills … a fun, entertaining, and spooky YA novel.’

THE BOOKISH MANICURIST

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY

NOVA WEETMAN’S prose has appeared in various literary magazines including Kill Your Darlings, Island, Tirra Lirra, Wet Ink, Mslexia and Overland. She has written for the children’s television series Fixel Pinkie and Buzz Bumble and wrote the short films Ripples and Mr Wasinski’s Song for which she received an AWGIE nomination for best short screenplay, and the Best Short Film Award from the Melbourne International Film Festival. She has also won the HarperCollins Fellowship and the FAW Award for Best Unpublished Manuscript. Nova lives with her partner, a playwright, and their two children in a falling-down house in Melbourne. The Haunting of Lily Frost was her first novel for young adults.

www.novaweetman.com.au

2015 HIGHLIGHTS

UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND PRESS
UQP Marketing & Publicity Manager:
Meredene Hill
07 3346 7932 (direct)
07 3365 2435 (reception)
0401 575 143 (mobile)
meredeneh@uqp.uq.edu.au