

gleebooks gleaner

Vol. 19 No. 10
November 2012

news views reviews
new releases events calendar



Farewell to 2012

It's always difficult writing about a year in books in mid October, particularly when some of the best is yet to come. I haven't yet got my hands on the new Alice Munro *Dear Life* (November) and Colm Tóibín, Oliver Sacks, Julian Barnes, Ian Rankin and Tim Flannery all have new offerings. But 2012 has been rich pickings for the keen reader already, and the turmoil in the book industry which preoccupies we beleaguered booksellers has, thankfully, no impact on the quality or range or originality of writing. Australian publishing continues to look very healthy, with much to be proud of. The awards latterly given to Bill Gammage for *The Biggest Estate on Earth* and Mark McKenna for his biography of Manning Clark reminded me of just what good books they are, and the fiction lists are just as rewarding: Chloe Hooper, Carrie Tiffany and Toni Jordan's new novels are all terrific.

As an 'end of year Gleaner special' we've two signed copies of major new international fiction to offer as a prize to our readers, We have *Sweet Tooth* by Ian McEwan (hardcover) and *Joseph Anton: a Memoir* by Salman Rushdie. It's simple to enter: just buy a book from the November *Gleaner* and ask to go in the draw, which will be done at the end of November.

I couldn't end the year without yet another plug for the Indigenous Literacy Foundation and a fund raiser which I'm sure you'd enjoy if you're in a position to make it. On Wednesday November 14th at Souths Leagues Club in Chalmers St, Redfern (7.00 pm, cheap food and drinks, and \$30.00 entry fee) we're having a Trivia Night—all of the questions will be literature-related. It will be lots of fun, so book a table, come on your own, or come with a friend, and enjoy the camaraderie whilst raising some funds. To book, just go to <<http://www.moshtix.com.au/event.aspx?id=60773&ref=ilfrivia>> and if you'd like more information about ILF go to indigenoussliteracyfoundation.org.au

Thanks for 2012 and best wishes for Christmas and 2013.

David Gaunt

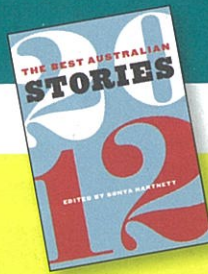


SIGNED COPIES

I don't like to gloat but you heard it predicted first in the October *Gleaner*. What will they do with *Mirror and the Light*—give her a Booker of Bookers?

For those who haven't taken the journey yet, we have *Wolf Hall* in paperback for \$19.95. *Bring up the Bodies* is available in trade paperback at the special price of \$27.95 (from \$32.95), and for the true Mantel lover, we have signed bookplate hardcover editions of *Bring up the Bodies* for the special price of \$34.95 (from \$39.95).

Congratulations to Gleeclubber, Andrew Graham, who wins the Booker Competition and a set of the 2012 short list. He didn't pick Mantel as winner, but neither did anyone else (except ... but you know I don't like to gloat. (ed)

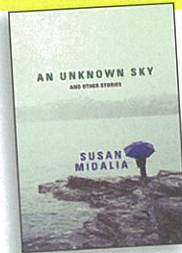


Coming in November

The Best Australian Stories 2012 (ed) Sonya Hartnett, \$29.99

The Best Australian Essays 2012 (ed) Ramona Koval, \$29.99

The Best Australian Poems 2012 (ed) John Tranter, \$24.99



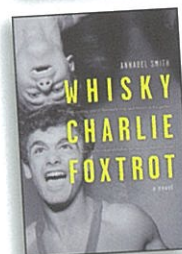
An Unknown Sky: and other stories by Susan Midalia

Susan Midalia's 2nd collection of short stories offers a compelling variety of characters, all of them 'travellers' in search of connection and belonging. Tourists in Moscow and Vienna confronted by the weight of history. A young student teacher discovering her capacity for compassion. A teenage boy defending his mother's reputation. A brother anguished by his sister's illness. A widow infatuated with a troubled young man. All about ordinary people and the secrets and fears that lie beneath the cracked veneer of domesticity and suburban complacency, these stories invite the reader to reflect on the longings and regrets that make up who we are. (\$24.95, PB)



Griffith Review 38: The Annual Fiction Edition, The Novella Project (ed) Julianne Schultz (\$27.99, PB)

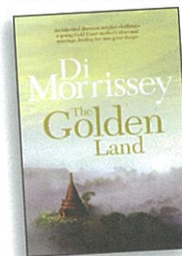
Shorter than a novel, longer than a story, the novella is the perfect length to read on the page or as an e-book. *The Novella Project* is a competition, generously supported by the Copyright Agency to find the best new works from Australia and New Zealand. Eminent judges are choosing from several hundred submissions by well-known and emerging authors. *Griffith REVIEW* hopes this will produce new classics to add to the list of famous novellas like *Animal Farm*, *Breakfast at Tiffany's* and *Goodbye Columbus*.



WHISKY, CHARLIE, FOXTROT by Annabel Smith

It is less than twenty-four hours since Charlie received the phone call from his mother and in those hours his only thought has been that *Whisky must not die. He must not die because he, Charlie, needs more time. He and Whisky have not been friends, have not talked or laughed together for months, years. But he has never thought it will end like this. He has always thought there will be time.* Whisky and Charlie are identical twins. But everything about them is poles apart. It's got so

bad that Charlie can't even bear to talk to his brother anymore—until a freak accident steals Whisky from his family, and Charlie has to face the fact he may never speak to his brother again. (\$24.99, PB)



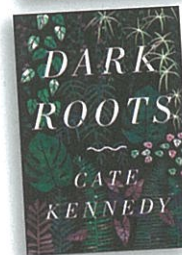
The Golden Land by Di Morrissey

Natalie is a young Gold Coast mother with a loving husband, two small children and a happy lifestyle. While helping her mother move house, she finds a little box containing a Burmese artefact. When Natalie learns its unique history through a letter left by her great-great uncle, it ignites an interest in its country of origin and her uncle's unfulfilled plans for this curio. Her investigations collide with her own dramatically changing circumstances and create a catalyst for a moral dilemma that challenges the core of her marriage as she finds herself immersed in two very different golden lands. (\$32.99, PB)



Sisters of Mercy by Caroline Overington (\$32.95, PB)

Snow Delaney was born a generation and a world away from her sister, Agnes. Until recently, neither even knew of the other's existence. They came together only for the reading of their father's will—when Snow discovered, to her horror, that she was not the sole beneficiary of his large estate. Now Snow is in prison and Agnes is missing, disappeared in the eerie red dust that blanketed Sydney from dawn on September 23, 2009. Snow turns to crime journalist Jack Fawcett, protesting her innocence in a series of defiant letters from prison. But will Jack's own research reveal a story even more shocking than the one Snow wants to tell?



Dark Roots by Cate Kennedy (\$22.95, PB)

Cate Kennedy's stories are populated by people at tipping points in their lives—moments that find them poised between a familiar past and an unfamiliar future. In *The Testosterone Club*, a neglected wife plans an unsavoury revenge on her boorish husband. In *Resize*, a married couple realise their too-tight wedding rings may symbolise wider aspects of their relationship. And in *Cold Snap*, a young boy senses that the newly arrived tree changer may have some sinister intents. Heartbreaking & richly comic, *Dark Roots* unveils the traumas that incite us to desperate measures, and the coincidences that drive our lives. 'Cate Kennedy writes with warm understanding and cold precision of a master. A dazzling collection.'—David Malou

Sewn in the Sweatshops of Marx: Beuys, Warhol, Klein, Duchamp (\$26.95, PB)

by Thierry de Duve

Joseph Beuys, Andy Warhol, Yves Klein, and Marcel Duchamp form an unlikely quartet, but they each played a singular role in shaping a new avant-garde for the 1960s and beyond. Each of them staged brash, even shocking, events and produced works that challenged the way the mainstream art world operated and thought about itself. Philosopher Thierry de Duve binds these artists through another connection: the mapping of the aesthetic field onto political economy. With Karl Marx providing the red thread tying these 4 essays together de Duve sees in Beuys, who imagined a new economic system where creativity, not money, was the true capital, the incarnation of the last of the proletarians; he carries forward Warhol's desire to be a machine of mass production and draws the consequences for aesthetic theory; he calls Klein, who staked a claim on pictorial space as if it were a commodity, 'the dead dealer; and he reads Duchamp as the witty financier who holds the secret of artistic exchange value.

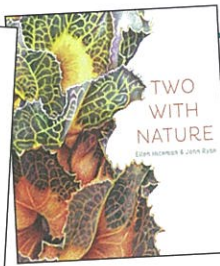
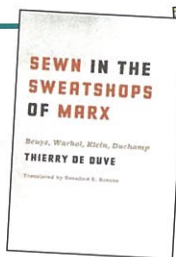
Vermeer: The Complete Paintings

by Walter Liedtke (\$90, HB)

Johannes Vermeer (1632–1675) is generally admired today as one of the greatest European painters, for centuries his personality has been enveloped in a veil of mystery, which has made it difficult to situate his work properly & to assess its worth fully. His private life and religion, his supposed use of a camera obscura, and the fact that his teacher has not been identified have all contributed to the mystery of 'an isolated genius'. Walter Liedtke presents new discoveries placing the painter in the context of the Delft school as a whole and of Delft society, portraying a master whose rare sensibility & extraordinary powers of observation may be described but not explained.

Bauhaus: Art as Life by Catherine Ince

This book explores the diverse artistic production and turbulent 14-year history of the modern world's most famous art school. Accompanying the biggest Bauhaus exhibition in the United Kingdom in more than 40 years, this catalogue features a rich array of painting, sculpture, design, architecture, film, photography, textiles, ceramics, theatre and installation, ranging from the school's Expressionist beginnings to its pioneering utopian model of uniting art and technology in order to change society in the aftermath of the First World War. Exemplary works from such Bauhaus masters as Josef and Anni Albers, Marianne Brandt, Marcel Breuer, Walter Gropius, Johannes Itten, Wassily Kandinsky, Paul Klee, Hannes Meyer, Laszlo Moholy-Nagy, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe and Gunta Stolzl are presented alongside works by lesser-known artist masters and Bauhaus students. A range of specially commissioned essays trace the life of the school from its founding by Walter Gropius in Weimar in 1919 to its dramatic closure in 1933 by the Nazis. The catalogue also includes a series of original writings by Bauhaus artists, drawn from previously published texts and personal correspondence. (\$70, HB)

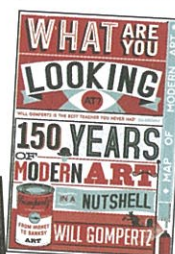


Two With Nature: Illustrated Wildflowers of South-West Australia (\$35, HB)

by Ellen Hickman & John Ryan

Ellen Hickman is an illustrator and botanical scientist who captures the natural world in layers of fine detail and colour. John Ryan is a writer whose botanical poetry explores what he calls the inherently mysterious nature of the plant world. Fusing art and science, words and images, *Two with Nature* stimulates new ways of knowing the green world.

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What Are You Looking At?: 150 Years of Modern Art in the Blink of an Eye by Will Gompertz

What is modern art? Why do we either love it or loathe it? And why is it worth so much damn money? Join Will Gompertz, the BBC Arts Editor, and probably the world's first art history stand-up comedian, on a dazzling tour that will change the way you look at modern art forever. From Monet's water lilies to Van Gogh's sunflowers, from Warhol's soup cans to Hirst's pickled shark, hear the stories behind the masterpieces, meet the artists as they really were, and discover the real point of modern art. (\$39.99, PB)



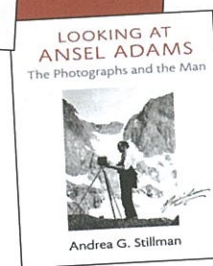
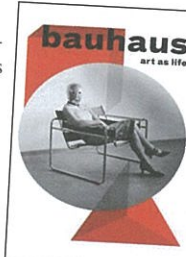
Collectomania: From Objects of Desire to Magnificent Obsession by Claudia Chan Shaw

Inveterate collector & host of ABC TV's *The Collectors*, Claudia Chan Shaw takes readers on a journey through various collections—vintage wine, Superman cards, record covers, old jewellery and so many other things. With humour and affection she explains the motives behind the collections, shares tips on how to collect for novices and shows the difference between a mere hoarder and someone who truly has collectomania. (\$35, PB)



Fit: An Architect's Manifesto by Robert Geddes

Fit is a manifesto about architecture and society that seeks to fundamentally change how architects and the public think about the task of design. Robert Geddes argues that buildings, landscapes, and cities should be designed to fit: fit the purpose, fit the place, fit future possibilities. Fit replaces old paradigms, such as form follows function, and less is more, by recognising that the relationship between architecture and society is a true dialogue—dynamic, complex, and, if carried out with knowledge and skill, richly rewarding. (\$28.95, HB)



Looking at Ansel Adams: The Photographs and the Man by Andrea G. Stillman (\$55, HB)

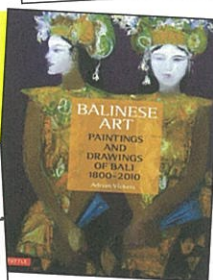
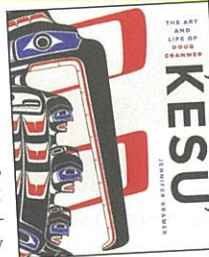
This is a personal and penetrating study that explores Ansel Adams' life as an artist by looking closely at the stories behind 20 of his most significant images. Andrea Stillman uses ancillary photographs, alternative versions, and letters and postcards that relate to immediately recognisable photographs like *Moonrise, Hernandez, New Mexico*, and *Mount McKinley and Wonder Lake* to see them from a new angle. Less familiar but equally important photographs provide unexpected insight into Adams' creative and personal life.

Now in paperback:

The Last Pre-Raphaelite: Edward Burne-Jones and the Victorian Imagination by Fiona MacCarthy, \$35

Kesu: The Art and Life of Doug Cranmer by Jennifer Kramer (\$59.99, PB)

Northwest Coast Kwakwaka'wakw art is renowned for its flamboyant, energetic, and colourful carving and painting. Among the best-known practitioners was Doug Cranmer, whose style was understated, elegant, fresh, and unique, and whose work quickly found an international following in the 1960s, and his abstract painting series from 1974–76 is still regarded as ground-breaking in contemporary Northwest Coast modern art today. He was an early player in the global, commercial art market and one of the first Native artists in British Columbia to own his own gallery. The book is written not as a scholarly art treatise but as he is remembered by friends, family, and the students who knew him best.



Balinese Art: Paintings and Drawings of Bali: 1800–2010 by Adrian Vickers (\$54.99, HB)

This book surveys the art scene in Bali for the past two hundred years. The author shows how Balinese painting has deep local roots and has followed its own distinctive trajectory, yet has been heavily influenced by outsiders. Indian artistic and religious traditions were introduced to Bali over a thousand years ago through the prism of ancient Javanese culture. Balinese artists and craftsmen have also interacted with other Asian artists, particularly those of China, and later Western artists. From these sources, an aesthetic tradition developed that depicts stories from the ancient Indian epics as well as themes from Javanese mythology and the religious and communal life of the Balinese themselves.

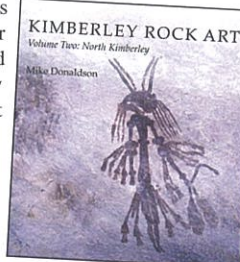


Spectrum 19: The Best in Contemporary Fantastic Art (eds) Arnie & Cathy Fenner (\$44.99, PB)

With exceptional images by extraordinary creators, this elegant full-colour collection showcases an international cadre of creators working in every style and medium, both traditional and digital. The best artists from the United States, Europe, China, Australia, South America and beyond have been gathered into the only annual devoted exclusively to works of fantasy, horror, science fiction, and the surreal.

Kimberley Rock Art V2: North Kimberley (\$140, HB)

Volume Two in this series of Kimberley rock art books covers the northern coast from the King George River to Kalumburu as well as the Drysdale & King Edward rivers. Most of this region is in Balangarra Country where the Kwini language group predominates, but there are also some sites from Wunambal Gaambera Country. The art sites along the northern coast include many fine Gwion panels while the more inland sites have some wonderful Wanjin paintings. Dynamic Gwions (also called Elegant Action Figures) are also prominent in this area. The book contains over 400 images of the art and scenic photographs to provide context.



The Contact Sheet by Steve Crist (\$45, PB)

Behind every great photograph is a story. For every noteworthy image there are many more images taken before and after 'the moment' that are often left unseen to anyone but the photographer himself. This book features an array of original contact sheets from more than forty international photographers including: Anton Corbijn, Imogen Cunningham, Nan Goldin, Nadav Kander, Art Kane, David Hume Kennerly, Dorothea Lange, Joel Meyerowitz, Richard Misrach, Arnold Newman, Paul Outerbridge, Ed Ruscha, Jeanloup Sieff & William Wegman.