

MEDIA RELEASE

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2016 ADELAIDE FESTIVAL AWARDS FOR LITERATURE SHORTLIST ANNOUNCED

The shortlist for the 2016 Adelaide Festival Awards for Literature has been announced, as writers across the country vie to share in the \$167,500 prize pool and the prestige attached to this celebration of Australian literature.

Now in its 30th year, this is one of the nation's richest and most competitive literary prizes, offering \$25,000 for the esteemed Premier's Award recognising the best published book among all the national awards presented.

Arts Minister Jack Snelling said: "The Adelaide Festival Awards for Literature are highly regarded by writers and publishers around the country, attracting quality nominations in all the categories."

Winners will be announced Saturday, 27 February 2016 in a presentation at the Pioneer Women's Memorial Garden during Adelaide Writers' Week, held as part of the Adelaide Festival of Arts.

Introduced by the South Australian Government in 1986, the biennial awards are managed by Arts South Australia, and offer a total \$167,500 in prizes, shared between six national awards, and two awards and three fellowships specifically for South Australian writers.

The most coveted national prize is the Premier's Award, which is selected from the winners of all the national categories. Past winners have included Frank Moorhouse for *Cold Light* (2014), Kim Scott for *That Deadman Dance* (2012) and Shaun Tan for *Tales from Outer Suburbia* (2010).

"Overall, there were 721 nominations for the 2016 awards," said Mr Snelling.

"The always popular genre of children's literature attracted the most nominations, followed by non-fiction writing."

"Nominations for the John Bray Poetry Award were the highest in recent years, rising by 21 to 120 in 2016, from 99 in 2014."

The shortlist for 2016 follows. Please note there is no shortlist for fellowships or the Premier's Award:

Children's Literature Award

<i>Hello from Nowhere</i>	by Raewyn Caisley (Penguin Group)
<i>Crossing</i>	by Helen Dinmore writing as Catherine Norton (Omnibus Books)
<i>Figgy in the World</i>	by Tamsin Janu (Omnibus Books)
<i>One Minute's Silence</i>	by David Metzenthén and Michael Camilleri (Allen & Unwin)
<i>Paper Planes</i>	by Allayne L. Webster (Omnibus Books)
<i>Thirst</i>	by Lizzie Wilcock (Scholastic Australia)

Fiction Award

<i>The Anchoress</i>	by Robyn Cadwallader (Fourth Estate)
<i>A Million Windows</i>	by Gerald Murnane (Giramondo)
<i>Here Come the Dogs</i>	by Omar Musa (Penguin Group)
<i>Hot Little Hands</i>	by Abigail Ulman (Penguin Group)
<i>To Name Those Lost</i>	by Rohan Wilson (Allen & Unwin)
<i>The Swan Book</i>	by Alexis Wright (Giramondo)

Young Adult Fiction Award

<i>The Incredible Here and Now</i>	by Felicity Castagna (Giramondo)
<i>Are You Seeing Me?</i>	by Darren Groth (Random House Australia)
<i>Head of the River</i>	by Pip Harry (University of Queensland Press)
<i>The First Third</i>	by Will Kostakis (Penguin Group)
<i>Razorhurst</i>	by Justine Larbalestier (Allen & Unwin)
<i>A Single Stone</i>	by Meg McKinlay (Walker Books)

Non-fiction Award

<i>A Country in Mind</i>	by Saskia Beudel (UWA Publishing)
<i>The Director is the Commander</i>	by Anna Broinowski (Penguin Group)
<i>What Days Are For</i>	by Robert Dessaix (Random House Australia)
<i>Gardens of Fire</i>	by Robert Kenny (UWA Publishing)
<i>Darwin</i>	by Tess Lea (NewSouth Publishing)
<i>The Bush</i>	by Don Watson (Penguin Group)

John Bray Poetry Award

<i>The Hazards</i>	by Sarah Holland-Batt (University of Queensland Press)
<i>Radiance</i>	by Andy Kissane (Puncher & Wattman)
<i>Standard Variation</i>	by Paul Mitchell (Walleah Press)
<i>Waiting for the Past</i>	by Les Murray (Black Inc.)
<i>Love Poems and Death Threats</i>	by Samuel Wagan Watson (University of Queensland Press)

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Jill Blewett Playwright's Award

<i>Cut</i>	by Duncan Graham
<i>Blessed</i>	by Fleur Kilpatrick

Wakefield Press Unpublished Manuscript

<i>Mallee Boys</i>	by Charlie Archbold
<i>Vintage Rain</i>	by Rachael Mead
<i>Infringement</i>	by Andrew Roff