



1982

Awards

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Abstract
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SAHITYA ACADEMY AWARD, 1981

The Sahitya Academy, India's National Academy of Letters, selected Jayanta Mahapatra's book *Relationships* for its 1981 award. This is the first time that English poetry in India has been given such an award. Other award winners have included R.K. Narayan, Mulk Raj Anand and Raja Rao.

ACLALS (EUROPE) SHORT STORY COMPETITION

The EACLALS Short Story Competition has been won by John Clanchy of Australia for his story 'The Lie of the Land' which appears in this issue. Other stories which were highly commended and which will or have appeared in *Kunapipi* include Mark O'Connor's 'Letter Perfect', Doreen Campbell's 'Five Stars for Mr Tompkins', and David Vidler's 'Big Smoke Woman'.

COMMONWEALTH POETRY PRIZE

The Commonwealth Poetry Prize, an annual award worth £500, has been won by Philip Salom of Western Australia for his collection of poems *The Silent Piano* (Freemantle Arts Centre Press, A\$4.00).

CANADA/AUSTRALIA LITERARY AWARD FOR 1981

The winner of the Canada/Australia Literary Award for 1981 is the Canadian fiction writer Leon Rooke.

The prize, which includes 3,000 dollars Canadian and a trip to Australia, is designed to make Australians and Canadians familiar with each other's writers. In alternate years an Australian writer receives the cash award and travels to Canada.

The inaugural award in 1976 went to Australian playwright John Romeril. Canadian writer Alice Munro was the winner in 1977. She was followed by Australian poet Thomas Shapcott (1978), Canadian poet Michael Ondaatje (1979), and Australian novelist Roger McDonald (1980). The prize is awarded for a writer's total production rather than for a single work and there are no restrictions on genre — novelists, playwrights and poets are eligible.

The current winner, Leon Rooke, is best known for his novel *Fat Woman* (Oberon, 1980) which was nominated for the Governor General's Award in fiction. Although Rooke had been writing short stories since the sixties, *Fat Woman* was his first novel. The work is the story of Ella Mae Hopkins, a woman not only large of body ('gluttony, thy name is Hopkins'), but also large of soul.

In 1981 Rooke published a short story collection called *Death Suite* (ECW Press) and another novel *The Magician in Love* (Aya Press). A new novel, *Shakespeare's Dog*, will be out in September.

NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

John Clanchy is Australian and has won several major prizes for his short stories; *Mark O'Connor*, Australian poet who is at present writer in residence at James Cook University. He recently won the John Shaw Nielsen prize for poetry; *Michael Sharkey*, Australian poet who teaches at New England University, N.S.W.; *Graeme Kinross Smith* teaches at Deakin University, Australia; *Paul Sharrad* teaches at Flinders University, South Australia; *Agnes Sam* is a South African of Indian descent who is now living in England; *Stephen Watson* teaches at the University of Cape Town, South Africa; *Stephen Gray* is a South African poet and novelist who teaches at Rand Afrikaans University, Johannesburg; *Ian Stephen* was born on the Isle of Lewis where he still lives. He is a writer and auxiliary coast guard and has published poetry and short stories in many magazines. *Sam Maynard* is the staff photographer on the island newspaper who has had various exhibitions in Edinburgh plus freelance work. The poet and photographer are working on a joint project trying to capture the spirit of the island through poetry and photographs.

Some are to appear shortly in *London Magazine* and *Cencrastus*. Dangaroo Press plan on publishing a volume of their work; *Tony Cosier* is a Canadian whose poems and short stories have appeared in Canadian, American and Australian journals; *Brian Walker* works as a janitor at the University of Minnesota and devotes the remainder of his waking hours to poetry. His poems have appeared in over fifty journals throughout the world; *Robert Stepto* teaches at Yale University in the Afro-American Studies Department; *Elaine Campbell* teaches at Regis College, Massachusetts; *John Agard* — poet and actor, has had two books published in his own country, Guyana — *Shoot Me With Flowers*, a collection of poems and *Quetzy de Saviour*, a story in verse. He has also had two children's books published in Britain by Bodley Head, *Letters For Lettie* and *Two-Hole Tim*. He has recently won the 1981 Casa de Las Americas Poetry Competition; *Nora Vagi Brash* comes from Papua-New Guinea; *Raoul Granqvist* teaches at the University of Umeå, Sweden; *Bernth Lindfors* is editor of *Research in African Literature*.

Mark Macleod teaches at Macquarie University, Sydney; *Diana Brydon* teaches at the University of British Columbia; *Simon Garrett* teaches at the University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand; *Alamgir Hashmi* is a Pakistani poet and academic who is at present living in Switzerland; *Kirpal Singh* is from Singapore and is at present teaching at the University of Papua-New Guinea; *Michael Chapman* teaches at UNISA, Pretoria; *John Barnie* has resigned from Copenhagen University to return to Wales and devote himself to writing full-time; *Donald W. Hannah* teaches at the University of Aarhus; *Kirsten Holst Petersen* teaches at the University of Aarhus; *Tayoba Ngenge* is a post-graduate student at the University of Austin, Texas.

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