MEDIA RELEASE
February 2017 New Releases from UWA Publishing

UWAP POETRY

A PERSONAL HISTORY OF VISION
Luke Fischer
9781742589381

A Personal History of Vision expands on the concerns of Fischer’s acclaimed first collection Paths of Flight and embodies what Judith Beveridge has described as his ‘seemingly effortless ability to blend visual detail and imaginative vision.’ Intertwining the personal and the historical, the modern and the primeval, culture and nature, these poems explore vision in its many senses, often with reference to the visual arts. At their heart is a search for an enlarged awareness of ourselves and the world, in which the visible and the invisible, nature and spirit find one another. At the same time these poems are awake to inadequacies and the trials of death and suffering—personal, political, and ecological. Yet, even in the darkness (the focus of the second section) they detect possibilities of transformation.

Luke Fischer is a poet and scholar, whose books include the poetry collection Paths of Flight (Black Pepper, 2013), the monograph The Poet as Phenomenologist: Rilke and the New Poems (Bloomsbury, 2015), the children’s book The Blue Forest (Lindisfarne Books, 2015), and a co-edited volume of essays on Rilke’s Sonnets to Orpheus and philosophy (Oxford University Press, forthcoming).

CHARLIE TWIRL
Alan Gould
9781742589268

From the intrigue of his earlier poetry in fatalism and the mysteries of character, Alan Gould’s interest has moved to music. In many of the poems in this book, the folk songs or the homages to Vaughan Williams, his enquiry is one of synaesthesia: What is it we see when we hear? In meditating this the poet prefers the crisp, accessible, narrative voice to the philosophical. Here are ballads and celebrations, homages to past authors who have been his spiritual companions – Graves, Yeats, Shakespeare, and tributes to the Finnish resistance to Soviet aggression in 1939. There are some ‘equivalents’ to popular folk songs, and the volume’s title poem, a commemoration of the extraordinary George Street dancer of VJ Day 1945.

Described by Peter Pierce as “one of the most intelligent, versatile and elegant Australian writers of his generation”, Alan Gould is the author of twenty-five titles, novels, poetry and essay collections. His literary prizes include the Grace Leven Prize for Poetry in 2006, the NBC Banjo Award For Fiction in 1992, Foundation of Australian Literature Book Of the Year (1985), Philip Hodgins Memorial Award for literature (1999), and co-winner in both The Courier-Mail Book Of The Year and ACT Book Of The Year in 2001. His 2009 novel, The Lakewoman, a love story arising out of the 1944 D-Day landings, was shortlisted for the Prime Minister’s Fiction Award. His most recent novel was a picaresque, The Poets’ Stairwell (2015).

DARK CONVICTS
Judy Johnson
9781742589183

It is a little known fact that eleven African American convicts arrived in Australia on the First Fleet in 1788. Two of these ex-slaves were the author’s ancestors. In extensively researched poems, award-winning writer Judy Johnson vividly portrays scenes from her black forebears’ lives, both before transportation and afterwards, in the fledgling colony of New South Wales.

Judy Johnson has published five poetry collections and a novel. Her collections have won or been shortlisted for the Victorian Premier’s Award, the Wesley Michel Wright Prize, the West Australian Premier’s Awards and the Anne Elder award. Individual poems have been awarded the Josephine Ulrick, Val Vallis, Bruce Dawe, Tom Collins (twice), Banjo Paterson (four times) and John Shaw Neilson, among other prizes. She has shared the Newcastle Poetry Prize and Patricia Hackett award. Judy Johnson was Established Writer in Residence at the Katherine Susannah Prichard Writer’s Centre in 2013.
FLUTE OF MILK
Susan Fealy
9781742589398

This collection is in two parts, with each one interrogating love, loss, gender and aesthetics. The poems refract these themes through personal experience, as well as through a broader cultural lens. Some of these works are direct responses to the act of reading literature. The hallmark of this collection is precision with language: these works are always present and vivid.

Susan Fealy is a Melbourne-based poet, writer and clinical psychologist. She began writing and publishing poetry in 2007 and was a managing co-editor at Five Islands Press (2009-2010). Her poems have been published widely in Australian journals, newspapers and anthologies including The Best Australian Poems 2009, 2010 and 2013. Others appear in internationally-sourced anthologies including Villanelles (Everyman’s Library Pocket Poets, 2012). Among awards for her poetry are the NSW Society of Women Writers National Poetry Prize 2013 and the Henry Kendall Poetry Award 2010. Her work was selected for the May 2016 Australian Poets issue of Poetry (Chicago). Flute of Milk is her first full-length collection.

RALLYING
Quinn Eades
9781742589190

Rallying was written alongside Quinn Eades’s first book, all the beginnings: a queer autobiography of the body, and before he began transitioning from female to male. A collection very much concerned with the body, and the ways in which we create and write under, around, without, and with children, this collection will resonate deeply with anyone who has tried to make creative work from underneath the weight of love.

This is a collection of poems that are more than poems. They were written with children, under babies, around grief, amongst crumbs, on trains, with hope: with love. This is a book made of steel and honey, muscle and sun, with tongues. Open its pages and you will find more than poetry. You will find moments in time strung across by text, a poetics of the space between bodies, the way that language makes us separate and simultaneously whole.

Dr Quinn Eades is a researcher, writer, and award-winning poet whose work lies at the nexus of feminist, queer and trans theories of the body, autobiography, and philosophy. Eades is published nationally and internationally, and is the author of all the beginnings: a queer autobiography of the body, published by Tantanoola. Eades is a Lecturer in Core Interdisciplinary Studies at La Trobe, as well as the founding editor of Australia’s only interdisciplinary, peer reviewed, gender, sexuality and diversity studies journal, Writing from Below. He is currently working on a collection of fragments written from the transitioning body, titled Transposition.

SNAKE LIKE CHARMS
Amanda Joy
9781742589404

This book is teeming with life, it’s a celebration of families surrounded by animals, a book where ideas snake through the lines like arteries. Amanda Joy’s variegated language explores rebellious ideas, delves into the underground but remains compassionate. This poet takes a hard look at the world now and yet comes up with a hugely optimistic book.

- Robert Adamson

Amanda Joy is a poet and visual artist living in Fremantle, Western Australia. She has written two poetry chapbooks, Orchid Poems (Mulla Mulla Press) and Not Enough to Fold (Verve Bath Press, USA). Her poems have been included in journals and anthologies, including The Best of Australian Poems, Regime, and Toronto Quarterly. She is a selector for Creatrix Haiku Journal.