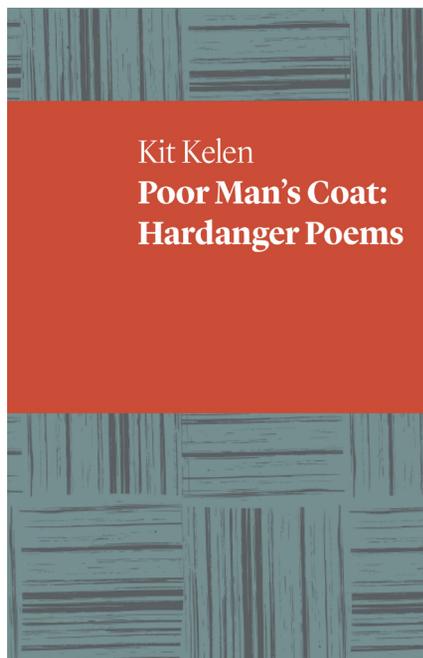


MEDIA RELEASE
October 2018 New Release from UWA Publishing

UWAP POETRY



Kit Kelen
**Poor Man's Coat:
Hardanger Poems**

POOR MAN'S COAT
Kit Kelen
9781742589763

This collection marks another level of attentiveness in Kelen's work. His poems have always delighted with their wordplay, cryptic lyricism and wry wisdoms. Now he moves closer still to the natural world that so absorbs him, close enough to smell its breath, to comprehend its agency.

- Judy Johnson

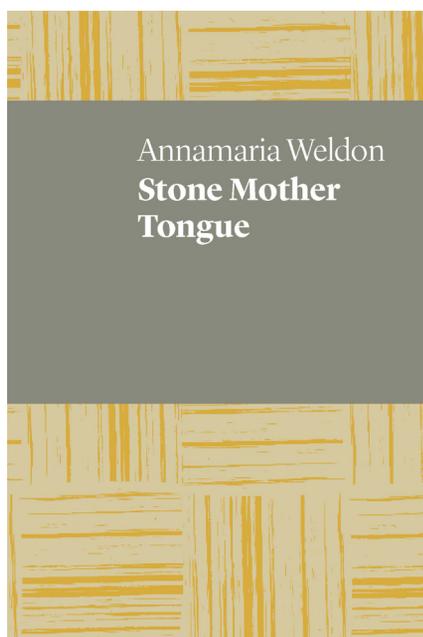
Christopher Kelen has the rare gift of a voice that feels effortlessly, mesmerizingly, unique. In a freezing landscape where birds are 'scribbles' over a 'fjord like laid paper' and 'the heart is cloud adrift', his phrases sprout like new leaves in the warmth of spring. *Poor Man's Coat* is a delight: a fresh and haunting mix of deep meditation, witty intelligence and the abundant wonder of poetry's 'wise surprise'.

- Jean Kent

Ålvik – setting for the poems in this book – is a sleepy little industrial town, set between the Hardanger Fjord and its own little mountain for climbing. Behind Ålvik the serious mountains go on forever, all the length of Norway, till there's almost no more north. The town is brightly painted and decorated with laughter – a children's town, if you remember. The artists and the poets, the singers, the musicians – they live in a fairytale house, where winter is always coming, even when it has arrived. But spring is pressing too, and summer is an open book, where the blue goes up forever and a day will never end. The forest is the poor man's coat. Step in – let other worlds elapse. Read the leaves as they lie fallen. Follow the trail of light.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Christopher (Kit) Kelen is a poet, painter and recovering academic, resident in the Myall Lakes of NSW. Published widely since the seventies, he has a dozen full length collections in English as well as translated books of poetry in Chinese, Portuguese, French, Italian, Spanish, Indonesian, Swedish and Filipino. In 2017, Kit was shortlisted twice for the Montreal Poetry Prize and won the Local Award in the Newcastle Poetry Prize. Emeritus Professor at the University of Macau, where he taught for many years, in 2017, Kit Kelen was awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of Malmö, in Sweden.



Annamaria Weldon
**Stone Mother
Tongue**

STONE MOTHER TONGUE
Annamaria Weldon
9781742589930

Malta—'a slight blemish on the sea's glaze'—forms the beating heart of *Stone Mother Tongue*, poems fired into existence by Annamaria Weldon's experience of clambering over temples and monuments built by her ancestors. Now part of her psyche, they are melded with a wider experience of Australia as an ancient land. For Weldon, life is 'all context and erasure'. When she writes of the masons knowing 'which prayers to chant while hammering', her poems entwine the land with a human history many thousands of years in the making.

- Kevin Brophy

Meditative, delicate and restrained, these poems are nonetheless full of vivid realities: the 'undersong' of womanhood, family, loss, carob trees, wild rosemary, figs, geckoes, mother's milk – and psychotropic chickpeas. Delving into her Maltese heritage, Annamaria Weldon shows us how the migrant's encounter with Australia provokes a reinterpretation of 'home', a grappling with place of origin.

- Tracy Ryan

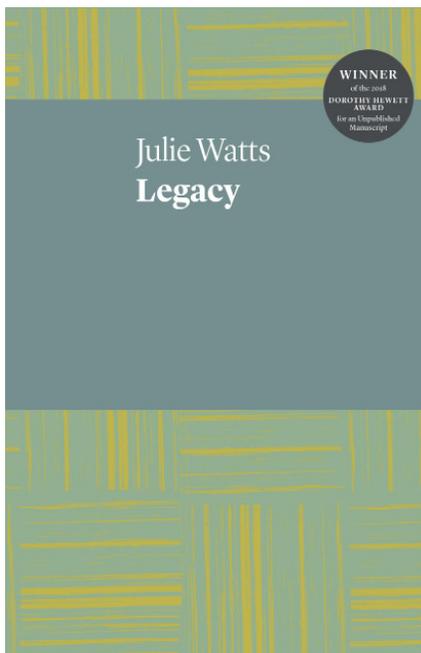
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Annamaria Weldon was born in Malta and emigrated to Western Australia in 1984. She has been awarded artist residencies with Symbiotica at the University of Western Australia (2009) and St James Cavalier in Malta (2016), and has undertaken many field trips for research. Her publications include *Ropes of Sand* (Associated News Malta, 1984), *The Roof Milkers* (Sunline Press, 2008), and *The Lake's Apprentice* (UWA Publishing, 2014). Annamaria was awarded the inaugural 2011 Nature Conservancy Australia Essay Prize, the 2010 Tom Collins Poetry Prize, and was shortlisted in the *Australian Book Review's* Peter Porter Poetry Prize in 2012. Her writing centres around place and displacement.



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LEGACY
Julie Watts
9781742589947

Winner of the 2018 Dorothy Hewett Award for an Unpublished Manuscript

This impressive volume keeps the reader in its strong, yet tender, hold. The poems are poised, poignant and braced with feeling, especially grief and loss, but there is joy, too, and celebration, especially of family. In poem after poem, Julie Watts delivers many perspectives, but at all points the human, geographic and moral landscapes are convincing and real. She can dovetail inner and outer worlds effortlessly. Her poems are probing, investigative, yet always humane.

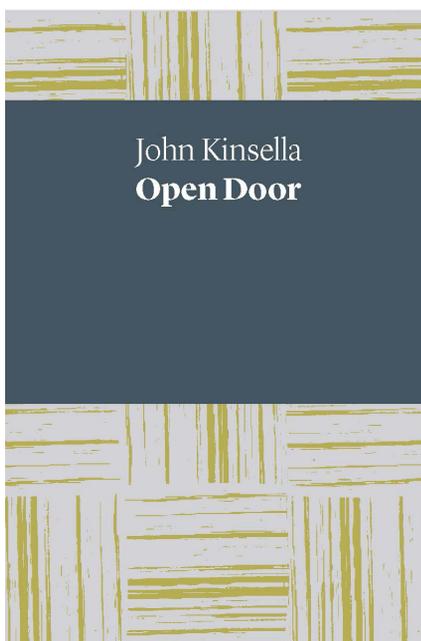
- Judith Beveridge

This substantial volume is startling in its range: it encompasses elegies, love poems, descriptive pieces, poems of joy and of sorrow as Julie Watts ponders the legacies that form us through genetics and culture and that we in turn pass on. With considerable empathy and generosity of spirit she contemplates the old, the middle-aged and the young, the distant and near past, the present and the future, childhood's imagination and adulthood's sometimes tough reality. Identity for her is found in relation to others, in a world that is closely observed and closely imagined; life is a kind of music and she renders it with rhythmic and imagistic richness.

- Dennis Haskell

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Julie Watts is a Counsellor/PlayTherapist and lives by the coast with her family. She is a Western Australian writer and has been published nationally and internationally in journals and anthologies including: *Westerly*, *Cordite*, *Rochford Street Review*, *Sublime: Poems From Australia & India*, *Australian Poetry Anthology* and the *Anthology of Contemporary Australian Feminist Poetry*. Julie was shortlisted in the Newcastle Poetry Prize 2016, and won the 2016 Hunters Grieve Project. She was shortlisted for the Montreal International Poetry Prize 2017 and won The Blake Poetry Prize 2017. Her first poetry collection, *Honey and Hemlock*, was published in 2013 by Sunline Press.



OPEN DOOR
John Kinsella
9781742589954

One of the most original and poignantly authentic poets writing in English.
—Harold Bloom

One of Australia's most vivid, energetic and stormy poets, a writer who turns to the natural world with a fierce light.
—Edward Hirsch, *Washington Post*

Few poets give such an intense sense of the present as John Kinsella.
- Lisa Gorton, *Sydney Morning Herald*

The final book in the Jam Tree Gully trilogy, *Open Door* continues Kinsella's investigation into environmental responsibility and the complexity of our connection to the land of rural Australia.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

John Kinsella is the author of over forty books. His many awards include the Australian Prime Minister's Literary Award for Poetry, the Victorian premier's Award for Poetry, the John Bray Award for Poetry, the Judith Wright Calanthe Award for Poetry and the Western Australian Premier's Award for Poetry (three times). His latest books are *Lucida Intervalla* and *The Collected Poems of Christopher Brennan* (UWA Publishing, 2018); *On the Outskirts* (UQP, 2017), and *Drowning in Wheat: Selected Poems* (Picador, 2016). He is a Fellow of Churchill College, Cambridge University, and Professor of Literature and Environment at Curtin University, Western Australia. He lives on Ballardong Noongar land at Jam Tree Gully in the Western Australian wheatbelt. In 2007 he received the Christopher Brennan Award for Lifetime Achievement in Poetry.



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