

AESTHETICA CREATIVE WRITING

The 11th Aesthetica Creative Writing Award is Now Open for Entries: Celebrating Excellence in Poetry and Short Fiction

Internationally renowned literary prize, the [Aesthetica Creative Writing Award](#) is now open for entries for its 11th year. The Prize is a platform for emerging and established poets and writers to showcase their work to audiences across the globe.

It is a celebration of excellence in new writing and supports and nurtures talented practitioners at all levels by offering them opportunities to further their career, such as through publication and exposure via Aesthetica's digital channels.

Each year, the Award attracts thousands of entries from across the world. 60 finalists are selected for publication in the *Aesthetica Creative Writing Annual* and a winner is chosen from each category of Poetry and Short Fiction. As well as publication, the winners are awarded £1,000 prize money each; a selection of books from Vintage and Bloodaxe Books; a one year print subscription to *Granta*; Full Membership to The Poetry Society (Poetry Winner) and a consultation with Redhammer Management (Short Fiction Winner). Each published finalist receives a complimentary copy of the *Annual* – an inspiring compendium that unites innovative practitioners.

Cherie Federico, Director and Editor, says: "Aesthetica champions artists across a range of media, with talent development at its core. Through the Creative Writing Award, we can support and nurture writers, whether they are established practitioners or new to the medium, and bring their work to a wider audience. Each year, the *Creative Writing Annual* is a testament to the literary imaginations of today and each piece showcases the possibility of language – used in new and exciting ways to illuminate daily life. We can't wait to see the selection for this year's award."

Winners and finalists alike demonstrate true innovation through a diversity of images and ideas that collectively stimulate, change and inspire. Providing new perspectives on the world and inviting readers into original narratives, the publication will continue to spark literary imaginations and can be returned to time and time again.

The Award is judged by a panel of literary experts, including Professor and Poet Dr Oz Hardwick, and Arifa Akbar, journalist, critic and former Literary Editor of *The Independent*. There is also a panel of readers for the Short Fiction category, including writer Steve Toase; Martine Pierquin, Lifelong Learning Tutor at the University of Edinburgh; Liz Jones, School of Education & Lifelong Learning at Aberystwyth University; Katy Guest, Editor and Journalist (*The Guardian*) and former Books Editor on the *Independent on Sunday*; Teresa Palmiero, journalist and editor and former reader for the Wasafiri short story prize; Tom Vowler, Associate Lecturer at the University of Plymouth and Rebekah Lattin-Rawstone, author and Creative Writing Lecturer at City University London.

The Creative Writing Award has two categories for entry: Poetry and Short Fiction. It is open to all writers working at all levels and based across the world. It accepts all themes and subject matter. All works must be written in English. Poetry submissions should be no more than 40 lines and Short Fiction entries should be no more than 2,000 words. The Award is open for entries until 31 August 2017.

For full guidelines and to enter, visit www.aestheticamagazine.com/cwa

Notes to Editors

1. The Aesthetica Creative Writing Award is open for entries until 31 August 2017:
www.aestheticamagazine.com/cwa @AestheticaMag
www.facebook.com/aestheticamagazine
2. The Award is an international literary prize showcasing talent from around the world and celebrating the work of both emerging and established writers
3. There are two winners: the Short Fiction Winner and the Poetry Winner, plus a further 58 longlisted writers.
4. Winners and Finalists are published in the *Aesthetica Creative Writing Annual*:
<http://www.aestheticamagazine.com/buy/creative-writing-anthology-2017/>
5. Aesthetica Creative Writing Award Short Fiction Judge: Arifa Akbar.
Arifa Akbar is a freelance journalist, critic and columnist. She is the curator of a new literary festival launching at King's Place, London, in 2017, and she is deputy editor of *Wasafiri* magazine of international contemporary writing. She is a regular newspaper reviewer on *Sky News*, and she has written for the *FT*, *The Guardian*, and the *i* paper.
6. Aesthetica Creative Writing Award Poetry Judge: Dr Oz Hardwick.
Oz Hardwick is a York-based writer, photographer and musician, who has been published extensively worldwide, and has read everywhere from Chicago to Glastonbury. Valley Press published his fifth poetry collection, *The Ringmaster's Apprentice* in 2015. He has had work performed by classical musicians in UK concert halls, flamenco musicians in Italian villas, and artists in an Australian cinema.
7. Award partners include: Redhammer Management, The Poetry Society, Bloodaxe, Vintage and Granta. For more information, visit
www.aestheticamagazine.com/creative-writing-award/about/#partners

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