

Notes on Contributors

Chris Adler lives in Elvina Bay, an off-shore community just outside Sydney. She was born in Mill Valley, California and moved to Australia in 1994 to study at the University of Wollongong. She has been writing poems since she was a child as a way of capturing life on the page, similar to a photo or painting. She has had poems published in *Australian Women's Book Review*, *The West Pittwater Perspective*, *POETALK* (Berkeley, California) and others.

Jordie Albiston was born in Melbourne in 1961. Her first poetry collection *Nervous Arcs* (Spinifex 1995) won first prize in the Mary Gilmore Award, second in the Anne Elder Award, and was shortlisted for the NSW Premier's Award. Her second book was entitled *Botany Bay Document: A Poetic History of the Women of Botany Bay* (Black Pepper 1996). Her most recent collection, *The Hanging of Jean Lee* (Black Pepper 1998), explores the life and death of the last woman hanged in Australia in 1951. Jordie was recipient of the Dinny O'Hearn Memorial Fellowship in 1997. She holds a PhD in literature and has two teenage children.

Lucy Alexander grew up in a family of English teachers, with too many books in their lives. As a result she began to write from an early age. It seemed like the only alternative to teaching. She was encouraged in her endeavours by becoming a finalist in the Sydney Morning Herald Young Writer of the Year Award in 1992. At the end of her university degree she was published by Five Island Press in *Fathoms* a collection of the poetry of three student writers. She now lives in Avalon among the spotted gums, and has heaped bookshelves of her own.

Pacita Alexander was born in Sydney and graduated from Sydney University with a BA (Hons). She trained as a librarian, and during her course of study received the Fabinyi Award for Writing. Pacita worked as a school librarian in Melbourne and as a research assistant for Leslie Rees's *A History of Australian Drama Vol 2* (Rev.ed, 1987). She published a chapter on Moore's work in the Philippines in: *Discovering Australasia* (Eds Reynaldo Iletto and Rodney Sullivan, 1993). Pacita has three children.

Mervyn F. Bendle has a PhD and teaches and publishes in the areas of social theory, the sociology of deviance, and religion at James Cook University. He is also developing several courses in cultural studies.

Judith Beveridge has published two collections of poetry *The Domesticity of Giraffes* and *Accidental Grace*. She lives in Sydney.

Peter Conrad is the author of more than a dozen works, most recently a study of twentieth-century art and society, *Modern Times, Modern Places*. He has written books on literature, opera, television, New York, together with a novel and two volumes of autobiography, the first of which *Down Home*, told of his childhood in Tasmania. Peter is presently a Fellow of Christ Church College, Oxford.

Alma De Groen is a New Zealand born playwright who came to Australia in 1964, married the artist Geoffrey De Groen and began writing plays in 1968. She has made a formidable contribution to contemporary drama with stage plays and with television, film and radio scripts, each of which is distinguished by her unique dramatic vision and her unusual insight into human life and society. The importance of her work has been recognised by awards which include two AWGIE's and the New South Wales State Award and the Victorian Premier's Award for Drama in 1988. Alma is the winner of the Patrick White Award for 1999.

Jane Downing's collection of short stories, *Searching for the Volcano* will be published by four W Press at the end of 1999.

Kevin Gillam is a West Australian writer currently working towards the completion of his first poetry anthology. He has had poems appear in numerous Australian, New Zealand and British journals. He is currently employed as a secondary school music teacher and free-lance cellist.

Katherine Holman lives in San Jose, California, USA where she is employed as a technical editor. She holds a bachelor's degree in psychology from Moorhead State University in Minnesota, USA. Her hobbies include hiking, fishing, playing the piano, singing and reading. Even though she has moved to the big city, her inspiration comes from the small farm where she grew up in North Dakota.

Terry Jaensch is a Melbourne based poet. He has a background in theatre, having studied in New York at the Stella Adler Conservatory and the Herbert Berghof Studio. His one man show *Kissing Myself* was shortlisted for the 1995 Wal Cherry Award and subsequently produced by St Martin's Theatre. His poetry has been accepted for publication in *Inkshed, Divan, Victorian State Library Cyberzine, Swyntax* and *Meanjin*. He reads regularly around Melbourne and read as a part of the National Poetry Festival in Sydney (1998) and at the Boroondara Litfest (1999). His work has also been broadcast on 3RRR.

Philippa Kelly is a senior lecturer in English at the Australian Defence Force Academy. She has written a book on King Lear and has recently edited the play

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for the Bell Shakespeare series. She publishes widely on Shakespeare and cultural theory. She also has a special interest in sixteenth and seventeenth century autobiography and in Australian women's literature.

Joanna Kidman is a Maori New Zealand writer and academic. She teaches a graduate programme at the Victoria University of Wellington in New Zealand. She is based at He Parekereke, the Institute for Research and Development in Maori Education.

Pam Lythgo lectured at the Townsville Teachers College in Languages and Literature from 1969-1982. In 1982 she moved into Catholic Education, and was Senior Lecturer in Languages and Literature. She has been principal of St Mary's School, West End, Townsville and was founding principal of St Anthony's School, Deeragun, in Townsville. Pam until her retirement was also Curriculum consultant for Catholic Education. She has been heavily involved in theatre since her arrival in North Queensland.

Lili Ma completed her PhD thesis "Confrontations and Reconciliations: Representing China in Australian Literature with an Emphasis on the Depiction of Women Figures" at James Cook University in 1999. She now lives and works in China teaching literature.

Ian McBryde was born in Toronto, Canada but has lived and worked in Australia for many years. His work has been published in England, Japan, USA, Germany, Canada, Greece, Belgium and Australia. He has performed his poetry in Canada, England and the USA, and up and down the east coast of Australia. His third collection of poetry entitled *Flank*, which includes a CD, was released last year. He is currently working on his fourth collection and recording new material.

Maria Simms is a freelance writer and teacher of writing and English in Sydney. She has published and edited an arts magazine and is doing an MA (Writing) at UTS. The stories "In Paradise" and "Passionflower" which appear in *LiNQ* are part of a connected stories-style novel which is nearing completion.

Zsusanna Soboslay is a performance-maker, writer and lecturer currently living in Melbourne.

Dana Littlepage Smith was born in Richmond, Virginia in 1963. She graduated from Brown University where she was awarded an Arnold Fellowship to write and teach in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. After receiving her Master of Fine Arts from Virginia Commonwealth University she taught at various universities before moving to Miami, Florida. In 1995 she was awarded a National

Endowment of the Humanities to study at Princeton University. She is married and lives with her husband in Devon, quite happily on the doorstep of Exeter Cathedral. Her poems have been published in various journals and magazines.

Sam Smith was raised in Devon, England and is a struggling novelist. His present day-job is psychiatric nursing assistant. In 1995 Sam became the founding editor of the *Journal of Contemporary Anglo-Scandinavian Poetry*. In 1998 he started up his own press *Original Plus*. He has had numerous poetry, articles, short stories and reviews accepted in over a hundred titles. His poetry collection is *John the Explorer* (Gecko Press, 1999) and at last, has published a novel *Sister Blister* (Online Originals, 1999).

Megan Surmon is a graduate student of communication, women's studies, professional writing and soon a Master of English. She is a Melbourne based writer, reader, editor and publisher. Megan is passionate about contemporary Australian fiction and women authors and is dedicated to publishing as much of it as possible through her own small press, Scant Publishing. Integral to her mental health is Bryon, the large and lovable Newfoundland dog.

Cheryl Taylor is a Senior Lecturer in English at James Cook University. She has just successfully completed a PhD thesis in 14th Century Contemplative Writing, in English and Latin. Her other research interests are Medieval Literary Studies, Women's Writing and Queensland regional literature.

Tessa Theocharous was born on 30 March 1975 and had her first poem published at the age of six. She has been writing ever since, and a collection of her work *Psyche* was published in 1996. Tessa completed a BA (Hons)/LLB at James Cook University, Townsville in 1998. She moved to Melbourne this year and is dividing her time between working as a lawyer and acting in various plays and films. Her poetry has appeared in both Australian and international journals and Tessa is currently working on a second collection.

Ouyang Yu has a doctorate in Australian Literature from La Trobe University. He is now an Australian citizen. His first Chinese collection of poetry was *Summer of Melbourne*, his latest work is a collection of English poetry *Song of the Last Chinese Poet*.