

Louise Warren – In the scullery with John Keats

A highly imaginative collection which juxtaposes historical periods by imagining Keats entering contemporary scenes and makes itself convincing with vivid images and flowing original rhythms.

Kevin Mills – Stations of the Boar

A sequence that contributes eloquently to the ongoing poetic debate about national identity in Wales by invoking the life of Saint Cadoc. Drawing upon the 11th century hagiography, *The Life of Saint Cadoc* these poems insinuate the saint's presence into modern Welsh landscapes and so interrogates how the presence of the past constructs a nearly hallucinatory sense of what it might mean to be Welsh.

Louisa Adjoa Parker – Blinking in the light

A collection of confessional poems which, in starkly telling a story about a fraught pregnancy and the suicide of a man very close to the speaker's family, evokes with powerful images and unadorned language a raw sense of contemporary life.

Neil Elder – Codes of Conduct

This collection is entertaining throughout but, in particular, it starts with a sequence focused on a persona, 'Henderson', whose experiences of office work satirically depict this key aspect of contemporary life in a series of representatively farcical and self-defeating episodes.