



2019 Poetry Pamphlet Prize

Thanks you to everyone who took part in the poetry pamphlet competition. We had our largest entry ever with over 500 pamphlets submitted. This led to some hard decisions and a bumper long list of poets who were really working at a high level, as well as a superb shortlist which included four particularly strong contenders for the final two places.

Congratulations first to everyone who made it to the longlist —

Vincent Steed: *Catching Air*
Amanda Rackstraw: *Fenceless*
Penny Shutt: *The Therapist and the Drunk*
Paul Abdul Wadud Sutherland: *Perfume*
Lucy Cotterill: *Flight Response*
Derek Sellen: *Feeding the Labyrinth*
Alison Hill: *Granite Moon*
Susanna Harding: *Cordelia*
Nicola Bray: *Boi*
Paul Jeffcutt: *Markings*
Marina Sanchez: *Latinish Mix*
Rupert Locke: *Postmodern Temples*
Jacqui Rowe: *Watch and Wait*
Phil Madden: *Sea Wolf*
Christine Buxton: *Random Thoughts & The End of Something*
David Olsen: *Nocturnes*
Christopher North: *10:59:59*
Michael Farren: *Waiting for the Wasp*
Mary Kaye: *Blood on Soil*
Vasiliki Albedo Liapi: *Anemones*
Wes White: *The Way to Zed*
Dainel Gustafsson: *Fordings*
Vivienne Tregenza: *Resilience of Asters*
Helen Pizzey: *Childlings*
Emma Mc Kervey: *Needful Things*
David Calcutt: *Wintering*
Nicola Warwick: *Naming the Land*
Michael Greavy: *The boy Who Kept Bees*
Kitty Coles: *I heard the trees speak*
Ben Gwalchmai: *For Lapin, the Telegraphist I Lost*
Ruth Aylett: *Travelling Hopefully*
Sarra Culleno: *Poems*
Sarah Steele: *Dartmorro Snow*
Karin Molde: *The Nightingale's Stocktaking*
Jan Harris: *Fragility*

Tim Dowley: *Family Affairs*
Joseph Marshall: *Coming of the Frost*
Wendy Klein: *Let Battle Commence & Beyond Casa Blanca*
Rachel Davies: *Dreaming of Pulling Teeth*
Frances-Anne King: *Outside the Frame*
Lynn Woollacott: *Judy, out of the box*
Suzannah Houston-Sams: *Triad*
Bonnie Thurston: *From the Portuguese*
Martin Willitts Jr.: *Releasing the Hidden*
Angela Platt: *Gameplay*
Gay Crace: *Chains of Being*
Ellie Rees: *Snap*
Susan Utting: *The Hush*
Jane McLaughlin: *You Cannot be Serious*

We whittled this down to a final seven pamphlets and at this stage Ian really had his work out. Huge congratulations to those on the short list

Sue Lewis: *Texture*
Edward John Killick: *From the Land of Striped Sunshine*
Lizzie Fincham: *Contained in Ice*
Scott Elder: *My Hotel*
Hannah Walker: *Attention*
Emily Vanderploeg: *Loose Jewels*
Maiya Dambawinna: *Silk*

After a lot of thought and reading, Ian selected two winning entries:

Sue Lewis: *Texture*
Emily Vanderploeg: *Loose Jewels*
Hannah Walker: *Attention*

Commenting on *Texture* he says:

Texture is remarkable for the way its apparently casual free verse allows powerful images and themes to spill over themselves across its line endings in its reflections. It's exhilarating.

Of *Loose Jewels* Ian writes:

Loose Jewels explores in lyric form (including especially vivid memories of family) the sort of hybrid national identity, which is so characteristic of contemporary culture. In that process, it uses poetic form very tellingly as it deliberately unsettles its flow of English with references to Magyar which enact how language structures our differing apprehensions of the world.

And of *Attention*:

Attention is arresting straight talk. It tackles even its taboo themes with a startling directness and with disorienting shifts, from line to line, in its angle of vision. So many of the poems being published now

are elegantly oblique, so the confrontational jaggedness of these poems is especially refreshing.

Massive congratulations to Sue Lewis, Emily Vanderploeg and Hannah Walker and huge thanks to Ian for giving his time so generously. And, once again, thank you to everyone who entered and made this competition such a success. *Texture*, *Loose Jewels* and *Attention* will be out early in 2020.