# JASAL

### Journal of the Association for the Study of Australian Literature



VOLUME 2 2003

Guest Editor: Margaret Harris

#### **Editorial Advisory Committee**

Bill Ashcroft, University of New South Wales, Sydney Delys Bird, University of Western Australia, Perth Nicholas Birns, The New School for Social Research, New York Pat Buckridge, Griffith University, Brisbane Robert Dixon, University of Queensland, Brisbane Carole Ferrier, University of Queensland, Brisbane Terry Goldie, York University, Toronto Kerryn Goldsworthy, University of Adelaide Margaret Harris, University of Sydney Dennis Haskell, University of Western Australia, Perth John C. Hawley, Santa Clara University, California Paul Kane, Vassar College, New York Peter Kirkpatrick, University of Western Sydney Susan Lever, ADFA/University of New South Wales, Canberra Susan K. Martin. LaTrobe University, Melbourne Phillip Mead, University of Tasmania, Hobart Peter Pierce, James Cook University, Cairns Xavier Pons, University of Toulouse-Le Mirail Cassandra Pybus, University of Tasmania Kay Schaffer, University of Adelaide Ian Syson, Victoria University, St Albans Terry Threadgold, University of Cardiff Penny Van Toorn, University of Sydney Chris Wallace-Crabbe, University of Melbourne Elizabeth Webby, University of Sydney

*JASAL* Journal of the Association for the Study of Australian Literature ISSN 1447–8986 *JASAL* is a peer-reviewed journal which is published annually by the Association for the Study of Australian Literature. Three copies of unsolicited manuscripts should be submitted to the editors, no longer than 6000 words (excluding Works Cited and Endnotes), documented using MLA style, double-spaced and in hard copy. A style guide is available from the editors or at <asc.uq.edu.au/asal>. Manuscripts are refereed anonymously and should be identified using a separate covering letter. Allow 3 months for consideration. On acceptance the editors will request a disk copy (Word rtf format).

*JASAL* welcomes any scholarly material with an interest in Australian literature or which might be of interest to people working in this field. We encourage comparative studies with other literatures and forms of representation beyond the literary. We are particularly interested in work which challenges received critical paradigms and which contributes to public debates. *JASAL* welcomes review articles (up to 4000 words) and responses to previously published material (up to 2000 words).

#### Editorial Addresses

Christopher Lee Humanities and International Studies University of Southern Queensland Toowoomba, Queensland 4350 Tel: +61 07 4631 1045 Fax: +61 07 4631 1063 Email: leec@usq.edu.au

**Reviews** Editors

Lyn McCredden Literary and Communication Studies Deakin University (Burwood Campus) 221 Burwood Hwy Burwood, Victoria 3125 Tel: +61 03 9244 3960 Fax: +61 03 9481 6717 Email: lynmcr@deakin.edu.au Barbara Milech Communication and Cultural Studies Curtin University PO Box U1987 Perth, Western Australia 6845 Tel: +61 08 9266 7179 Fax: +61 08 9266 2594 Email: B.Milech@curtin.edu.au

Andrew McCann English with Cultural Studies University of Melbourne Melbourne, Victoria 3010 Tel: +61 03 8344 5506/7 Fax: +61 03 8344 5494 Email: a.mccann@english.unimelb.edu.au

#### Management Committee

Pat Buckridge (Griffith), Paul Genoni (Curtin), Tony Hughes D'Aeth (UWA), Lyn Jacobs (Flinders), Christopher Lee (USQ), Susan Lever (ADFA/UNSW), Lyn McCredden (Deakin), Susan K. Martin (LaTrobe), Philip Mead (UTAS), Barbara Milech (Curtin), Nicole Moore (Macquarie), Bec Pannell (Flinders), Simon Ryan (ACU) and Helen Thomson (Monash).

## CONTENTS

CHRISTINA STEAD CENTENARY ESSAYS

Margaret Harris	5	Christina Stead at 100
Judith Kegan Gardiner	13	Christina Stead and the Synecdochic Scam: <i>The Little Hotel</i>
Brigid Rooney	29	Crossing the Rubicon: Abjection and Revolution in Christina Stead's <i>I'm Dying</i> <i>Laughing</i>
Susan Sheridan	41	Christina Stead's Last Book: The Novel and the Best-Seller
Michael Ackland	53	Whatever Happened to Coppelius?: Antecedents and Design in Christina Stead's <i>The Salzburg Tales</i>
Nicole Moore	67	The Totally Incredible Obscenity of Letty Fox
Susan Lever	81	Christina Stead's Workshop in the Novel: How to Write a "Novel of Strife"
Jianjun Li	93	A Note on Christina Stead and China
Margaret Harris	99	Christina Stead in Japanese
		Dorothy Green Memorial Lecture
Delys Bird	105	Gertrude and Elizabeth: Letters, Lives and Fictions
		Essays
Cheryl Taylor	121	Constructing Aboriginality: Archibald Meston's Literary Journalism, 1870–1924
Susan Magarey	141	"The Colour Of Your Moustache" Or Have Feminists Always Been Humourless?

Lisa M. Fiander	157	Writing in "A Fairy Story Landscape": Fairy
		Tales and Contemporary Australian Fiction
Lyn Jacobs	167	Homelands vs "The Tropics": Crossing the Line

#### Reviews

Frances Devlin Glass	179	Gould's Book of Fish: a novel in 12 fish, by Richard Flanagan
Andrew McCann	184	Patrick White, Painter Manqué: Paintings, Painters and their Influence on his Writings, by Helen Verity Hewitt
Ken Gelder	186	<i>The Making of the Australian Literary Imagination</i> , by Richard Nile
Christina Hill	190	<i>Christina Stead: Satirist</i> , by Anne Pender and <i>The Enigmatic Christina Stead</i> , by Teresa Petersen
Rachael Weaver	193	Seven Versions of an Australian Badlands, by Ross Gibson
Peter Kirkpatrick	195	The New Collected Poems 1961–2002, by Les Murray; Les Murray, by Steven Matthews; The Poetry of Les Murray, edited by Laurie Hergenhan and Bruce Clunies Ross
	201	List of Contributors

2003 ASAL LITERARY AWARDS

- 205 ALS Gold Medal Report
- 209 Walter McCrae Russel Prize
- A. A. Phillips Prize
- 211 JASAL Style Guide