

63.2

**New Writing from  
Western Australia**

Fiction

Creative Non-Fiction

Poetry

Essays

**In this Issue**

David Malouf

Julie Dowling

Rose Lucas

John Kinsella &

Fay Zwicky

# Westerly



## Westerly

Volume 63 Number 2, 2018

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63.2

New Writing from

Western Australia

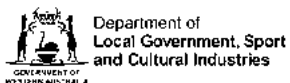
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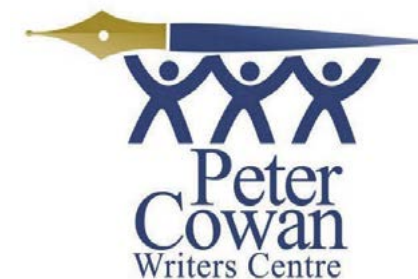
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### Contact Us:

**Peter Cowan Writers Centre Inc.**

[www.pcwc.org.au](http://www.pcwc.org.au)

[cowan05@bigpond.com](mailto:cowan05@bigpond.com)

9301 2282

*ECU Joondalup Campus*

*Building 20 Edith Cowan House*

*207 Joondalup Drive, Joondalup WA 6027*

**Like Icarus**  
**'Falling Man', photograph by**  
**Richard Drew, 9/11**  
**Julie Watts**

Julie Watts is a Western Australian poet published in national and international journals and anthologies. She won the Dorothy Hewett Award for an Unpublished Manuscript (2018) and her second poetry collection, *Legacy*, will be published by UWA Publishing in November, 2018.

the falling man  
falls  
head first  
arrow-like  
knee bent as  
a genuflect  
passes pyres  
a calm and pointed  
bird  
the zenith too high  
and hot a perch  
he falls  
resigned as rain  
passes America  
crumbling  
into itself  
his white shirt  
flapping  
in the soot  
twin candles  
snuffing out  
2,000 birthdays  
2 puffs 2 slices  
through  
the cake is rotten  
and everybody  
screams—  
but not the man  
free falling

he plummets  
in his chosen  
flight  
the tails of his  
coat  
gentle flags  
all his prayers  
are silent  
said  
small beads  
buried quiet  
in his bones  
16 years  
he is falling  
still  
freeze-frame  
caught  
he lives  
despite  
the ash  
forever leaping  
forever  
the tipping  
jug  
the plunging  
icon in  
suspended  
holy  
flight