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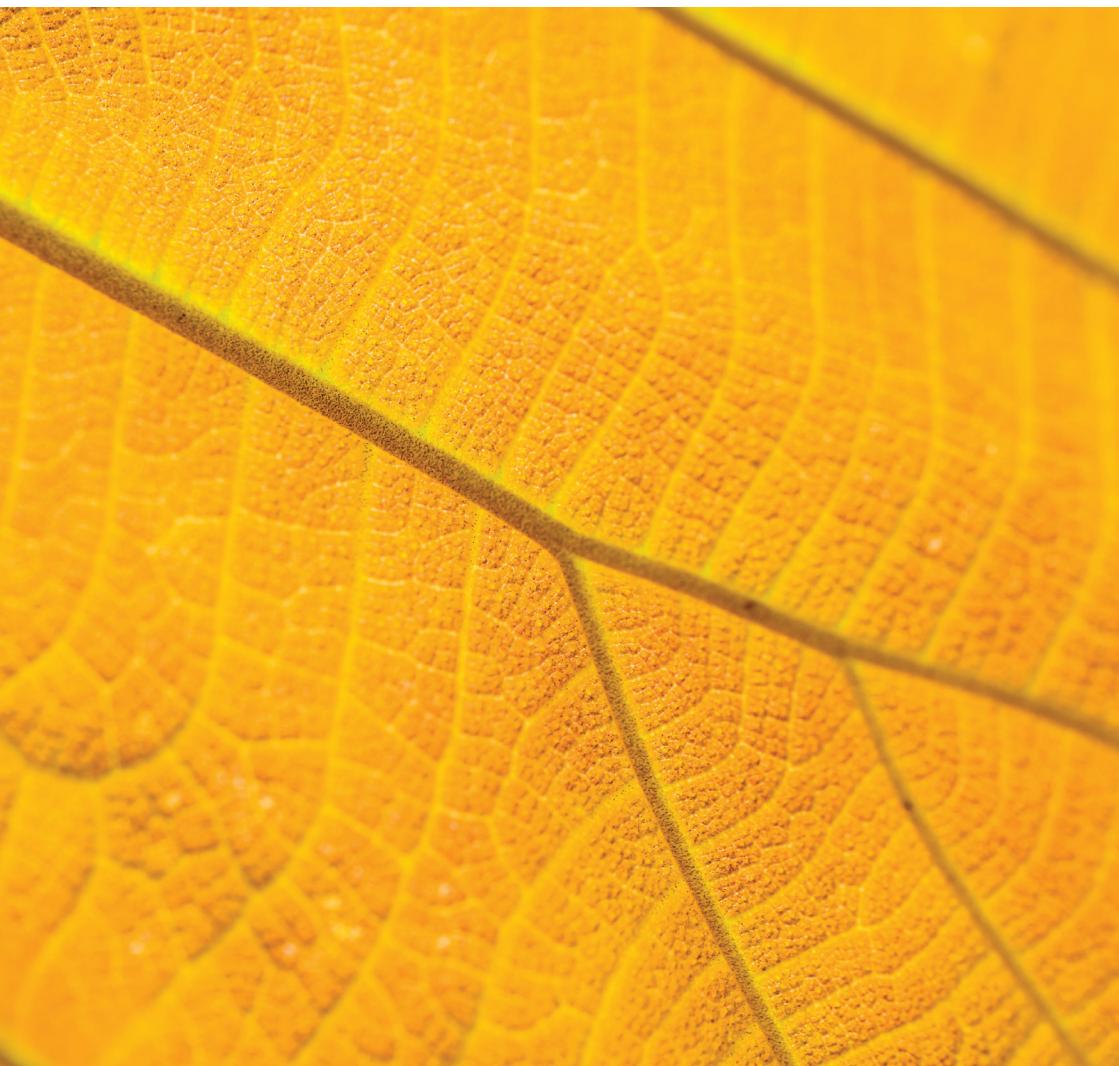
New Writing from  
Western Australia

Fiction  
Creative Non-Fiction  
Poetry  
Essays

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David Malouf  
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Rose Lucas  
John Kinsella &  
Fay Zwicky

# Westerly



**Notice of Intention**

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*Westerly* acknowledges all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as First Australians. We celebrate the continuous living cultures of Indigenous people and their vital contributions within Australian society.

*Westerly*'s office, at the University of Western Australia, is located on Whadjak Noongar land. We recognise the Noongar people as the spiritual and cultural custodians of this land.

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# Westerly

**(without you)**  
Anne Elvey

Anne Elvey is author of *White on White* (Cordite, 2018) and *Kin* (SIP, 2014), co-author with Massimo D'Arcangelo and Helen Moore of *Intatto* (La Vita Felice, 2017), editor of *hope for whole: poets speak up to Adani*, and managing editor of *Plumwood Mountain: An Australian Journal of Ecopoetry and Ecopoetics*.

to hear the chatter by eye as if through a pane  
to strike matchgirl lights for consolation

to escape a gut swoop like prayer wings wide  
to develop old film

physic chemical eye and  
aperture

to become (without you) the thing  
it requires  
a plant growing by its own light

at a cliff's turn toward  
a petrified forest stride  
is a pastorate of sorts

wearing nan's ring of vocation  
her idiom of disillusion

**Namatjira's Ghost Gums**  
Rose Lucas

Rose Lucas is a Melbourne poet and academic at Victoria University. Her most recent collection is *Unexpected Clearing* (UWAP, 2016).

Arrernte man  
schooled in the mission,  
(its thin-lipped books, its narrowed planks),  
you frame—  
in composition, in swirl of colour—  
this particularity of space:

a crumple of mauve hills,  
crevices, a murmur of stories in  
the unblinking light of mid-day  
pouring across

a sweep of plain,  
its clusterings of green:

Watching the swell of luminous tree trunks that mark your boundary  
I imagine I can still hear you  
whispering—  
the rustling, breathy  
language of the ghosts.