

63.2

New Writing from  
Western Australia

Fiction

Creative Non-Fiction

Poetry

Essays

In this Issue

David Malouf

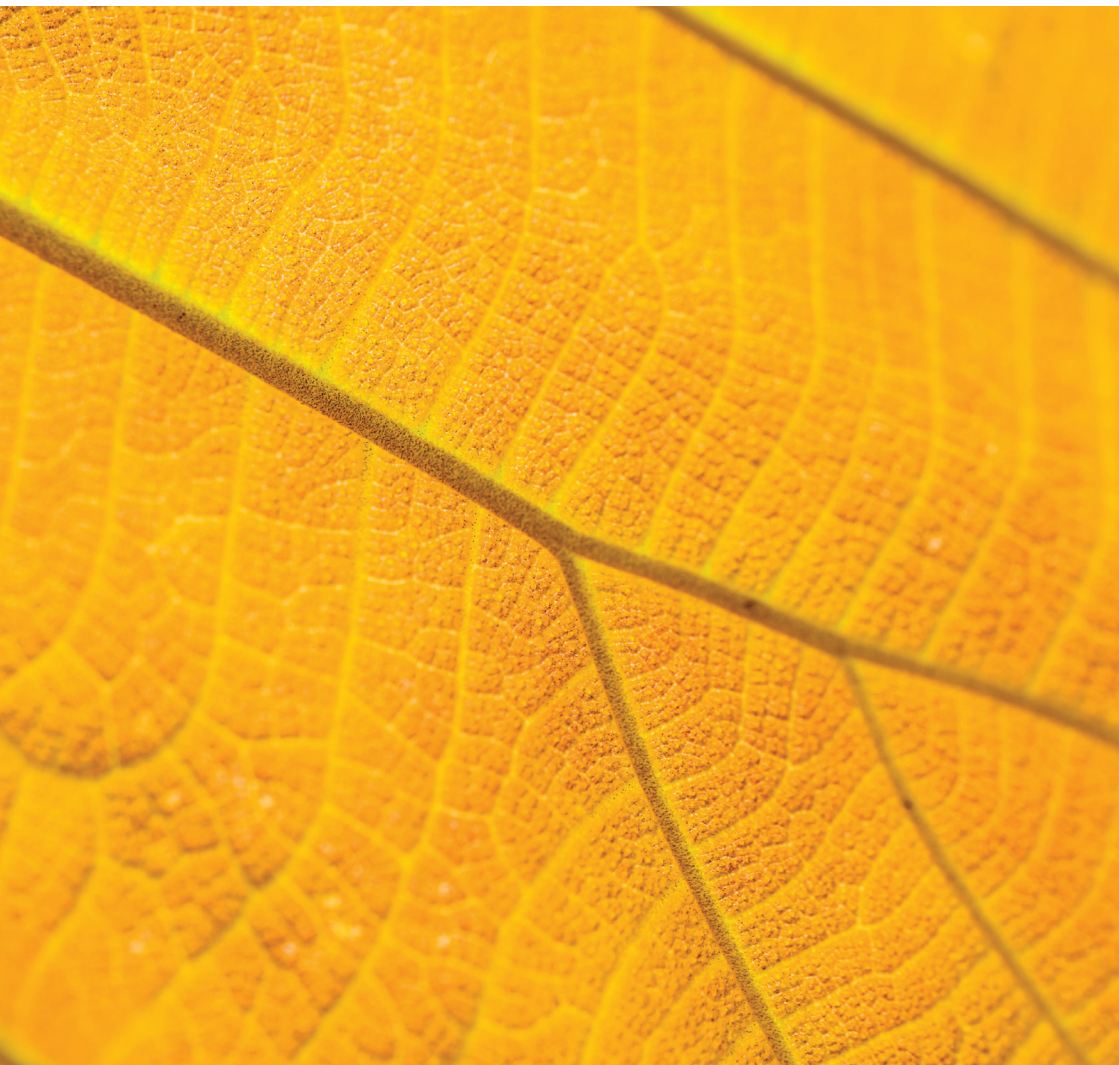
Julie Dowling

Rose Lucas

John Kinsella &

Fay Zwicky

# Westerly



## Westerly

Volume 63 Number 2, 2018

### Notice of Intention

Westerly has converted the full backfile of Westerly (1956–) to electronic text, available to readers and researchers on the *Westerly* website, [www.westerlymag.com.au](http://www.westerlymag.com.au). This work has been supported by a grant from the Cultural Fund of the Copyright Agency Limited.

All creative works, articles and reviews converted to electronic format will be correctly attributed and will appear as published. Copyright will remain with the authors, and the material cannot be further republished without authorial permission. *Westerly* will honour any requests to withdraw material from electronic publication. If any author does not wish their work to appear in this format, please contact *Westerly* immediately and your material will be withdrawn.

**Contact:** [westerly@uwa.edu.au](mailto:westerly@uwa.edu.au)

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.

### Publisher

Westerly Centre, The University of Western Australia, Australia

### General Editor

Catherine Noske

### Associate Editor

Josephine Taylor

### Editorial Advisors

Cassandra Atherton (poetry)

Rachel Robertson (prose)

Elfie Shiosaki (Indigenous writing)

### Editorial Consultants

Delys Bird (The University of Western Australia)

Barbara Bynder

Caterina Colomba (Università del Salento)

Tanya Dalziel (The University of Western Australia)

Paul Genoni (Curtin University)

Dennis Haskell (The University of Western Australia)

John Kinsella (Curtin University)

Ambelin Kwaymullina (The University of Western Australia)

Susan Lever (Hon. Associate, The University of Sydney)

John Mateer

Tracy Ryan (The University of Western Australia)

Andrew Taylor (Edith Cowan University)

Corey Wakeling (Kobe College, Japan)

David Whish-Wilson (Curtin University)

Terri-ann White (The University of Western Australia Publishing)

### Administrator

Asha Ryan

### Commissioning Editor

Lucy Dougan

### Web Editor

Chris Arnold

### Production

Design: Chil3

Typesetting: Lasertype

Print: UniPrint, The University of Western Australia

**Front cover:** Design: Becky Chilcott, Chil3. Image: © Chaikom, *Colourful Autumn Leaf*. Photographer, illustrator/vector artist, videographer, Thailand.

All academic work published in *Westerly* is peer-reviewed. Copyright of each piece belongs to the author; copyright of the collection belongs to the Westerly Centre. Republication is permitted on request to author and editor.

*Westerly* is published biannually with assistance from the State Government of WA by an investment in this project through the Culture and the Arts (WA) division of the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries. The opinions expressed in *Westerly* are those of individual contributors and not of the Editors or Editorial Advisors.

63.2

New Writing from  
Western Australia  
Fiction  
Creative Non-Fiction  
Poetry  
Essays

# Westerly



**(without you)**  
Anne Elvey

Anne Elvey is author of *White on White* (Cordite, 2018) and *Kin* (5IP, 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 Eco-poetry and Eco-poetics*.

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.