

# MEDIA RELEASE

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY PUBLISHING

187 Grattan Street Carlton 3053 Australia • Telephone +613 9342 0300 • mup-info@unimelb.edu.au • www.mup.com.au



*“The narrative sweeps through d’Alpuget’s colourful life with an overarching exploration of spirituality”. The Weekend Australian*



MUP RRP \$19.95

PUBLICATION/EMBARGO DATE  
01 AUGUST 2008

Blanche d’Alpuget is available for interview.

For more information please contact Dina Kluska at MUP on 03 9342 0329 or 0406 998 030, or email [dkluska@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:dkluska@unimelb.edu.au)

## ON LONGING

by Blanche D’Alpuget

‘With mutual, wordless consent it was agreed we would become lovers as soon as possible - which happened to be in a different city, the following night. He was late, and arrived wearing pancake make-up. Did he enchant me with flowers, chocolates, sentiments? On the contrary. He was charming, funny and straight-forward: he liked me and enjoyed talking to me; what he loved was sex.’

Blanche d’Alpuget, *On Longing*

Returning to published writing for the first time in ten years, Blanche d’Alpuget’s *On Longing* is an intimate and revealing meditation that examines the creative tension between writing and love. It is also a moving tribute to her muse and will both surprise and touch readers with its honesty.

Blanche d’Alpuget is the biographer of Richard Kirby and Bob Hawke, and the author of the novels *Turtle Beach* and *Winter in Jerusalem*, among others.

### LITTLE BOOKS ON BIG THEMES

MUP’s exciting new series pairs leading Australian thinkers and cultural figures with some of the big themes in life.

Authors in the series have written on a theme that resonates with them. Speaking about the choice of themes, MUP CEO and Publisher, Louise Adler, said, ‘The choice of what to write about was left up to each writer. We have some deeply moving and personal accounts which reflect each writers’ passion. It is very exciting to be publishing such original and provocative works.’

***On Longing* by Blanche d’Alpuget is one of four titles in this ongoing series to be published in August. Others include: Germaine Greer *On Rage*, David Malouf *On Experience* and Barrie Kosky *On Ecstasy*.**