

MEDIA RELEASE

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For more information or to arrange an interview with a contributor, please contact **Olivia Blake** at MUP on 03 9342 0322 or 0406 998 030, or email oblake@unimelb.edu.au

MEANJIN Volume 70, Number 4 Edited by Sally Heath

In the December *Meanjin* we gather new perspectives on contemporary Australian issues of culture, art and politics.

Marcia Langton holds the Australian constitution up to the light and asks how we build something for the future that isn't crippled by the racism embedded in the language of our founding document.

Dean Ashden examines the life and legacy of W. H. Stanner who, from unlikely beginnings, became enthralled by Indigenous Australians' sophisticated cultural life and an ardent campaigner for their rights and recognition.

Richard King argues that the ephemeral notion of 'offensiveness' carries too much weight in our public debate and calls for a culture of greater robustness and self-examination.

We continue **David Mence's** cycle of captivating new fiction set in an Australian past that haunts us still.

Ivor Indyk considers the book as a collector's item and cultural phenomenon, and wonders whether its time has passed.

Sally Heath talks to Arts Minister **Simon Crean** about the future of Arts funding in Australia

We present an examination of the collaborative process with photography and poetry from **Jillian** and **David Patterson**.

In memoir, artist **Rod Moss** travels to the Harts Ranges in the company of a group of angangkeroes (healers) as they gather the materials and tools of their work.

We present the winners of the *Meanjin* Dorothy Porter Prize for Poetry—**Fiona Britton** and **Stephen Edgar**—as well as new work from **Rose Lucas**, **Mark Tredinnick**, **Michelle Cahill**, among others.

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