

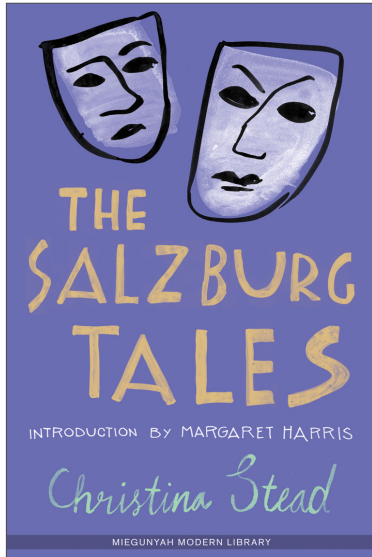
# MEDIA RELEASE

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## THE SALZBURG TALES

by Christina Stead

*'Christina Stead has the scope, the imagination, the objectivity of the greatest novelists.'*—DAVID MALOUF

*'I could die of envy of her hard eye.'*—HELEN GARNER

*'Stead is of that category of fiction writer who restores to us the entire world, in its infinite complexity and inexorable bitterness.'*—ANGELA CARTER, LONDON REVIEW OF BOOKS

A group of visitors to the Salzburg Festival, brought together by chance, decides to mark time by telling tales. Their fantasies, legends, tragedies, jokes and parodies come together as *The Salzburg Tales*.

Dazzling in their richness and vitality, the tales are grounded in Christina Stead's belief that 'the story is magical ... what is best about the short story [is] it is real life for everyone; and everyone can tell one'. Originally published eighty years ago, these are thoroughly modern stories that invite comparison with Boccaccio's *Decameron* and Chaucer's *The Canterbury Tales*.

*The Salzburg Tales* are published here with a new introduction by Margaret Harris, Challis Professor of English Literature Emerita at the University of Sydney, and literary executor for Christina Stead.

**Christina Stead** was born in Sydney in 1902, and died there in 1983. Most of her life was spent elsewhere: in London, Paris and other places in Europe, and in the United States. *The Salzburg Tales*, her first book, was published in 1934, followed by twelve more works of fiction. She was the recipient of the inaugural Patrick White Literary Prize in 1974.

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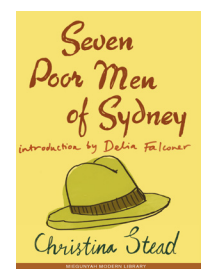
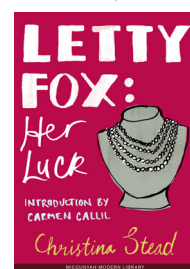
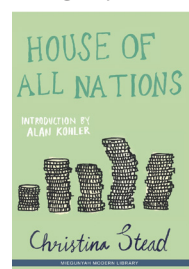
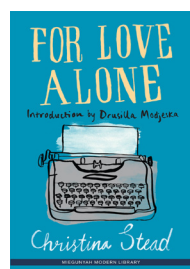
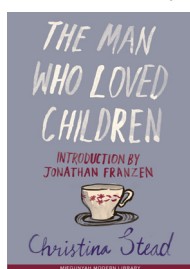
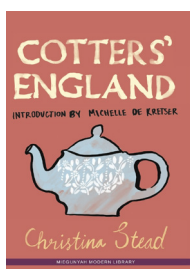
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