

13th October 2017

Re: Call for Applications for Poetry Now Awards

A chara,

We hope that this letter finds you well. We write to once again invite you to participate in the Irish Times Poetry Now Award, which is presented annually at Mountains to Sea dlr Book Festival to the author of the best collection of poems in English, published by an Irish poet in the previous year.

The 2018 Mountains to Sea dlr Book Festival will take place from 21st – 25th March 2018. Previous winners of the Award include Paddy Bushe, Caitríona O'Reilly, Theo Dorgan, Sinéad Morrissey, Dennis O'Driscoll, Michael Longley, Harry Clifton and Seamus Heaney. The Award will be presented at Mountains to Sea dlr Book Festival on Saturday 24th March 2018 and is made possible by the generous support of The Irish Times.

Another award, The Shine/Strong Poetry Award is presented annually to the author of the best first collection of poems published by an Irish poet in the previous year. Previous winners of the Award include Adam Crothers, Breda Wall Ryan, Caoilinn Hughes, Tara Bergin, Michelle O'Sullivan, Billy Ramsell, Grace Wells, Peadar Ó hUallaigh, Nerys Williams and Dave Lordan. The Award will be presented at Mountains to Sea dlr Book Festival on Sunday 25th March at a reading by the shortlisted nominees. The Shine/Strong Award is awarded in memory of Rupert and Eithne Strong and is made possible by the generous support of Shine, the national organisation dedicated to upholding the rights and addressing the needs of all those affected by mental ill health.

Our judges for both Shine Strong and Irish Times Poetry Now will be announced in the coming weeks.

I enclose the guidelines for both awards, which give details of eligibility and how to submit a collection for consideration. As you will see, the deadline for entry is Thursday 30th November 2017 at 12 noon. No late entries will be accepted. The judges are particularly keen to see all the books published in 2017 rather than a shortlist from each publisher as it is important for all concerned – poets, publishers and judges, that the Awards are based on a true reflection of all that has been published in a given year.

We can reassure you that each and every submitted publication is given serious consideration. These prestigious awards single out poetic work of the highest quality and garner significant attention for the books of the winning authors, something of lasting benefit to publishers and writers alike.

If you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at mountainstoseadirect@dlrcoco.ie or Brid at admin@mountainstosea.ie or 01 231 1444.

Looking forward to hearing from you

With best wishes



Liz Kelly
Director, Mountains to Sea dlr Book Festival 2018



PUBLISHERS GUIDELINES – Irish Times Poetry Now Award 2018

- The Irish Times Poetry Now Award is presented annually to the author of the best single volume of poems in English published by an Irish poet in the previous year.
- The Award is generously sponsored by The Irish Times and is part of Poetry Now at the Mountains to Sea dlr Book Festival, which runs from the 21st – 25th March 2018.
- Each press (but not individual poets) must submit **four copies** of each title eligible for the award (which will not be returned) **before 12 noon on Thursday 30th November 2017**.
- Entry is open to poets who are citizens of Ireland or who have been Irish residents for the past five years or longer.
- No late entries will be accepted.
- Collections must have been published during 2017.
- Titles should be sent to:
Poetry Now, c/o Diffusion Events
Mounttown Business Park
70 Lower Mounttown Road
Dún Laoghaire
Co. Dublin
- Translations are not eligible.
- "Best of" collections or selected editions including previously published work are not eligible.
- The entry must be in book format and not the format of a magazine, pamphlet, periodical or anthology.
- All books must carry an ISBN.
- Applicants will receive a receipt of submission by email, but the festival staff and judges will not enter in any communication on the status of an entry during the judging process.
- The shortlist of 5 titles will be announced prior to the festival and the winner will be announced in The Irish Times and during Poetry Now at Mountains to Sea dlr Book Festival.
- The prize-winner will receive €2,000.
- The judges' decision is final.

Contact: Bríd Boland
admin@mountainstosea or (01) 231 1444
www.mountainstosea.ie

PUBLISHERS GUIDELINES – Shine/Strong Poetry Award 2018

- The dlr Shine/Strong Poetry Award is presented annually to the author of the best first collection of poems published by an Irish poet in the previous year.
- The Award is part of Poetry Now at the Mountains to Sea dlr Book Festival.
- The Award will serve to recognise the promise and achievement of both English and Irish language poets.
- First collections published in English or Irish by Irish writers within the calendar year 2017 are eligible.
- Each press (but not individual poets) must submit **two copies** (which will not be returned) of each title eligible for the award before **12 noon on Thursday 30th November 2017**.
- Entry is open to poets who are citizens of Ireland or who have been Irish residents for the past five years or longer.
- Titles should be sent to
Poetry Now
c/o Diffusion Events
Mounttown Business Park
70 Lower Mounttown Road
Dún Laoghaire
Co. Dublin
- No late entries will be accepted.
- No e-mail submissions will be accepted.
- Collections must be published during 2017.
- Translations are not eligible.
- The entry must be in book format and not the format of a magazine, pamphlet, periodical or anthology
- All books must carry an ISBN
- Applicants will receive a receipt of submission by email, but the festival staff and judges will not enter in any communication on the status of an entry during the judging process.
- Short-listed writers will be invited to read at the Shine/Strong Reading during the Mountains to Sea dlr Book Festival, which takes place from 21st – 25th March 2018.
- The winner will be announced at the Shine/Strong Reading.
- The winner will receive €1,000.
- The judges' decision is final.

The Shine/Strong Poetry Award is awarded in memory of Rupert and Eithne Strong and is made possible by the generous support of Shine. Shine is the national organisation dedicated to upholding the rights and addressing the needs of all those affected by mental ill health, through the promotion and provision of high-quality services and working to ensure the continual enhancement of the quality of life of the people it serves.

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**MOUNTAINS
TO SEA
dlr BOOK
FESTIVAL**

2018 Poetry Awards

Entrant Name	
Publication	
Publisher Contact	
Address	
Phone	
Email	

Competition to be entered	Please tick
Irish Times Poetry Now Award	
Shine / Strong Poetry Award	

Please consult guidance notes for each competition for entry criteria.
 Two copies of the book must be submitted with Shine / Strong award entry.
 Four copies of the book must be submitted with Irish Times / Poetry Now entry.

Please return this form with your entry to:

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