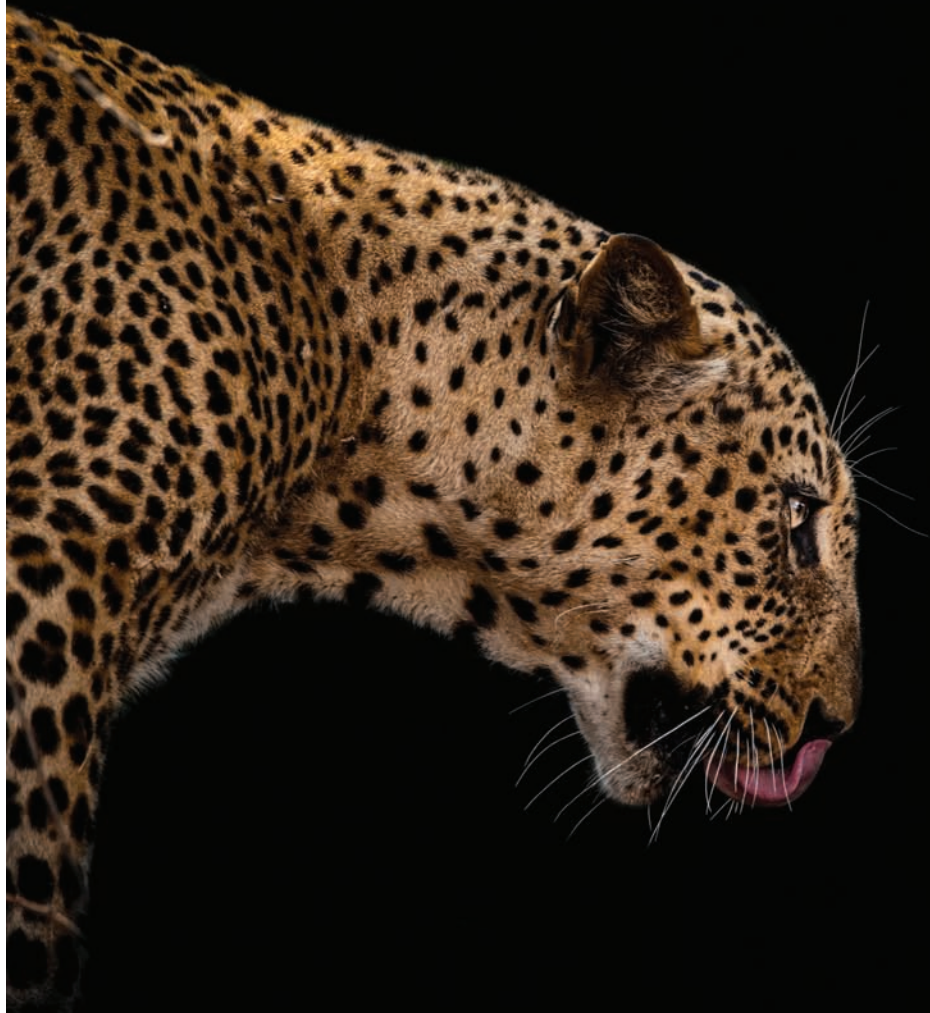


BLOODAXE BOOKS
NEW BOOKS 2024



www.bloodaxebooks.com



FEBRUARY 10 FLEUR ADCOCK Collected Poems

Fleur Adcock is one of Britain's most accomplished poets. Her poised, ironic poems are tense and tightly controlled as well as shrewdly laconic, and often chilling as she unmasks the deceptions of love or unravels family lives. Disarmingly conversational in style, they are remarkable for their psychological insight and unsentimental, mischievously casual view of personal relationships.

Born in New Zealand, she has explored questions of identity and rootedness throughout her work, both in relation to her personal allegiances to her native and adopted countries as well as her family history, whose long-dead characters she brings to life. She has also written movingly of birth,

death and bereavement, and has tackled political issues with honest indignation and caustic wit.

This first complete edition of her poetry is published on her 90th birthday, superseding her earlier retrospective, *Poems 1960-2000*, with the addition of five later Bloodaxe collections along with a gathering of 20 new poems.

Born in 1934, **FLEUR ADCOCK** spent the war years in England, returning with her family to New Zealand in 1947. She emigrated to Britain in 1963, working as a librarian in London. She became a freelance writer in 1979 after taking up residencies based in Ambleside, Newcastle and Durham. She has received several national honours.

£25 paper
978 | 78037 683 7
£35 hardback
978 | 78037 684 4
624 pages • 234 x 156 mm

Rights: World exc.
New Zealand & Australia
(Te Herenga Waka
University Press)



After an OBE in 1996, Fleur Adcock received the Queen's Gold Medal for Poetry for 2006 from H.M. Queen Elizabeth at Buckingham Palace.

In 2019 Fleur Adcock was presented with the New Zealand Prime Minister's Award for Literary Achievement in Poetry 2019 by Dame Jacinda Ardern.



FEBRUARY 22 KERRY HARDIE We Go On

This is a book about the irreducible core of what it is to be human in a world that changes constantly yet repeats and repeats. It uses images that speak to a place in us that does not depend on fashion but braves that over-used word 'archetypal'. It is mostly specific to an Irish landscape the author knows very well, yet sometimes ventures beyond, always with the awareness that fear is our constant companion, but also joy.

Its title echoes Beckett's 'I must go on, I can't go on, I'll go on' with something of this despair, while holding to the irrational conviction of 'being enclosed by light'.

KERRY HARDIE's collection *The Zebra Stood in the Night* was short-listed for the *Irish Times*–Poetry Now Award. She lives in Co. Kilkenny.

£12 paper
978 | 78037 701 8
80 pages • 216 x 138mm
Rights: World

ALSO AVAILABLE:
Selected Poems
The Zebra Stood in the Night
Where Now Begins



FEBRUARY 22 AOIFE LYALL The Day Before

Aoife Lyall's second collection beautifully captures the ordinary moments in life that crystallise in the face of crisis and threat. Focusing on the earliest weeks and months of the pandemic, these intimate and meticulous poems mark the lived experience of someone who must navigate a world she no longer understands. Tender, challenging, and historically significant, *The Day Before* asks what it means when home is the one place you cannot leave, and the one place you cannot go.

AOIFE LYALL was born and raised in Dublin and now lives in the Scottish Highlands. Her debut, *Mother, Nature* was shortlisted for the Scottish First Book Award 2021 in Scotland's National Book Awards.

£12 paper
978 | 78037 690 5
64 pages • 234 x 156mm
Rights: World

ALSO AVAILABLE:
Mother, Nature





MARCH 21 JANE HIRSHFIELD

The Asking
NEW & SELECTED POEMS
Poetry Book Society Recommendation

Jane Hirshfield is a visionary American writer whose poems ask nothing less than what it is to be human. Both sensual meditations and passionate investigations of our shared and borrowed lives, they reveal complex truths in language luminous and precise. In an era of algorithm, assertion and induced distraction, Jane Hirshfield's poems bring a much-needed awakening response, actively countering narrowness. *The Asking* supersedes her earlier retrospective, *Each Happiness Ringed by Lions*, as well as drawing upon four later collections and new poems.

JANE HIRSHFIELD lives in northern California. She was the 2022 Seamus Heaney International Visiting Poetry Fellow at Queen's University, Belfast.



£14.99 paper
978 1 78037 679 0
368 pages • 234 x 156 mm
Rights: World
exc. North America



MARCH 21 MARIA STEPANOVA

Holy Winter 20/21
Tr. Sasha Dugdale
Poetry Book Society Translation Choice

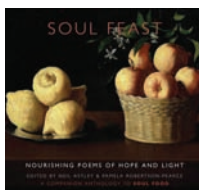
Maria Stepanova's book-length poem, written in a frenzy during the pandemic in Russia, speaks of winter and war, of banishment and exile, of social isolation and existential abandonment. Stepanova finds sublime imagery for the process of falling silent, interweaving love letters and travelogues, Chinese verse and Danish fairy tales into a polyphonic evocation of frozen and slowly thawing time. Her book's title is even more prophetic now, echoing a famous patriotic Soviet song from 1941, 'a holy war is underway'.

MARIA STEPANOVA is a poet, novelist, essayist and journalist. She was awarded the Berman Literature Prize in 2023 for her documentary novel *In Memory of Memory*, and now lives in exile.



£12 paper
978 1 78037 695 0
56 pages • 234 x 156mm
Rights: World
exc. North America

ALSO AVAILABLE:
War of the Beasts and the Animals



MARCH 21 SOUL FEAST

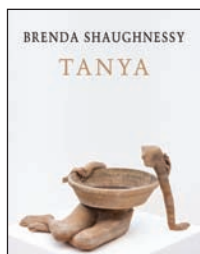
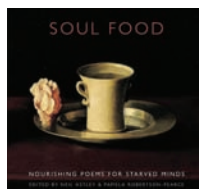
nourishing poems of hope & light:
a companion anthology to *Soul Food*
Edited by Neil Astley
& Pamela Robertson-Pearce

Soul Feast is a companion anthology to *Soul Food*, offering up a further feast of thoughtful poems to stir the mind and feed the spirit, bringing hope and light in dark, uncertain times. This book's inspiration – *Soul Food* – achieved its wide popularity by word of mouth. For many thousands of readers feeling adrift in the early years of the 21st century, the poems in that book offered support and sustenance. There are even more voices of hope and healing, of love and tolerance, kindness and compassion, sanity and solace, to be heard and felt in the poems of *Soul Feast*. This new compilation shows how poetry can help sustain our search for meaning in times of spiritual starvation.

£12 paper
978 1 78037 706 3
160 pages • 163 x 174mm
Rights: World

Also available
SOUL FOOD
nourishing poems
for starved minds

£9.99 paper • 2007
978 1 85224 766 9
160 pages • 163 x 174mm

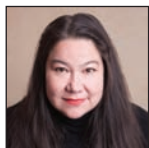


APRIL 25 BRENDA SHAUGHNESSY

Tanya

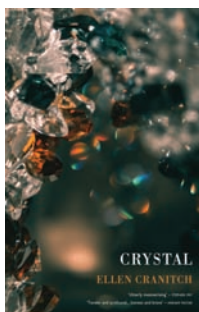
Brenda Shaughnessy is one of America's most audacious and thrilling poets. In *Tanya* she weaves a tapestry of literary heritage and intimate reflection as she pays tribute to women artists and mentors, and circles the mysteries of friendship, love, art, and loss. In this powerful gathering of poems about her own "influencers" – as well as poems on Surrealist artist Meret Oppenheim and the young choreographer Lauren Lovette – Shaughnessy remembers the women who set her on her artistic path.

BRENDA SHAUGHNESSY is an Okinawan-Irish American poet who grew up in California. Her first UK title, *Liquid Flesh: New & Selected Poems*, was published by Bloodaxe in 2022.



£12.99 paper
978 1 78037 708 7
112 pages • 179 x 231mm
Rights: World
exc. North America

ALSO AVAILABLE:
Liquid Flesh: New & Selected Poems



APRIL 25
ELLEN CRANITCH
Crystal

Crystal traces the arc of one woman's experience after the discovery that her partner is addicted to crystal meth. In a highly original poetic act of reclamation, it plunders the drug itself and makes of it an overarching conceit to articulate the devastating impact of living with a loved one who is utterly changed. Deeply felt, tirelessly inventive, this collection gives voice to addiction's explosive effect within a family. At the same time it speaks universally and with urgency of the power of poetry to take one through the darkest of times.

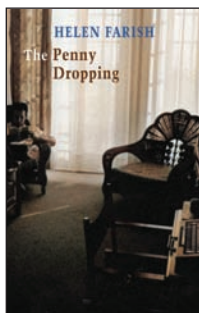
'Utterly mesmerising.' – STEPHEN FRY

'Tender and profound...honest and brave' – HISHAM MATAR

ELLEN CRANITCH's debut *The Immortalist* was shortlisted for the Seamus Heaney Award. Born in London of Irish parents, she teaches at the City Lit Institute in London.



£12 paper
 978 | 78037 697 4
 96 pages • 234 x 156mm
 Rights: World



APRIL 25
HELEN FARISH
The Penny Dropping

Helen Farish's fourth collection traces a cherished relationship from first meeting to eventual break-up.

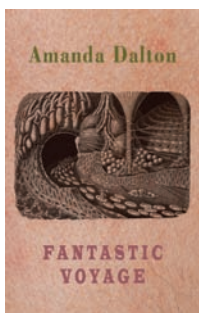
'*The Penny Dropping*, Helen Farish's verse-sequence about a love relationship, could be called a page-turner if it weren't for the fact that every page is a lyric poem of such compulsion that it unflinchingly and hauntingly detains the reader's attention. As a whole, it has all the coherence of a novel; but there is so much more to this beautifully realised lyric collection of the kind that she is a recognised master of. It is a masterpiece in both forms to a very unusual degree.'

– BERNARD O'DONOGHUE

HELEN FARISH won the Forward Prize for Best First Collection. She has also received a PBS Recommendation and a T.S. Eliot Prize shortlisting. She lives in Cumbria.

£12 paper
 978 | 85224 996 0
 64 pages • 234 x 156mm
 Rights: World

ALSO AVAILABLE:
Nocturnes at Nohant
The Dog of Memory



MAY 23
AMANDA DALTON
Fantastic Voyage

A child travels down her own oesophagus, one grief-stricken soul descends into a watery underworld whilst another experiences love as demonic possession... By turns wryly humorous, tender and heart-broken, *Fantastic Voyage* takes us on journeys into our hidden and ghostly selves, exploring myriad ways in which the human body gives voice to unspeakable truths.

'A magnificent poem of poems: a surging, truth-bound voyage that offers no easy purpose, acceptance, or ending.' – DAVID MORLEY, *Poetry Review*, on *Notes on Water*, included in *Fantastic Voyage*

AMANDA DALTON is a poet and playwright who writes extensively for BBC Radio. *How to Disappear* was shortlisted for the Forward Prize for Best First Collection. She lives in Hebden Bridge.



£12 paper
 978 | 78037 711 7
 72 pages • 234 x 156mm
 Rights: World

ALSO AVAILABLE:
How to Disappear
Stray



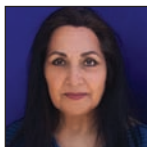
MAY 23
IMTIAZ DHARKER
Shadow Reader

Shadow Reader is a radiant criss-cross of encounters, messages and Punjabi proverbs, shot through with the dark thread of an unwelcome prophecy. The poems bind this looming curse to the colonisation of countries, the earth and its creatures, to those who own the story and those who redirect it through art or artifice. Imtiaz Dharker's seventh Bloodaxe collection pays attention to wilful erasures, exclusions and also to places of sanctuary. While it acknowledges the everyday and its shadows, it is also an irreverent, playful celebration of life.

IMTIAZ DHARKER was awarded The Queen's Gold Medal for Poetry for 2014. Born in Lahore, she grew up in Glasgow, was adopted by India and married into Wales. She lives in London.

£12.99 paper
 978 | 78037 709 4
 160 pages • 216 x 138mm
 16 drawings
 Rights: World

ALSO AVAILABLE:
I Speak for the Devil • *Leaving Fingerprints* • *Luck is the Hook*
Over the Moon • *Postcards from god* • *The terrorist at my table*





MAY 23
KATIE DONOVAN
May Swim

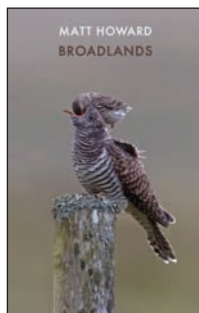
By turns lyrical and sardonic, this new book from Katie Donovan is characteristically watery – candid and uncompromising in its refusal to inhabit the safer reaches of the shore. Themes include ageing, widowhood and loss. Small acts of salvage may be all that's possible, such as the permission given during the pandemic to go 2km from home. This allowed Donovan to swim at White Rock, her local beach, thus staying afloat through the fear of that brutal time and what came next – the death of her mother.

£12 paper
978 1 78037 686 8
96 pages • 216 x 138mm
Rights: World

ALSO AVAILABLE:
Off Duty
Rootling: New & Selected Poems



KATIE DONOVAN has published five books of poetry, all with Bloodaxe, including *Off Duty* (2016), which was shortlisted for the *Irish Times*–Poetry Now Award. She lives in Dún Laoghaire.

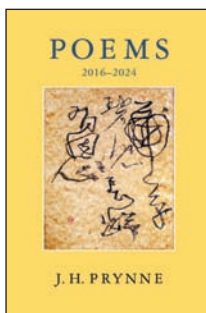


JUNE 27
MATT HOWARD
Broadlands

The poems of Matt Howard's *Broadlands* are grounded in the reedbeds, meadows and marshes of the Norfolk Broads. They are closely and thrillingly observed from real encounters, inviting us closer to the more-than-human world, its violence, fragility and wonder. Yet the human is always and all the more present; here too are poems of desire, love and grief. These are poems of the field, imaginings from the conservation of habitats restored and created.

£12 paper
978 1 78037 688 2
80 pages • 234 x 156mm
Rights: World

MATT HOWARD is a poet and environmentalist who worked in various roles for the RSPB for more than a decade. His debut *Gall* won the inaugural Laurel Prize for Best First Collection in 2020 as well as the 2018 East Anglian Book Award for Poetry.



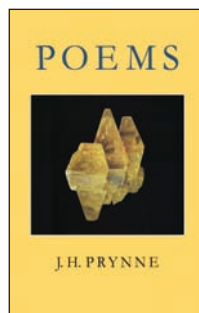
JUNE 27
J.H. PRYNNE
Poems 2016-2024

The decade since *Poems* (2015) has been the most productive period of J.H. Prynne's life, with over 30 limited editions published between 2017 and 2023. To have added these to a 4th edition of *Poems* would have doubled the size of that volume. *Poems 2016–2024* is therefore published as a separate, supplementary edition of his later work, including, except for minor corrections, the unchanged contents of 34 texts, from *Each to Each* (2017), written in 2016, to *Hadn't Yet Bitten* (2023). The 26 Impromptus comprising *Memory Working*, first published in three separate editions in 2020 and 2021, appear here as a complete sequence.

£25 paper
978 1 78037 692 9
£35 hardback
978 1 78037 693 6
720 pages • 234 x 156 mm
Rights: World

ALSO AVAILABLE:
The Oval Window
Poems [2015] – see opposite

Born in 1936, **J.H. PRYNNE** retired from his influential teaching posts at the University of Cambridge in 2005. He lives in Cambridge.



Also available
J.H. PRYNNE
Poems [3rd EDITION 2015]

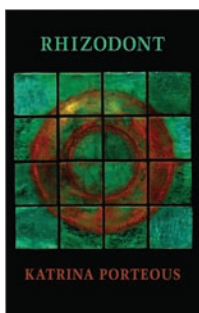
J.H. Prynne is Britain's leading late Modernist poet. When his *Poems* was first published in 1999, it was immediately acclaimed as a landmark in modern poetry. Four further collections were added to the second edition of *Poems* in 2005, followed by a further seven along with a group of uncollected poems to the third edition of *Poems* (2015).

£25 paper
978 1 78037 154 2
688 pages • 234 x 156mm
Rights: World

Announced June • Publication September
Winner of the Mslxia Women's Poetry Pamphlet Competition 2023

Judged by Imtiaz Dharker. Courtney Conrad won the 2022 competition. Her debut pamphlet *I Am Evidence* was published by Bloodaxe in September 2023. Winner announced in June 2024 issue of *Mslxia*.

£7.50 pamphlet • 978 1 78037 713 2 • 32 pages
September 19 • 210 x 140mm • Rights: World



JUNE 27
KATRINA PORTEOUS
Rhizodont

350 million years ago what is now the rocky shore close to Katrina Porteous's Northumberland home was a tropical swamp inhabited by a huge predatory fish with huge tusk-like teeth, the rhizodont. Her fourth book from Bloodaxe begins with a lovingly-observed journey through ancient Carboniferous landscapes, from the former coal-mining communities of the Durham coast to the Northumberland shores where the rhizodont's remains were found. There are also sequences on technological revolution – autonomous systems, AI, and remote-sensing techniques used to measure Earth's changing climate in the Antarctic.

KATRINA PORTEOUS has collaborated with scientists and musicians on many projects. She lives in Beadnell, Northumberland.

£12 paper
 978 | 78037 713 |
 80 pages
 234 x 156mm
 Rights: World

ALSO AVAILABLE:
Edge
The Lost Music
Two Countries



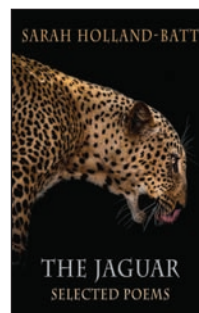
SEPTEMBER 19
NIALL CAMPBELL
The Island in the Sound

South Uist poet Niall Campbell's third collection creates an archipelago of memories, lyrics, observations and folktales that place the small islands of his birthplace into conversation with moments from literature and history. Here, mirroring the islands' precarious future, we uncover strange links to Rome falling, Lindsfarne, and the temporary heaven found in Alamut, North Iran. The waters that churn around the islands in the poems bring strange things to their shores: saints, remnants of various types of havens, crab-boxes, and figures from the working-class lives of Uist.

NIALL CAMPBELL's debut *Moontide* won the Saltire First Book of the Year Award. Born on South Uist in the Outer Hebrides, he now lives in Fife.

£12 paper
 978 | 78037 721 | 6
 80 pages
 216 x 138mm
 Rights: World

ALSO AVAILABLE:
Moontide
Noctuary

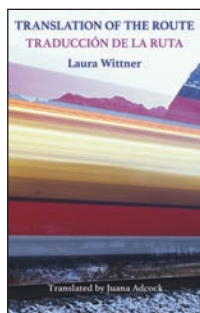


SEPTEMBER 19
SARAH HOLLAND-BATT
The Jaguar
SELECTED POEMS

With its rich selection from each of Sarah Holland-Batt's books of poetry up to *The Jaguar* (2022), this volume introduces one of Australia's most essential poets to UK readers. Her cosmopolitan poems engage with questions of loss and extinction, violence and erasure. From brutal animal hierarchies in the cloud forests of Nicaragua to the devastations and transfigurations of her father's long illness, she fearlessly probes the body's animal endurance, appetites and metamorphoses, and our human place within the natural order of things.

SARAH HOLLAND-BATT is Professor of Creative Writing and Literary Studies at QUT in Brisbane. She will be in the UK for readings from her book in autumn 2024, supported by a travel grant from Australia Council for the Arts.

£14.99 paper
 978 | 78037 704 | 9
 256 pages
 234 x 156mm
 Rights: World exc.
 Australia & New Zealand.



SEPTEMBER 19
LAURA WITTNER
Translation of the Route
Traducción de la ruta
Tr. Juana Adcock

Translation of the Route is the 11th collection by Argentine poet and translator Laura Wittner. In poems that are precise, frank and finely tuned, Wittner explores the specificities of parental and familial love, life after marriage, and reignition of the self in middle age. The 'things' of life – bus journeys, potted plants, thunder at night, coffee-stained books, fleeting conversations and the rest – are made full through Wittner's ability to pinpoint in them the consequential, and even the metaphysical.

LAURA WITTNER is an award-winning poet and translator. She lives in Buenos Aires, and will be in the UK in autumn 2024 to give a series of readings organised by the Poetry Translation Centre.

£12.99 paper
 978 | 78037 699 | 8
 160 pages
 216 x 138mm
 Rights: World
SPANISH-ENGLISH
DUAL LANGUAGE EDITION
Co-published with the Poetry Translation Centre





OCTOBER 24
DZIFA BENSON
Monster

Dzifa Benson's first book-length collection is a bold and lyrical exploration of the Black female body as a site of oppression and resistance. At its heart is a study of the world of Sarah Baartman, aka the Hottentot Venus, a Khoikhoi woman from South Africa who was displayed in freak shows in 19th-century Europe. Other poems draw parallels with Benson's own experience as a Black woman born in London but raised in Ghana who returned to the UK at the age of 18.

'An amazing collection, not only for a debut but for a poet at any stage. It's versatile and virtuosic, experimental and moving, complex and culturally important.'

— BERNARDINE EVARISTO

DZIFA BENSON is an award-winning multidisciplinary artist. She lives in London.

£12.99 paper
 978 1 78037 726 1
 112 pages • 234 x 138mm
 Rights: World



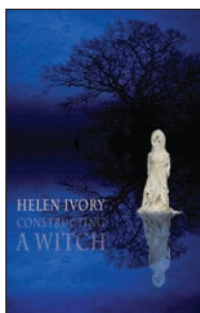
OCTOBER 24
NIA DAVIES
Votive Mess

In *Votive Mess* Nia Davies asks how time and desire move us errantly. Her second collection follows her startling debut *All fours*, emerging from an immersion in performance and ritual. These works are studies in the altered states of travel, masks, comedy, learning and love. *Votive Mess* is a book of small rebellions against systems of exhaustion and alienation, embracing lingual brambles and shabby theatre to assemble fragments gleaned from the rubble of Babel. There are love letters drowsy and excessive as well as uncanny happenings on stage and in the woods.

NIA DAVIES is a poet experimenting with performance, embodied practice and hybrid writing. Her debut *All fours* was shortlisted for the Roland Mathias Poetry Award 2018. She lives in Swansea.

£12 paper
 978 1 78037 715 5
 96 pages • 234 x 138mm
 Rights: World

ALSO AVAILABLE:
All fours



OCTOBER 24
HELEN IVORY
Constructing a Witch

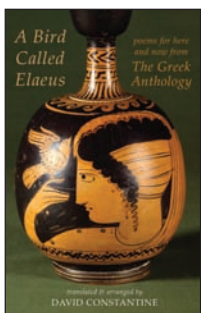
Despite the Devil being conceived to direct human baseness away from our goodly selves, there has always been sin in the world. The Bible has it that woman is the weaker vessel, therefore her inferior ways could easily let the Devil into the house, and into her oh so corruptible body – and thus the story begins.

Helen Ivory's *Constructing a Witch* fixes on the monstrous and the scapegoating of women and on the fear of ageing femininity. The witch appears as the barren, child-eating hag; she is a lustful seductress luring men to a path of corruption; she is a powerful or cantankerous woman whose cursing must be silenced by force.

HELEN IVORY is a poet and visual artist who has published five previous collections with Bloodaxe. She lives in Norwich.

£12 paper
 978 1 78037 719 3
 80 pages • 216 x 138mm
 Rights: World

ALSO AVAILABLE:
The Anatomical Venus
The Breakfast Machine
The Dog in the Sky
Waiting for Bluebeard



NOVEMBER 21
DAVID CONSTANTINE
A Bird Called Elaëus
 poems for here and now
 from *The Greek Anthology*

The Greek Anthology, marvellous salvage from the vast shipwreck of the Ancient World, is a collection of around 4500 poems composed over more than 1500 years by about 300 authors, a colossal continuity and variety from pre-classical times through Roman into Byzantine. For his small anth-ology of the vast original David Constantine has gone particularly not just to the renowned love poems but also to poems that treat man's dealings with the earth, the creatures other than himself who inhabit it, and the divinities whose care it is.

DAVID CONSTANTINE is a leading poet and translator. He received the Queen's Gold Medal for Poetry

£12 paper
 978 1 78037 722 3
 112 pages • 216 x 138mm
 Rights: World

ALSO AVAILABLE:
Belongings
Collected Poems
Elder
Nine Fathom Deep
(and several translations)





NOVEMBER 21
PHILIP GROSS
The Shores of Vaikus

In the course of forty years an increasingly subtle conversation has evolved between words and silence at the core of Philip Gross's poetry. This is never more so than in the poems of this edgy homage to Estonia, the country of his refugee father's birth. At this collection's heart, the shape-shifting prose-poem monologues of *Evi And The Devil* weave a haunted landscape out of folktale, dark humour, the routine atrocities of history and a vividly present sense of place.

The Shores of Vaikus is Philip Gross' 28th book of poetry, and his 13th from Bloodaxe, following *The Thirteenth Angel* (2022), which was shortlisted for the T.S. Eliot Prize

PHILIP GROSS's *The Water Table* won the T.S. Eliot Prize 2009. He lives in Penarth in south Wales.

£12 paper
 978 | 78037 717 9
 112 pages • 216 x 138mm
 Rights: World

ALSO AVAILABLE:
A Bright Acoustic • *Between the Islands* • *Deep Field* • *Later* • *Love Songs of Carbon* • *The Thirteenth Angel* • *The Water Table* • 3 more



NOVEMBER 21
MARIE HOWE
What the Earth Seemed to Say
NEW & SELECTED POEMS

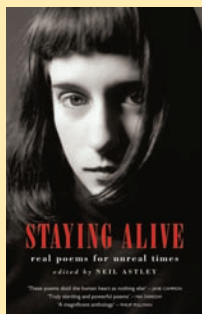
What the Earth Seemed to Say is a powerful collection of more than three decades of profound, luminous poetry from one of America's most daring and courageous poets. With its 'radical simplicity and seriousness of purpose, along with a fearless interest in autobiography and its tragedies and redemptions' (Matthew Zapruder, *New York Times Magazine*), Marie Howe's poetry transforms penetrating observations of everyday life into sacred, humane miracles.

MARIE HOWE is the author of five books of poetry, including *Magdalene* (2017), which was longlisted for the National Book Award. She lives in New York City.

£14.99 paper
 978 | 78037 724 7
 160 pages • 234 x 156mm
 Rights: World exc. North America



Bloodaxe's Staying Alive anthology series



STAYING ALIVE
 real poems for unreal times

'These poems distil the human heart as nothing else...*Staying Alive* celebrates the point of poetry. It's invigorating and makes me proud of being human.'

— JANE CAMPION

2002 978 | 85224 588 7

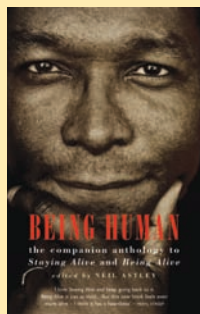


BEING ALIVE
 the sequel to *Staying Alive*

'I love *Staying Alive* and keep going back to it. *Being Alive* is just as vivid...But this new book feels even more alive — I think it has a heartbeat.'

— MERYL STREEP

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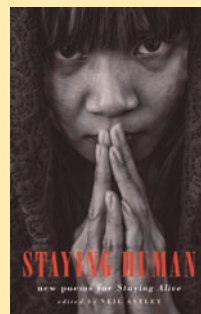


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