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INTRODUCTION

‘Bacharevic’s rich, provocative novel offers a kaleidoscopic picture of language as fairy-tale forest, as Gulag, as monument, as tomb, as everlasting life.’

– *New York Times* review of *Alindarka’s Children* June 2022

Scotland Street Press was founded in 2014. It was set up with the impetus and proceeds from a literary biography and is now an established Edinburgh publishing house.

We are committed to growing our publishing house which promotes Scotland as a distinctive creative voice in the world. Historically, Scotland has always had an international outlook. At Scotland Street Press we publish interesting, varied, challenging voices who have good stories to tell, and in doing so bring Scotland into an international conversation.

We are regional (based in Edinburgh), national (sell in bookshops throughout the country) and international; we are now distributed throughout the US and Canada through IPG in Chicago.

Our independence and small size give us the freedom to champion stories we believe need to be told and voices that need to be heard.

We celebrate individuality, prioritise women’s writing and continually seek to include more diverse authors.

In 2020, *Alindarka’s Children*, translated from Belarusian and Russian into Scots and English, was longlisted for the Republic of Consciousness prize, and the US rights have been bought by New Directions in New York. It also won an English PEN Award for translation, and we were delighted to win this award again for *The Zekameron* - translated from Russian - this year.

Our books have been longlisted and shortlisted for numerous awards including a Historical Writer’s Association Crown Award for *The Queen’s Lender* in 2022; the People’s Book Prize Longlist for *Errant Blood* by C.F. Peterson in 2019; a nomination for the Carnegie Medal for *Black Snow Falling* by L.J. MacWhirter in 2018; and we were a regional finalist for the British Book Awards 2019 Small Press of the Year and on the 2020 shortlist, and are a regional finalist again this year.

We will publish ten new books this year, spanning a range of genres. This brings our collection of poetry, memoir, history and fiction up to forty-six publications.

We create books that not only read well but look beautiful, combining the visual design, binding, and cover with the literary merit of the contents.

Our team of designers and printers work closely with the editorial team to ensure that the themes of the book are translated into a tangible aesthetic.

We hope our books liven your minds and hearts and inspire you to great things. We thank Publishing Scotland, Creative Scotland, English Pen and our community of authors and artists for their advice and support.

Betrothal and Betrayal & Poison is a Woman's Weapon Seizing Power & The Price of Eyes

The Empress Irini Series

Janet McGiffin

Y.A. HISTORICAL FICTION -
MAY 2023, FEBRUARY & OCTOBER 2024

The Empress Irini Series is a coming of age, four-part YA series set in the Roman Empire of the East - brimming with fear, intrigue and violence. In this series, McGiffin presents us with a world in which banal realities like hunger and survival sit cheek by jowl with the fantastical worlds of Medieval Christianity and Greek Mythology: Fates, curses, miracles and the ghosts of bygone patriarchs. Our central character, Thekla, a seventeen year old on the run in Constantinople, must rely solely upon her own courage and quick wits to survive this vigorous, glittering capital of the East

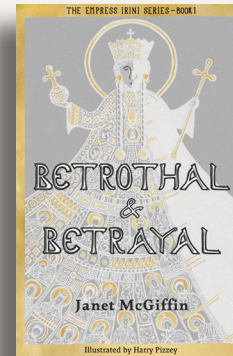
Betrothal and Betrayal Seventeen-year-old Thekla needs her quick wits and knife to track down her betrothed, a soldier who has left her at the altar for the third time. Elias the monk travels with her to Constantinople where she meets Irini of Athens, an extraordinarily beautiful orphan her same age who has been brought by powerful Emperor Constantine to marry his son, Co-Emperor Leon. The two women join forces to survive this vigorous capital of the Roman Empire of the East which is rocked by religious and political strife. But will Thekla help the ambitious and ruthless Irini of Athens find the power that she craves?

Poison is a Woman's Weapon Irini's conniving mother-in-law, her five jealous step-brothers, and her own husband, Co-Emperor Leon, threaten Irini's safety in Constantinople. She summons Abbess Thekla, her knife-wielding friend, to bring her sharp wits and courage to get Irini safely through childbirth in the Great Palace. Thekla owes Irini her life and thus her loyalty but she is staggered by Irini's powerful ambitions which far exceed being docile wife and mother. Can Thekla survive Irini's vengeful nature and the bloody aftermath of Irini's ruthless ambition?

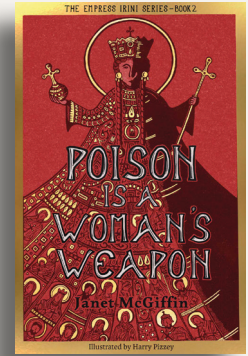
Seizing Power Constantine's father dies unexpectedly, making Constantine emperor at age nine with Irini as Regent. Abbess Thekla's loyalty to Irini shifts to Constantine as she watches Irini block his authority and keep the power herself. Irini makes Constantine wed the disliked Maria, prevents the Senate from naming him Emperor in his own right at age 18, and imprisons him when he tries to stop her henchmen from amassing wealth and power. Constantine's army friends free him, arrest her, and raise him to the throne. Resourceful as ever, Irini will not be thwarted. Can Thekla prevent them from murdering each other?

The Price of Eyes In the final book, Irini returns to the throne. She tricks Constantine into divorcing Maria and exiles her and Constantine's two daughters to Abbess Thekla's island convent where Maria goes mad. Irini misleads Constantine into taking revenge on the soldiers who arrested her and the empire erupts into civil war, army against army, Irini against Constantine. Fearing for her life, Irini traps Constantine, wounding his eyes, but Thekla rescues him. Irini is finally empress in her own right. But will Thekla help her hold the throne?

JANET MCGIFFIN has written three *Dr. Maxine St. Clair Mysteries*, for Fawcett Press, US, as well as *Date Rape New York*, a thriller set in the gritty streets of New York City. She has also written two graded readers for Cambridge University Press.



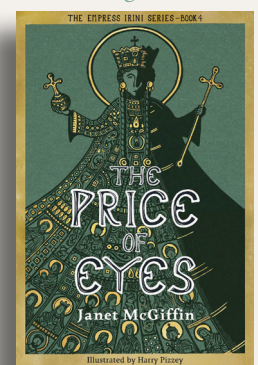
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The MacDiarmid Memorandum

Alan Riach

POETRY - JUNE 2023

“We have no use for emotions, let alone sentiments, but are solely concerned with passions.”

- Hugh MacDiarmid

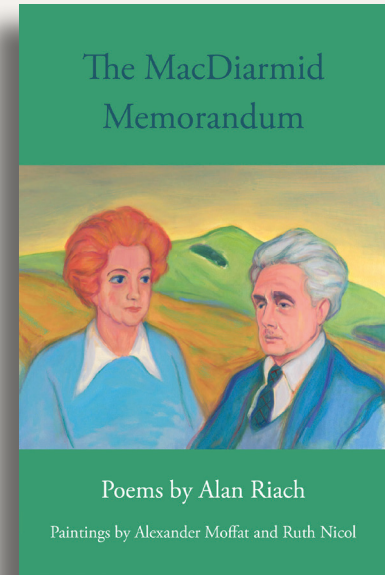
ALAN RIACH's **The MacDiarmid Memorandum** is a poetic and illustrated work of epic, category-defying scope; a work that blends biography and national history, poetry and prose; an intimate portrait of an old friend and mentor, and a political manifesto calling for revolution. Beginning with his childhood in Langholm, Riach shows us MacDiarmid's first attempts to orient the Scottish landscape, a world in which so-called natural features are interwoven with and inseparable from the political. It is in orientating his surroundings that MacDiarmid takes his first steps on a journey towards a peculiarly Scottish kind of consciousness; a consciousness that both wills itself to be free, and bows under the weight of its own self-suppression. This is a work that charts a war on various fronts: in MacDiarmid's personal life, he experienced periods of unemployment, destitution, alcoholism, divorce, trauma; and at the same time, the country entered two major world wars, in turn triggering a renaissance of Scottish artists and intellectuals, struggling (on their own front) for recognition and self-determination.

RIACH's idea for **The MacDiarmid Memorandum** originated in an exhibition, Landmarks: Poets, Portraits and Landscapes of Modern Scotland, which showcased major 20th century Scottish poets alongside paintings by critically acclaimed artists, Alexander Moffat and Ruth Nichol, with a particular focus on Scottish landscapes and portraits of the relevant poets. Included in this book, alongside Riach's poems, are reproductions of some of the original paintings that appeared in the exhibition, offering a vivid, feeling complement to Riach's text.

ALAN RIACH is Professor of Scottish Literature at the University of Glasgow, the author of eight poetry collections, six books of literary and cultural criticism, and General Editor of the Carcanet edition of the Collected Works of Hugh MacDiarmid.

ALEXANDER MOFFAT is a painter, teacher and advocate of the arts, whose works are held at the National Galleries of Scotland, the University of Edinburgh, the University of Glasgow and the Royal Scottish Academy.

RUTH NICOL is an artist whose work is held in the Scottish Parliament and represented by the Open Eye Gallery, Edinburgh, the Line Gallery, Linlithgow and the Junor Gallery, St Andrews.



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The Whistlers in the Dark

Victoria Williamson

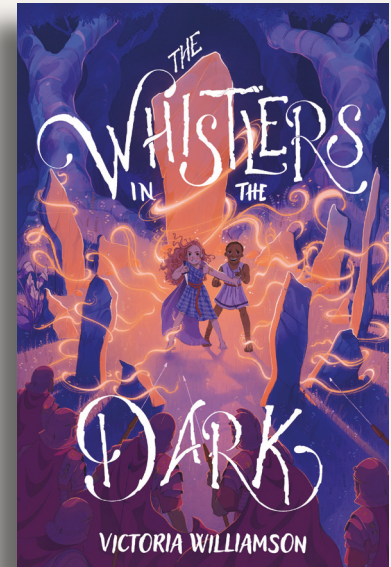
Y.A - CHILDREN'S - SEPTEMBER 2023

The Whistlers in the Dark is an historical fantasy for Middle Grade readers. Set at the Roman fort in the author's hometown of Kirkintilloch, it tells the story of friendship overcoming the desire for revenge and leading to forgiveness. Based on the historical records of the Antonine wall and the tribes of Central Scotland, it brings these together with Scottish legends of standing stones going walking at night to weave a tale of courage and adventure.

Scotland, 158 AD, is a divided country. On one side of the Antonine wall, thirteen-year-old Felix is trying to become a good Roman soldier like his father. On the other, twelve-year old Jinny is vowing revenge on the 'metal men' who have invaded her Damnonii tribe's homeland. At the Damnonii's sacred circle of standing stones, her planned attack on Felix goes badly wrong, awakening a legend that threatens to bring fire and destruction down on them all. Can Jinny and Felix overcome their differences and soothe the stones back to sleep before it's too late?

VICTORIA WILLIAMSON is a former teacher and full-time author from Glasgow. Her forthcoming middle grade novel, *The Whistlers in the Dark*, combines Scottish legends surrounding standing stone circles with historical research of the Antonine wall built across her home town in Roman times. Her previous novels include *The Fox Girl and the White Gazelle*, *The Boy with the Butterfly Mind*, *Hag Storm*, and *War of the Wind*. She has won the Bolton Children's Fiction Award 2020/2021, The YA-aldi Glasgow Secondary School Libraries Book Award 2023, and has been shortlisted for the Week Junior Book Awards 2023, The Leeds Book Awards 2023, the James Reckitt Hull Book Awards 2021, The Trinity School Book Awards 2021, and longlisted for the ABA South Coast Book Awards 2023, the Waterstones Children's Book Prize 2020, and the Branford Boase Award 2019.

VICTORIA currently works part time writing KS2 books for the education company Twinkl and spends the rest of her time writing novels, and visiting schools, libraries and literary festivals to give author talks and run creative writing workshops.



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10 Scotland Street

Leslie Hills

CREATIVE NON FICTION - DECEMBER 2023

"The story that Leslie unfolds for us spreads its threads across the globe. And it moves through different strata of society, painting a kaleidoscopic portrait of social, political, fiscal and financial life in Scotland and beyond, all through the lens of a single flat in a single city. Leslie takes us from the slave plantations of the Caribbean to the trading tentacles of the East India Company, from a blacksmith in New Zealand to a Victorian surgeon in Bonar Bridge in the Scottish Highlands. (The surgeon's practice, by one of the many odd coincidences in this exploration, was in the very parish where the Hills family rented a remote cottage for two decades...)

We learn how property and wealth were passed through families, not always in the straight lines we imagine inheritance to travel in. It's not hard to read between the lines of wills and gifts to picture some of the loves and dislikes, the disapprovals and the determination to make good past wrongs. As a writer of fiction, I found myself itching to lift some of these characters from the page into the fertile fields of my own imagination.

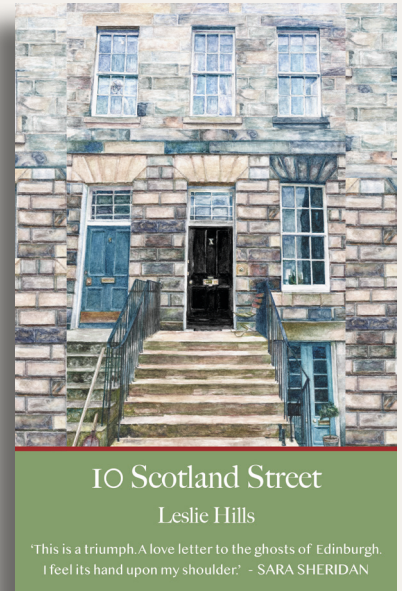
Leslie's research has brought this crowd of ghosts back to life. We learn what they did for a living; we learn how families lived together and dispersed. We see births, marriages and deaths – the heartbreaking loss of infants and young children, the debilitating injuries and illnesses that limited lives, the uprooting of young people from their known world thanks to marriage and the necessity to make their way in the world."

- VAL MCDERMID

"This is a triumph. A love letter to the ghosts of Edinburgh. I feel its hand upon my shoulder."

- SARA SHERIDAN

LESLIE HILLS is a film producer working in co-production with Germany for thirty-five years. Her award-winning films are distributed internationally in cinema and on streaming services. For UK and international broadcasters, she produced drama, politics, and arts programmes. A qualified English teacher, before joining Skyline Productions, she worked widely in education, mainly in the arts. She has contributed to volumes on education and the arts and reviewed theatre and music. This is her first book.



Hardback 156x234mm
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Photo Credit: Alan McCreadie

The Bohemian Queen

A sequel to *The Queen's Lender*

Jean Findlay

HISTORICAL FICTION - JUNE 2024

'I will not die giving birth. I will not become ill. I will get it over and done with and be careful that another doesn't come too quickly and spoil my hunting again.'

Diana, they call me in their flattering songs, but I am no goddess. I am a Princess and will be a queen. My mother is Queen of England, Scotland and France and my father is King James. Should my sick younger brother Charles die, like Henry did, I shall go back home and be Queen of all realms.'

The novel follows James I of England's eldest daughter, Elizabeth Stewart, now married to Frederick Palatine and setting out for a life in Europe.

However the inscrutable Bohemian Ambassador, Luca von Modrich, whom Elizabeth has met before at her father's court, is now back in Prague and is instrumental in inviting Elizabeth and Frederick to become King and Queen of Bohemia. Successful motherhood amid religious strife appears to suit her. Elizabeth delivers three children in Heidelberg, and two more in Prague before fleeing for their lives after the Battle of White Mountain which ends the first part of the Thirty Years War.

In exile in The Hague Elizabeth continues to be involved in the high end of international politics and artistic endeavour while giving birth to eight more children, ensuring they all become part of the ruling dynasties of the emerging Europe.

This novel continues to explore the themes of creativity and motherhood amid court intrigue, war, and European politics.

JEAN FINDLAY is the author of *Chasing Lost Time – the Life of CK Scott Moncrieff, Soldier, Spy and Translator* published in 2014 by Chatto and Windus, London, and by FSG, New York.

The Bohemian Queen
Jean Findlay



Elizabeth Regina Bohemia
B. Moncrieff sc.

Hardback 130x198mm
Extent 224
Rights: world



The Queen's Lender

Jean Findlay

HISTORICAL FICTION - FEBRUARY 2022

'A stunning novel about the birth of the United Kingdom which demonstrates the scholarship of the author as well as her imaginative power.'

– Richard Holloway

'A joy to read. In George Heriot – Edinburgh goldsmith, royal jeweller, and philanthropist – Findlay has found an everyman through whom we all get access to the weird world of royalty. Her novel captures the domestic wit and warmth, alongside the casual brutality of the court of James VI of Scotland and I of England. Beautifully pitched between the homeliness and the haughtiness of the Shakespearean era – and often very funny.'

– Sarah Fraser, author of *The Prince who would be King*

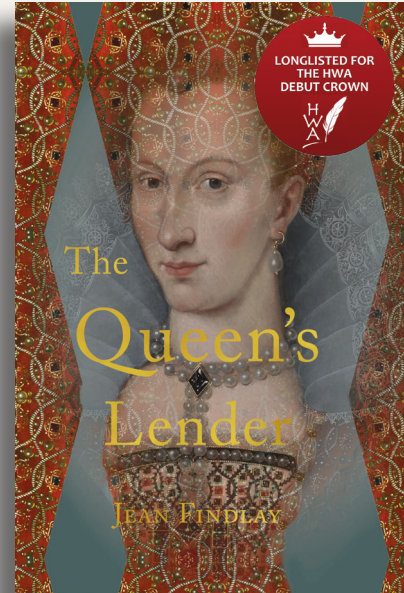
'the novel reads like good fiction should—it's measured yet assertive, intellectually stimulating yet entertaining, and best of all funny without being grotesquely comical.'

– International Literary Quarterly

George Heriot, jeweller to King James VI, moves with the Court from Edinburgh to London to take over the English throne. It is 1603. Life is a Babel of languages and glittering new wealth. James gives Shakespeare his first secure position. To calm the perfidious religious tensions in the country, he commissions his translation of the Bible. He creates the Union Jack, called after himself. George becomes wealthier than the king as he sets a fashion for hat jewels and mingles with Drummond of Hawthornden, Ben Johnson, Inigo Jones and the mysterious ambassador Luca Von Modrich. However, both king and courtier bow before the phenomenal power invested in their wives.

Winner: Hawthornden Fellowship 2018, Lavigny International Writer's Fellowship 2019. Longlisted for the Historical Writers Association Crown Debut Award.

JEAN FINDLAY is the author of *Chasing Lost Time – the Life of CK Scott Moncrieff*, *Soldier*, *Spy and Translator* published in 2014 by Chatto and Windus, London, and by FSG, New York.



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Second Hardback Edition June 2022



Elizabethan Secret Agent Timothy Ashby

BIOGRAPHY - MARCH 2022

'A fascinating journey into the tangled web of the Tudor and Stuart Courts'

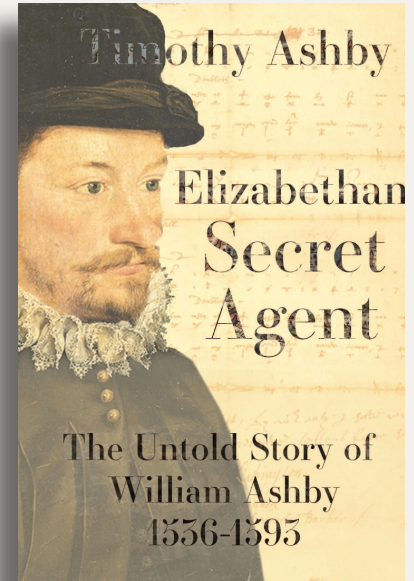
– Leanda de Lisle, author of Sunday Times bestseller Tudor: The Family Story

'A powerfully evocative account of an Elizabethan spy, diplomat and gentleman adventurer who played a crucial role in Anglo- Scottish relations during the Spanish Armada crisis and afterwards. ... Ashby's fascinating life is a worthy addition to Tudor era biographies.'

– Andrew Fulton, Former British diplomat and security and intelligence specialist

Elizabethan Secret Agent is the biography of William Ashby, Elizabethan intelligence agent and diplomat who served as ambassador to Scotland during the Spanish Armada crisis. Much of the book is focused on the Anglo-Scottish geo-political relationship during the decade of 1580-1590, with its machinations and bizarre background stories. Prior to Ashby's ambassadorial appointment, he served as a senior 'intelligencer' for Sir Francis Walsingham, Elizabeth's spymaster.

TIMOTHY ASHBY worked in Washington, D.C. as a counter-terrorism consultant to the US State Department, and a senior official at the US Commerce Department. He held two Top Secret security clearances and worked with a number of colourful characters, including members of the U.S. military's Joint Special Operations Command.



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Sea Fret

Dilys Rose

SHORT STORIES - MAY 2022

‘Many of Rose’s characters face impossible choices, but her unity of vision does not lead to a narrow or repetitive collection. On the contrary, the stories are wonderfully far- ranging.’

– Margot Livesey, Times Literary Supplement, on War Dolls

‘The stories have a steely rectitude and an uncompromising determination to face down humiliation and inequality ... economical, moral and compassionate.’

– Elizabeth Young, *The Guardian*, Red Tides

DILYS ROSE has been compared to Katherine Mansfield. An accomplished novelist and short-story writer, Rose’s long-celebrated mastery of the form allows her to draw through lines of loss and longing, uncertainty and hope. ROSE conjures the essence of a situation with pithy insight and dark wit, presenting a shrewd, resolute view of a world in which everyone is searching but few find what they hope for. Each story vividly creates the inner world of a compelling, yet disparate cast of characters, and these brief glimpses into the lives of others leave a lasting afterglow.

Two travelling musicians attempt to come to terms with a nightmare scenario at home; restless teenagers run riot during lockdown, with drastic consequences; Albert Einstein’s reputation grows, as does his absence as a father; a cantankerous ninety-nine year old contributes to the chaos of a night ward.

DILYS ROSE lives in Edinburgh and is a novelist, short story writer and poet. She has published twelve books, most recently *Unspeakable* (Freight, 2017), a fact-based historical novel and a poetry pamphlet, *Stone the Crows* (Mariscat Press, 2020). *Sea Fret* is her sixth collection of short stories.



Paperback 130x198mm

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Shadows and Light, The Extraordinary Life of James McBey

Alasdair Soussi

BIOGRAPHY - DECEMBER 2022

'James McBey made his name as one of the great war artists in the Middle East: his famous painting of Lawrence of Arabia hangs in the Imperial War Museum. In this revelatory biography Alasdair Soussi brings this complex and mesmerising man to life, setting his art alongside his unrestrained private life, and giving him the literary portrait he has long deserved.'

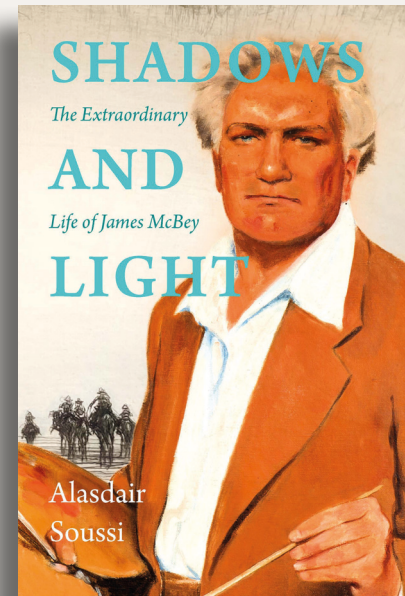
- JAMES BARR, author of *A Line in the Sand: Britain, France and the Struggle that shaped the Middle East*

'Soussi writes as evocatively as McBey paints'

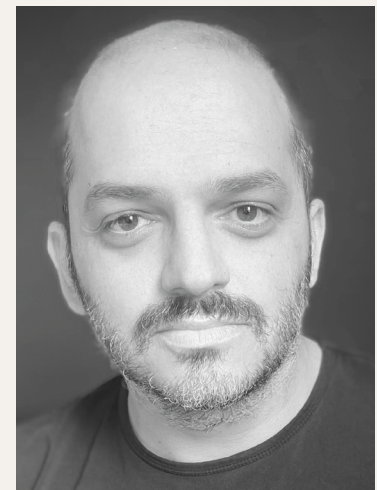
- STUART HADAWAY, author of *From Gaza to Jerusalem: The Campaign for Southern Palestine 1917*

Creative genius, war artist, adventurer, lover. These are just some of the words that can be used to describe Aberdeenshire-born painter and printmaker James McBey (1883–1959). This illegitimate son of a blacksmiths' daughter was the acknowledged heir to Whistler and Rembrandt. But after his death in 1959, his renown as one of Britain's most accomplished artists faded. At the heart of this biography is his time as a war artist in the Middle East during the Great War, his love affairs, marriage to a beautiful American and his enduring passion for Morocco. This biography reinstates a great 20th century artist whose respectful focus brought the Arab world into the British consciousness.

ALASDAIR SOUSSI is a freelance journalist, writer and filmmaker from Glasgow. In recent years he has covered the Scottish independence debate and Brexit, and has worked for Al Jazeera'.



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The Duncul Series: Errant Blood and The Purified

C.F. Peterson

CRIME THRILLER - 2017 AND 2021

'...beautiful writing about landscape, about cruelty, about loyalty,'

- *Criminal Minds*

'Reminiscent of Ian Banks'

- Alastair Braidwood

The Duncul Series will appeal to a literary crime thriller audience. Undiscovered Scotland described *Errant Blood* the first novel in this series as 'a superbly constructed literary thriller'. The books combine a gripping narrative with captivating descriptions of the Scottish Highlands.

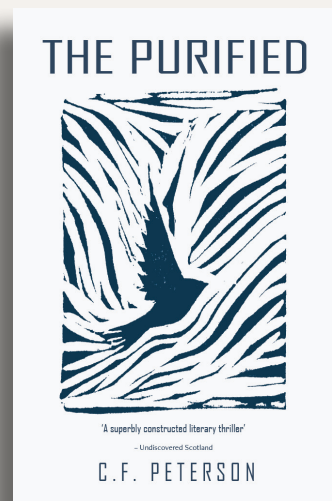
Errant Blood The story follows Eamon Ansgar, war veteran and reluctant young laird of Duncul Castle, as he uncovers a plot involving people-trafficking, big pharma, the green energy boom, crypto-archaeology and the Latvian mafia during a rain soaked winter in the Scottish Highlands. The book explores some of our most troubling contemporary issues with a relentless pace, intricate plot, memorable characters and an epic finale.

The Purified follows Eamon as he uncovers the kind of murder that the government doesn't want to believe happens anymore. Something worse than a body has been found beneath the waters of The Minch, something that should never have been brought to the surface, and now it is not just TV crews that are watching the village.

C. F. PETERSON was born in Inverness. He lived in Africa and worked in bio-chemistry before returning home to the Scottish Highlands where he runs a design and construction company.



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Rights: World



Paperback 130x198mm
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Rights: World

Restricted Movement

Traci O'Dea

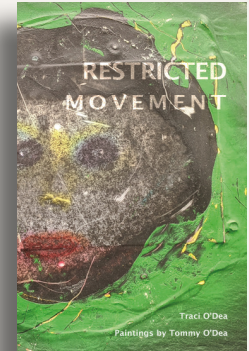
POETRY

This explosive collection of poems documents life as a daughter trying to support her artist father who is overseas struggling with dementia and drug addiction during a pandemic. Interspersed with the frantic cycle of overdoses, escapes from care, disappearances and urgent international phone calls are moments of reflection on her father's artwork and her seaside surroundings.

TRACI O'DEA is a poetry editor for the literary journals Smartish Pace and MOKO: Caribbean Arts & Letters. Her poems have been published in Poetry Daily, Literary Matters, 32 Poems, The Jersey Evening Post and elsewhere. This collection is published with the support of ArtHouse Jersey. Self-taught, visionary artist

TOMMY O'DEA uses art as part of his recovery from addiction. He refers to himself as a "glue artist," layering glues and epoxies, creating richly textured surfaces often augmented with acrylic paint, sea glass and glitter.

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Marjorie's Journey

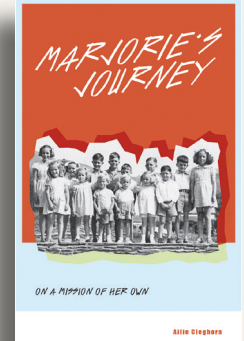
Ailie Cleghorn

BIOGRAPHY

Against the frightening backdrop of World War II, a young Scottish woman took ten children by ship through the waters of the Atlantic from Scotland to South Africa, where she set up a home for them called Bairnshaven. An unusual portrayal of motherhood, nuclear family and love, Marjorie's story comes to life through diary pages, letters, telegrams and photographs. This true story is a fresh take on the role that women played during the war, highlighting the strength and courage shown, and focusing on hope and unconditional kindness.

AILIE CLEGHORN is professor emerita from Concordia University in Montreal. As a comparative sociologist of education her research took her to several African still-developing primary and pre-primary school settings, which neatly ties in with Marjorie's story, who herself was a Montessori trained teacher. Ailie was born and raised in Canada, however, her mother was from Scotland.ww

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Black Snow Falling

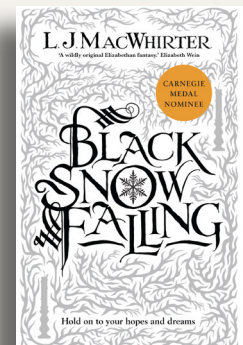
L. J. MacWhirter

Y. A FICTION

Ruth has secrets. An old book of heresy belonging to her long-absent father. A dream that haunts her. And love that she and Silas hide from the world. When she is robbed of all she holds true, her friends from Crowbury slide into terrible danger. Hope is as faint as a moonbow. Dare Ruth trust the shadowy one who could destroy them all?

LIZ MACWHIRTER is an international award-winning advertising copywriter and an accomplished presenter. Black Snow Falling is her debut novel for young adults. She lives in Edinburgh with her family.

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