



An Evening of Regional Writing par excellence

Showcase for authors shortlisted for £2,000 award

The New Angle Prize is awarded biennially for literature associated with or influenced by the region of East Anglia. The 2017 shortlisted authors are invited to the **Shortlist Showcase**, a public evening of reading and conversation held at the Ipswich Institute Reading Room in Tavern Street, Ipswich on Wednesday June 28th at 7pm.

The £2,000 winner and £500 runner up will be chosen this year from an all-women shortlist - and readers will soon have the opportunity to vote for their own favourite through a Reader's Choice competition run by Suffolk Libraries.

The six books include a biography - Julia Blackburn's *Threads*, *The Delicate Life of John Craske*, a debut novel, *Midwinter* from Fiona Melrose, and Rosy Thornton's collection of short stories *Sandlands*. Also listed are Sarah Perry's multi-award winning *The Essex Serpent*, Jill Dawson's *The Crime Writer* and Julie Myerson's *The Stopped Heart*.

Tickets to the Showcase are available from the Ipswich Institute on 01473 253992 or library@ipswichinstitute.org.uk - £8, to include refreshment sponsored by Waitrose.

The New Angle Prize is organised by the Ipswich Institute and sponsored by Gotelee Solicitors and Scrutton Bland Financial Services. The winner and runner up will be announced at an awards dinner on September 6th.

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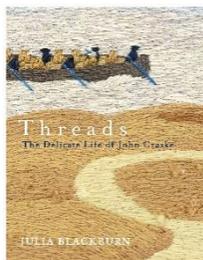
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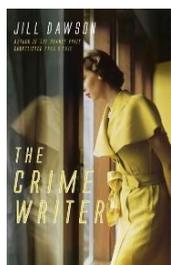


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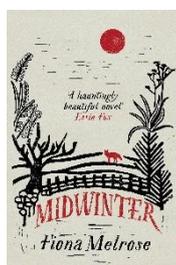
2017 New Angle Prize Judges' Short-list.



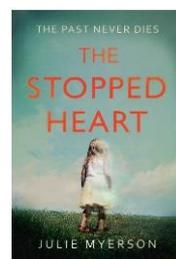
Julia Blackburn, **Threads, The Delicate Life of John Craske** (Jonathan Cape, April 2015) *“This is a book beautifully written, beautifully illustrated and beautifully produced about the recently rediscovered genius of a Norfolk fisherman. Falling seriously ill at the time of the First World War Craske began painting the sea, boats and coastline, and when he could no longer stand, lay in bed and embroidered.”*



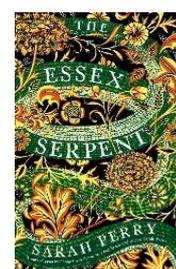
Jill Dawson, **The Crime Writer** (Hodder & Stoughton, June 2016) *“Eccentric and troubled American writer Patricia Highsmith spent part of the 1960s in rural Suffolk – where she would have stood out just a bit. In Jill Dawson’s destabilising book, you’re never quite sure what’s real, imagined, or simply the result of madness. One of those stories you can’t stop thinking about for weeks afterwards.”*



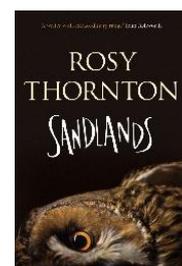
Fiona Melrose, **Midwinter** (Little, Brown, November 2016) *“Very assured debut novel that explores the emotions of men of the land, which we don’t often see. The lands can be bountiful and soothing, or harsh and imprisoning. And they can extract a price. As life becomes testing and hopeless, family bonds threaten to snap. Unless there’s a strong vein of love that can be mined, it’s all over”.*



Julie Myerson, **The Stopped Heart** (Jonathan Cape, February 2016) *“It’s always baffling that Julie Myerson appears so balanced and normal and yet can produce, as if from nowhere, dark and scary material. This ghostly examination of deep loss is a fine example, and not one to read on your own at night, when the floorboards and beams are wont to creak.”*



Sarah Perry, **The Essex Serpent** (Profile Books, May 2016) *“Such an eccentric bunch of characters – and you miss them so much when the last page is read. Feel both the beauty and oppressive nature of the muddy Essex shores and understand how collective hysteria can gain a foothold. A novel that has the power to surprise, genuinely.”*



Rosy Thornton, **Sandlands** (Sandstone Press, July 2016) *“Rosy Thornton really has her finger on the pulse of this spread-out village that visitors rarely seem to enter twice by the same route. The past and present are separated only by a thin screen – and it’s unnerving. Her short stories capture that perfectly”.*