

3rd July 2019



First Novel awarded East Anglian Literary Prize

Devoured (Propolis, May 2018) a stunning debut novel by theatre director Anna Mackmin, has claimed the £2,000 first prize in the biennial New Angle Prize for Literature. The award is given for a work in any genre published in the last two years and set in or influenced by the region of East Anglia.

In the words of the judges, *Devoured* describes “an intriguing world where hippies, communes and childhood collide in a riotous story – managing dark themes with humour, tenderness and grace”.

The runner-up (receiving a cheque for £500) was poet Esther Morgan for her collection *The Wound Register* (Bloodaxe Books, Mar 2018). Inspired by the Norfolk Regiment’s First World War Casualty Book, the poet’s East Anglian family history and her present life as a mother are woven into the poems.

Melissa Harrison’s *All Among the Barley* (Bloomsbury, Aug 2018) won a special Readers’ Choice competition sponsored by Friends of Ipswich County Library.

The other shortlisted books were *The Great Level* by Stella Tillyard (Chatto & Windus, Jul 2018), *Low Country, Brexit on the Essex Coast*, by Tom Bolton (*Penned in the Margins*, Oct 2018) and *Self & I* by Matthew De Abaitua (Eye Books, Mar 2018).

The Judges for this year’s competition were Julia Blackburn, Andrew Burton and Amanda Hodgkinson and the competition prize-winners were announced at the New Angle Prize Awards on Wednesday 3rd July at Hintlesham Golf Club, Suffolk.

Website: www.ipswichinstitute.org.uk/NAP.html

Twitter: @PrizeNewAngle

The competition is organised by the Ipswich Institute and sponsored by Gotelee Solicitors and Scrutton Bland accountants, and is an important feature of the region’s literary calendar.

Contact: Hugh Pierce, library@ipswichinstitute.org.uk

