



INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF

## MODERN LETTERS

*Te Pūtahi Tuhi Auaha o te Ao*

### Newsletter – 10 September 2001

This is the 6th in a series of occasional newsletters from the Victoria University centre of the International Institute of Modern Letters. For more information about any of the items, please email [modernletters@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:modernletters@vuw.ac.nz).

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#### 1. Modern Letters Fellowships

Two US\$10,000 fellowships have been awarded to writers from Victoria's 2000 MA workshop, Tim Corballis and Kate Duignan. Bill Manhire, director of the IIML at Victoria, said that there were no tags or conditions: 'The awards are simply intended to offer two talented writers the gift of space and time. We want them to write their next books.' Glenn Schaeffer, the IIML's founding patron, met both writers during a lightning visit to Wellington on Tuesday 4 September. As he raced by, he mentioned that he preferred to think of himself not as a patron but as a literary activist.

Absolutely!

The awards were announced at the Unity Books launch of Kate Duignan's first novel *Breakwater*. Elizabeth Knox's launch speech can be read in the 'Knox on' section of her website at: <http://www.artistnz.telecom.co.nz/knox/>

(Please note: this website seems not to respond happily to all computers; at the least you should use a 4.0 level browser.)

A news item about the awards can be found here:

<http://www.scoop.co.nz/mason/stories/ED0109/S00004.htm>

Kate Duignan reads from *Breakwater* at the Stout Research Centre, 12 Wai-te-ata Road, at 1.00 pm, Monday 17th September, as part of the Writers on Monday series jointly organised by the IIML and the Stout.

## **2. Katie Duignan and Tim Corballis in Nelson**

Along with Bill Manhire, Kate Duignan and Tim Corballis will be reading at the Nelson Arts Festival on Saturday 29 September.

The Boathouse, Wakefield Quay, Nelson, 1pm, \$10

Tim Corballis will also be reading and speaking at Auckland's Going West Festival on Sunday 16 September. The full programme, which includes Victoria graduate Victoria McHalick and 2001 writer in residence Charlotte Randall, can be found [here](#).

## **3. Radio New Zealand**

The joint initiative of Radio New Zealand and Victoria within Chris Price's new course "Creative Writing in the Marketplace" is already bearing fruit. Several students have work at various stages of development and production. In particular, Dale Sutherland's "Brewing Up", a documentary about the tradition of tea drinking in New Zealand, has been produced in conjunction with Jack Perkins of Spectrum fame, and will be broadcast on Sunday September 16th at 12.30pm. Dale's programme will also be rebroadcast at the end of the year in the summer 'new work' holiday programme format.

## **4. Summer Workshops**

Applications are now being accepted for Victoria's summer workshops in poetry and short fiction. The Poetry Workshop is taught by Gregory O'Brien in January and February, 2002. The Short Fiction workshop is taught by Damien Wilkins in two three-week periods before and after Christmas. Both workshop courses consist of twelve twice-weekly 3-hour meetings, and are scheduled during the late afternoon. Further information phone 463.6854.

## **5. Maori Literature Week**

This event celebrating Maori writing begins on 23rd September and culminates in the 2001 Maori Literature Awards at City Gallery on Sept 29. ( One of the finalists in category 3 -- Best Short Story in English by a Previously Published Maori Writer -- is Paula Morris, a member of our 2001 MA workshop.) More details in our next newsletter.

The IIML has invited dramatist and Arts Foundation Laureate, Briar Grace Smith, to read and speak at Victoria during Maori Literature Week. The reading is part of the 'Writers on Monday' series jointly organised by the IIML and the Stout Research Centre. (Monday 24 September, 1.00 p.m. at the Stout Research Centre, 12 Wai-te-ata Rd).

## **6. SEFT Talk**

In this week's SEFT seminar, Simone Drichel will speak about: "Being Maori? Negotiating 'Other' Identities (in Contemporary Maori Fiction)" (13 September, 5.10 pm, Von Zedlitz 802).