

Let's get ... critical?

Art Monthly Australia's 4th Emerging Arts Writers' Award

In its 25 years of production, *Art Monthly Australia* (AMA) has published the work of thousands of writers mostly Australian, mostly established – if not in writing, then in some art professional capacity. Among these thousands, there have also been emerging writers, those who for numerous reasons have not been privy to the world of publishing, or at least getting published, but who definitely have something to say and a talent for expressing it in words. An important part of AMA's charter is to facilitate the development of Australian art critical writing. In this regard we are proud to once again present our (4th) Emerging Arts Writer's Award. This initiative is open to Australian residents.

Structure of the Award:

The structure of the Award is simple. There is only one category (Open), and there is a set theme for entries: in 2012, to commemorate our 25th anniversary as a magazine of art critical writing, the theme is 'The art of art criticism'.

Open:

This category is for writers post-school-age, i.e., you can be anyone from a university student to a retiree. 'Emerging' in our books doesn't come with an age bracket but there is a requirement that you have a minimal publishing record. By 'minimal', we mean no more than 5 published pieces in a well-known/well-established publication. Please feel free to contact AMA's editor, Maurice O'Riordan (contact details below), for clarification if necessary.

Your previously unpublished entry should be between 1000 and 1500 words (footnotes not included in word count). The style and form of the article is entirely open. It could address the oft-heard complaint that critical writing is on the decline, along with a general dumbing down of culture. It could be an article which examines the impact of a significant contemporary or historical piece or period of art critical writing (in an Australian or international context). Your article might question the idea that there is an 'art' to art criticism, or it may focus on a particular artform (such as sound, electronic, screen-based or 'green' art) to tease out the limitations or potential of past/current/future art critical writing/forums.

There is no requirement to focus on contemporary Australian art. Artists and art from all periods (including your own if you are a writer-practitioner) are considered valid subjects for the purposes of the Award's thematic article. You may also accompany your article with relevant images, particularly if the article relates to work that may not be well known.

Prize:

A single prize of \$2000 plus publication in a commemorative 25th issue of *Art Monthly Australia*, June 2012. Second and third placed entrants may also be published (and paid upon publication as per AMA's regular rate per word).

Entry guidelines:

There is no official application form. Multiple entries are allowed. Entrants are simply required to submit their entries in the following format:

- A cover page with your name, contact details and the title of article submitted (or titles if you are submitting more than one article)
- The article to be formatted as a Word document, size 12 Font, 1.5 line spacing, with pagination. The title of the article should appear at the front (or as a header/footer), but please do not include your name on any of the article's pages. Accompanying images are not to be inserted into the text but included as separate image files (low to medium resolution) or printed images.
- Articles can either be emailed to art.monthly@anu.edu.au (with Emerging Writer's Award in the subject line), or posted to:
Art Monthly Australia
Emerging Writer's Award,
LPO Box 8321 ANU,
Acton ACT 0200

Deadline:

Close of business 29 February 2012

Judging:

There will be at least two judges, details to be verified. Entries will be judged according to their originality and cohesion of thought in relation to the given theme, and for the clarity and accuracy of their written expression. The decision of the judge(s) will be final. Winners will be notified by phone or email, with results published in *Art Monthly Australia*.

Enquiries:

Please direct enquiries to *Art Monthly Australia*'s editor, Maurice O'Riordan: t: 02 6125 3988, f: 02 6125 9794, e: art.monthly@anu.edu.au

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