

The Horne Prize

The Horne Prize 2018: in honour of fine narrative non-fiction

Aesop and *The Saturday Paper* are pleased to announce that entries for The Horne Prize are now open. Valued at \$15,000, the prize will be presented in early December for an original essay of up to 3,000 words that addresses a significant aspect of contemporary Australian life. The winning piece will be published in *The Saturday Paper* on 22 December.

Submissions are welcome from 18 May to 17 September. The judges seek work that draws on in-depth reportage to explore who we are and how we live; be it a profile, reported feature or series of vignettes. A shortlist will be announced on 16 November, followed by the winner in early December. The judging panel comprises Erik Jensen, editor-in-chief of *The Saturday Paper*; Suzanne Santos, Aesop's Chief Customer Officer; writer and journalist David Marr; Professor Marcia Langton AM; and author Anna Funder.

The Horne Prize was established in 2016, named for the late Donald Horne AO, whose contribution to Australian literature and academia left an indelible legacy on public discourse. Its inaugural recipient was writer Anna Spargo-Ryan for her essay *The Suicide Gene*. In 2017, Adelaide author, critic and former academic Dr Kerry Goldsworthy was awarded the prize for *The Limit of the World*, described by the judges as 'a beautiful and subtle essay [...] sophisticated and simple at the same time, a very fine piece of writing'.

On the call for entries, Erik Jensen said: 'Last year's prize uncovered a wealth of insight and poignancy. This year, we hope to find essays that capture the reality of life in Australia – that offer glimpses of unseen worlds, or tease the meaning out of the everyday. As Donald Horne did with his journalism, we want essays that look unflinchingly at Australian truths, that chronicle the essence of what it is to be in this country at this moment.'

Suzanne Santos added: 'The Horne Prize has been one of the greatest pleasures borne of our partnership with *The Saturday Paper*. The essay is a great art form, and it is a privilege to encourage non-fiction of merit. And the present seems a particularly timely moment to encourage the interrogation of modern Australian life and society, and to honour Donald Horne in this way.'

While its primary focus is skin care, Aesop is well known for long-term engagement with culture and the arts; other literary partners include *The Paris Review* and numerous writers' festivals, both local and international.

Prospective entrants to The Horne Prize can read terms, conditions and criteria, make enquiries and submit essays at thehorneprize.com.au

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