

Editorial

Welcome to Issue 2 of *The Saltbush Review*. We are thrilled to be able to build on the success of Issue 1, and bring you another edition of wonderful writing, connecting the South Australian literary community with readers and writing spaces across the world.

We publish Issue 2 in the shadow of the pandemic. Our theme for Issue 2 is ‘Land,’ and we find, in the first half of 2022, our lives are increasingly shaped by the tensions wrought by human assumptions about the natural world, particularly the land, what we think it can give us, and what we believe it represents. In the midst of several crises around food security, energy supplies, wars, and border disputes, the creative work in *The Saltbush Review* finds both the ability to critique our tangled relationship with the land and how we exploit it, and to explore its beauty, uniqueness and power, both in relation to and beyond the human.

Writing in this issue is drawn both from South Australia and across the world. The creative works tackle themes as diverse as the underbelly of Adelaide suburbia, the ramifications of colonisation, the security, or insecurity, of housing, speculations on the future of climate change, the dynamism of diaspora, the materialism of grief, and the intersections of place and belonging. Within these themes the writing itself is a combination of playful, complex, critical and buoyant. Despite the weightiness of our understandings of land, the pieces in this issue carry their concerns with grace and speak to the varied perspectives the writers and their individual histories and connections have brought to their consideration of the issue’s theme. We hope you enjoy exploring these digital pages.

As ever, we would like to thank all of the writers who trusted us with their work. We are honoured to help bring these pieces into the world. We are especially grateful to the J.M. Coetzee Centre for Creative Practice, the Department of English and Creative Writing at the University of Adelaide, the literary journal *Liminal*, and NoWave Adelaide for their encouragement and support in our continued work on the journal.

At the time of writing, *The Saltbush Review* is an unfunded journal that has been put together through passion and enthusiasm for new creative work. We are, however, in the process of submitting applications for funding. We understand and value the creativity and labour that goes into the writing process, and we believe that writers should be compensated for their art. In the future, we hope that this is something we will be able to provide, and we

Editorial

are excited by the potential of producing a sustainable and enduring journal. We hope you enjoy this issue, and we look forward to bringing you many more.

Lyn Dickens on behalf of *The Saltbush Review Team*