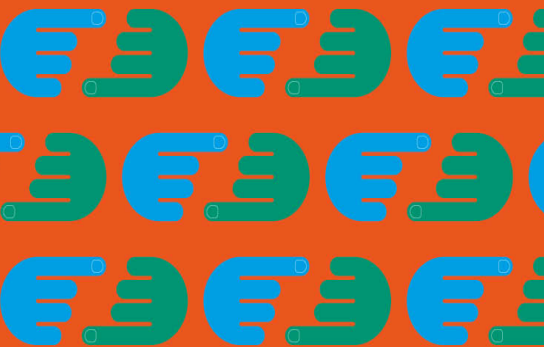




The Forward Prizes for Poetry Ceremony 2021



Sunday 24 October

BOOKM/ARK



**SOUTHBANK
CENTRE**



Welcome to the Forward Prizes for Poetry

Please join the
conversation:

[Twitter](#)

[Instagram](#)

#ForwardPrizes

Tonight's Hosts



James Naughtie & Rachel Long



with
Forward Arts Foundation founder,
William Sieghart



Programme of Events

Part One

Animation: 'The Boy with the Dark Eyes'. Lily Vaccari, University of Brighton.

- **Welcome** from Chris McCabe, National Poetry Librarian
- **Welcome** from William Sieghart, founder of the Forward Arts Foundation
- **Introduction** from our hosts, James Naughtie and Rachel Long
- The Forward Prize for **Best Single Poem**
- The Felix Dennis Prize for **Best First Collection**

*** Interval ***

Part Two

Animation: '(Un)Certainties'. Mingqi Wu, University of Hertfordshire.

- The Forward/e-Magazine **Creative Critics Competition**
- The Forward Prize for **Best Collection**



The Forward Prize for Best Single Poem



Fiona Benson
'Androgeus'
(*Times Literary Supplement*)



Natalie Linh Bolderston
'Middle Name with Diacritics'
(*National Poetry Competition*)



John McCullough
'Flower of Sulphur'
(*Poetry London*)

The Forward Prize for Best Single Poem



Denise Riley

'1948'

(Poetry Ireland Review)



Nicole Sealey

'Pages 22-29, An excerpt from The
Ferguson Report: An Erasure'

(Poetry London)

Follow [this link](#) to read the text of
the poems.

The Felix Dennis Prize for Best First Collection



Caleb Femi
Poor
(Penguin Poetry)



alice hiller
bird of winter
(Pavilion Poetry)



Cynthia Miller
Honorifics
(Nine Arches Press)



The Felix Dennis Prize for Best First Collection



Holly Pester
Comic Timing
(Granta Poetry)



Ralf Webb
*Rotten Days in Late
Summer*
(Penguin Poetry)

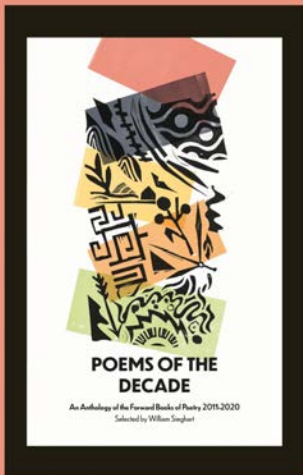


Follow [this link](#) to read the text of
the poems.

With thanks to the Felix Dennis estate.

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FORWARD BOOKS OF POETRY





Forward/emagazine Creative Critics Competition

Winner:

Charlie Bowden, St Mary's College,
Basingstoke, Hampshire

Runners Up:

Charlotte Vosper, St George's College,
Weybridge, Surrey

Florence Burdge, Camden School for Girls,
London

Highly Commended:

Matilda Haines, Camden School for Girls,
London

Anjali Mistry, Haberdashers' School for
Girls, Elstree

Matilda Collard, Loreto Grammar School,
Altrincham, Cheshire



Forward/emagazine Creative Critics Competition

With thanks to our judge,
Kim Moore

and our partners, English & Media Centre

[Click here](#) to read the shortlisted poems.



English
& Media
centre

The Forward Prize for Best Collection



Kayo Chingonyi
A Blood Condition
(Chatto & Windus)



Tishani Doshi
A God at the Door
(Bloodaxe Books)



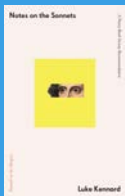
Selima Hill
Men Who Feed Pigeons
(Bloodaxe Books)



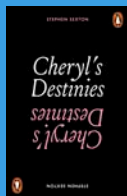
The Forward Prize for Best Collection



Luke Kennard
Notes on the Sonnets
(Penned in the Margins)



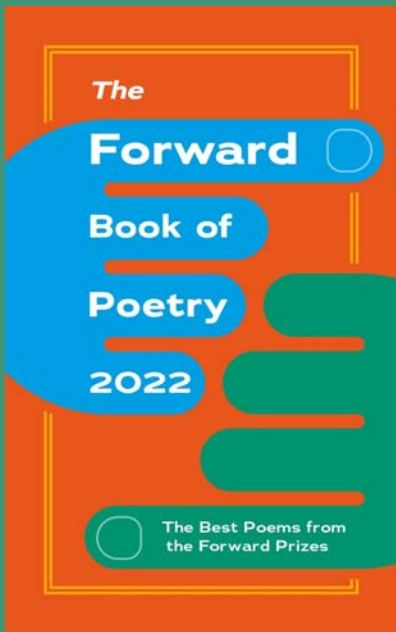
Stephen Sexton
Cheryl's Destinies
(Penguin Poetry)



Follow [this link](#) to read the text of the poems.

With thanks to Bookmark Content.

Featuring the Forward Prizes
shortlisted poets and fifty Highly
Commended poems



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Supporting Poetry with Forward

Forward believes everyone should have the opportunity to develop creativity and agency by making, experiencing and sharing poetry.

We aim to promote public knowledge, understanding and enjoyment of poetry in the UK and Ireland. We are committed to widening poetry's audience, honouring achievement and supporting talent. Our programmes include National Poetry Day, the Forward Prizes for Poetry, and the Forward Book of Poetry, an annual anthology of the year's best poems.

Our mission is:

- To celebrate excellence in poetry
- To increase poetry's audience
- To deepen appreciation of poetry's role

To find out more about how you can support our work:

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