

Date: 21 May 2018

From: Progressive PR and Publicity on behalf of *Australian Book Review*
(03) 9696 6417 | darren@progressivepr.com.au



Dilan Gunawardana on *Black Panther* (June 1)

In *Australian Book Review's* June–July Film and Television issue, *ABR* Deputy Editor Dilan Gunawardana writes about the commercial and critical success of Marvel's *Black Panther* film.

Extract: '[*Black Panther's*] success has reconfigured conventional depictions of black people in large-scale blockbusters, and recast them beyond one-dimensional Hollywood thugs, sidekicks, buffoons, action film fodder, or objectified and exoticised bodies. It is also noteworthy in that its story originates from a comic book – a medium once derided as trashy and lowbrow ... Perhaps films like *Black Panther* simply give non-white creative practitioners the same sense of certainty that comes with having control over their own stories and ultimately gives them the opportunity to manifest better futures for themselves. It is difficult not to be excited by the possibility of a new golden era in black storytelling.'

Dilan Gunawardana's comment will be published on 22 May in *ABR Arts* and in the June–July issue of *Australian Book Review*.

Dilan Gunawardana is the Deputy Editor (Digital) at *Australian Book Review*. He is an arts journalist and reviewer specialising in film, television, graphic novels, and experimental art. He holds a Masters Degree in Communications and Media Studies at Monash University, and was the recipient of the Dean's Award for Academic Excellence. He has previously worked in media and communications roles for various organisations and is also a freelance graphic designer. **He is available for interview.**



Further information

More information about *Australian Book Review* can be found on the *ABR* website.

Please direct interview requests to Darren Saffin at Progressive PR and Communications on (03) 9696 6417 or darren@progressivepr.com.au