

MEDIA RELEASE

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Declan Fry is *ABR*'s new Rising Star



Declan Fry

Australian Book Review is delighted to name its third Rising Star, **Declan Fry**.

The Rising Stars program is intended to encourage younger writers and critics whose early contributions to *ABR* have made an impression. We work closely with the Rising Stars, commissioning them often and helping them to enhance their critical work and to advance their careers.

Peter Rose, Editor of *ABR*, commented: 'Following the success of our first two Rising Stars – Sarah Walker and Alex Tighe – I look forward to working with Declan over the next year and more. He brings a powerful and assured new voice to a magazine that remains hungry for new talent, new perspectives.'

On becoming our latest Rising Star, Declan Fry commented:

'We live in a continent rich with stories. Many of these are still being told, and deserve to be widely heard.'

One of my earliest memories of writing publications was seeing *ABR* down at the local library. In a difficult environment for the arts, *ABR*'s support for new and emerging talent is vital. To be able to connect with *ABR* having never published or worked with literary journals before speaks volumes, especially during the isolation of this pandemic.

Opportunities like the Rising Stars initiative are a great privilege – a place to hone your writing practice, and to develop a long-term investment in the work. It gives me a real sense of hope knowing that there is a space for considered, thoughtful analysis.

This opportunity would mean nothing without those who have paved the way – our ancestors, Elders, family, mentors, and teachers. They are the original critics and storytellers. We owe them so much. I can't wait to get started!

Much love and stay deadly, *ABR*.'

About Declan Fry

Declan Fry is an essayist, critic, and proud descendant of the Yorta Yorta. Born on Wongatha country in Kalgoorlie, in 2009 he received the Tom Collins Prize in Australian Literature, and, as joint winner, the Todhunter Literary Award in 2013. He currently lives on unceded Wurundjeri and Boon Wurrung land and is a board member of Books 'n' Boots, an organisation which distributes football boots and books to remote and regional Aboriginal communities. He first published in *ABR* in June 2020.

Further information:

For more information, and interview requests, please contact *ABR* Editor Peter Rose:

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