

October 2021 issue highlights

- ◆ In this month's cover article, David Jack offers a trenchant political analysis of state responses to the pandemic. Drawing on the condition of 'bare life' diagnosed by the Italian political philosopher Giorgio Agamben, Jack argues for the importance of preserving the principles of civic life in the midst of rolling lockdowns and an atmosphere of alarmism.
- ◆ Morag Fraser reviews Tim Bonyhady's *Two Afternoons in the Kabul Stadium*, a book that unpicks the warp and weft of Afghan society through the various practices informing its visual culture: from women's fashion to war rugs to the camera phone.
- ◆ There's an abundance of fiction with Beejay Silcox appraising Sally Rooney's much-discussed third novel, *Beautiful World, Where Are You*, and Declan Fry providing an in-depth look at Jonathan Franzen's *Crossroads*. Two of this year's Booker Prize finalists – Damon Galgut's *The Promise* and Richard Powers' *Bewilderment* – are also reviewed in this issue.



- ◆ James Curran on Australia's flat-footed diplomacy and the future of the US alliance
- ◆ Shannon Burns on Michelle de Kretser's experimental new novel, *Scary Monsters*
- ◆ Felicity Plunkett on Maggie Nelson's *On Freedom*
- ◆ Libby Connors on Henry Reynolds and Nicholas Clements's biography of Indigenous resistance leader, Tongerlongeter
- ◆ David Rolph on the implications for the media of the High Court judgment in the Voller case
- ◆ *ABR* Rising Star Mindy Gill on Colson Whitehead's *Harlem Shuffle*
- ◆ Diane Stubbings on Jeanette Winterson's essays on artificial intelligence
- ◆ Kath Kenny on Camilla Nelson and Catharine Lumby's study of the failures of the family courts
- ◆ Paul Giles on Nicolas Rothwell's *Red Heaven*
- ◆ Poems by Ann Vickery and Alex Skovron
- ◆ Caitlin McGregor on Olivia Laing's *Everybody*
- ◆ Interviews with author Claire G. Coleman and poet Alex Skovron
- ◆ David McCooney on Sarah Holland-Batt's collection of essays on poetry, *Fishing for Lightning*
- ◆ Ruth Balint on Abbas Nazari's *After the Tampa*
- ◆ James Jiang on criticism in an age of publicity
- ◆ And plenty more!

Further information:

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