



DAF Open Short Story Competition 2011

Theme 'Maps'

Didsbury Arts Festival will take place Saturday, 24 September to Saturday, 1 October, 2011. Local artists, organisations and people all over Didsbury are invited to support this exciting community event the aim of which is to celebrate the wealth of talent, diversity and vibrant community that make Didsbury so special.

DAF Open Short Story Competition

- The competition will be judged in three age categories, under 12yrs, under 18yrs and over 18yrs.
- There will be a winner and two runners up in each age category.
- This year's theme for the competition is '**Maps**'. You can interpret that in any way you wish.
- Short Stories should be a maximum of 2,500 words.
- Short Stories submitted should not have been published before.
- Each entrant may submit 2 short stories.
- The closing date is **Friday, 5 August, 2011**.

Judging & Winners Awards Ceremony

The entries will go through a judging process over the summer. Details of the winners will be announced at the start of the festival week and posted on the festival web site.

There will also be an awards ceremony on the closing Saturday of the festival week with book tokens given as prizes (1st prize £50 (under 12's £25); 2nd prize £30 (£15); 3rd prize £15 (£10)). Further details of the announcement and awards ceremony will be posted on the festival web site in early September and notified to the winners and runners up.

The Judges

The final judging will be carried out by two authors:

David Gaffney

David Gaffney lives in Manchester and Durham. He is the author of *Sawn Off Tales* (2006), *Aromabingo* (2007), *Never Never* (2008), *Buildings Crying Out*, a story using lost cat posters (Lancaster litfest 2009), *23 Stops To Hull* a set of stories about every junction on the M62 (Humber Mouth festival 2009) *Sawn off opera* a set of operas with composer Ailis Ni Riain (Radio Three, RNCM, Liverpool philharmonic and tete a tete festival London 2010) *Destroy PowerPoint*, stories in PowerPoint format for Edinburgh festival 2009, *the Poole Confessions* stories told in a mobile confessional box (Poole Literature festival 2010) and he has written articles for the Guardian, Sunday Times, Financial Times and Prospect magazine. His new collection of short stories, *The Half Life of Songs*, is out now, and look out for his current project, *Station Stories*, in which six writer linked to the audience with

wireless headphones, perform short stories in Manchester Piccadilly railway station, and later in the year his sound installation for Birmingham Book Festival, Boy You Turn Me.
See www.davidgaffney.org for more

Cath Staincliffe

Cath Staincliffe is an established novelist, radio playwright and the creator of ITV's hit series, *Blue Murder*, starring Caroline Quentin as DCI Janine Lewis. Cath's newest novels, *The Kindest Thing* and *Witness*, examine hot topical issues and tell stories of ordinary people, caught up in the criminal justice system, who face difficult and dangerous choices.
www.murdersquad.co.uk

Submitting Entries

All enquiries and all entries for the competition should be submitted by **Friday, 5 August electronically (by email)** to:

storypoetrycomp@didsburyartsfestival.org

Please put the following in the Email Subject Header

'Poetry and Short Story Competitions'

Please send the short story as an attachment separate to the body of the email.

In the body of the email, please also include the following details with your entry.

- 1. Name (Note that the name of the author should not appear anywhere on the short story attachment itself.)**
- 2. Address**
- 3. Telephone Contact**
- 4. Mobile Contact**
- 5. Email address**
- 6. Age (if under 18yrs)**
- 7. Title of Short Story**

Please note:

- **The closing date for entries is 5 August 2011**
- **By entering the competition, writers agree to the short story being published on the DAF web site.**

Visit the web site at www.didsburyartsfestival.com.