

## IPEd announces Rosie award winner

**The Institute of Professional Editors (IPEd) has announced Johannes Jakob is the winner of its Rosie award for his work on Kyle Perry's novel *The Bluffs*.**

The Rosanne Fitzgibbon Editorial Award, known as the Rosie, recognises excellence in editing, as demonstrated in one published work.

Jakob's work on debut writer Perry's novel *The Bluffs*, from suggesting the book's title to cutting 20,000 extraneous words, helped transform a raw manuscript into a commercially successful work of crime fiction for Penguin Random House (PRH).

The judges said: "Jakob's careful work on the text went beyond a simple copyedit or a refinement of the manuscript. His interventions led to a more accomplished narrative and helped to develop the author's skills and confidence as a writer."

IPEd patron Roly Sussex, announcing the winner at an IPEd awards night, said the publisher's detailed and thoughtful letter of recommendation emphasised how much care and respect Jakob displayed for Perry's work at every stage of the editing process. "The author/editor relationship is a crucial part of the Rosie award, and the author's letter outlines the strong rapport he developed with Jakob," Sussex said.

Jakob receives a cash prize of \$4,000 and a certificate, a copy of which is also provided to the author and the publisher.

The other shortlisted editor was Linda Nix AE for her work on *Australian Law in Context* by Ciprian Radavoi and Stephen Norris, published by Lexis Nexis.

The judges were impressed with the quality of this year's entries and made special mention of Jessica Perini's developmental work with author Leon Silver on *The Miracle Typist* before the book's acquisition by Simon & Schuster.

The judges said all editors nominated for the 2021 Rosie demonstrated a commitment and dedication to their craft. The shortlisted collaborations displayed an outstanding editorial capability in supporting the writer to create the best publishing outcomes.

Jakob said the award was a huge honour and he enjoyed working with Perry, who was "high energy in the best way". "I was able to feed off that and his dedication to his craft made it a fun and easy process.

"The editor's task is to try to go unnoticed, so I happily and rapidly retreat to the shadows but thank you so much," Jakob told the awards night.

Clive Hebard, PRH managing editor, said IPEd's support and recognition of editors in Australia and New Zealand contributed much to the value of the publishing industry. "The Rosie award rightly recognises the value of an editor's respect for the work and the importance of trust between editor and author."

He said Jakob was "a creative, devoted and assiduous editor" and *The Bluffs* would not have been "such a literary and commercial success without the solid, attentive and honest relationship" Jakob developed with Perry.

The Rosie honours the editorial contribution of Rosanne Fitzgibbon DE (1947–2012), whose professional life was spent chiefly in editing fiction titles at University of Queensland Press (UQP). She was the inaugural winner of the Beatrice Davis Editorial Fellowship in 1992, which took her to publishing houses in New York, subsequently benefiting every author she worked with. Rosie was known and loved for her passionate commitment to her authors, often over several titles.

The 2021 judges were former UQP publishing manager Craig Munro; managing editor of Black Inc Julia Carlomagno, who won the inaugural Rosie in 2019; and Scharlaine Cairns, whose company Charlie C Editorial has a breadth of experience, including project management and all aspects of editing across a variety of genres, particularly educational titles.

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#### **About IPEd**

The Institute of Professional Editors Ltd is the professional association for Australian and New Zealand editors. It exists to advance the profession of editing and to support and promote editors in both countries. IPEd is a non-profit company.