ABR media release

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Sophie Cunningham wins Australia's premier essay prize

Celebrated novelist and editor Sophie Cunningham is the winner of the 2015 Calibre Prize for an Outstanding Essay. The judges – Delia Falconer and Peter Rose – chose Sophie's essay, 'Staying with the Trouble', from a strong field. It is our cover feature in the May 2015 issue. Sophie Cunningham receives \$5,000 from *ABR*.

Peter Rose (Editor of *ABR*) said: 'Calibre is always a highlight of *ABR*'s year. I'm thrilled to be able to publish Sophie Cunningham's absorbing and evocative essay.' Sophie Cunningham commented: 'I wrote this essay from a concern with how one narrates the personal, the random and fragmented while chronicling issues as broad as climate change and mass extinction. The Calibre Prize has rewarded a rich variety of writers who have tackled an extraordinary range of topics. Each year I've read the winner and been inspired. I feel incredibly honoured to now be among these winners' number.'



About the winner



Sophie Cunningham is the author of two novels, *Geography* (2004) and *Bird* (2008). For the City Series, she wrote *Melbourne* (2011). *Warning: The Story of Cyclone Tracy*, her most recent book, was published by Text Publishing in 2014. She is a former Editor of *Meanjin*, and until recently was Chair of the Literature Board of the Australia Council. She is now based in San Francisco.

About the Calibre Prize

The Calibre Prize (first awarded in 2007) is Australia's leading award for an original essay. The Prize is intended to encourage brilliant new essays and to foster new insights into Australian culture and society.

More information

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