

MEDIA RELEASE

Date: 27/6/2024

From: *Australian Book Review*

(03) 9699 8822 | editor@australianbookreview.com.au

Australian Book Review's new Rising Star

Australian Book Review is delighted to name its sixth Rising Star – Sam Ryan, an emerging critic and early career researcher. Sam, who lives in Melbourne, is a PhD candidate at the University of Tasmania, where he is working on a thesis on the poetry in *Overland* and *Quadrant*. More broadly, he is interested in the genre of literary journal and its place in literary cultures. He has worked in publishing – in various functions – for more than a decade. He is *Overland's* digital archivist and has a firm belief in the importance of digital preservation of literary journals. He has written for *Australian Book Review*, the *Australian Journal of Biography and History*, *Cordite*, and *The Conversation*.

The Rising Stars program – generously funded by the *ABR* patrons – is intended to advance the careers of younger writers and critics whose early contributions to *ABR* have impressed readers and editors alike.



Sam Ryan (photograph by Bonnie Lavelle)

Peter Rose, Editor of *ABR*, comments:

'I first became aware of Sam Ryan in January 2023 when he interviewed me for a survey of literary journals and organisations funded by Creative Australia and undertaken by the *Sydney Review of Books*. I was struck by his incisiveness and his digital savvy. Happily and cannily, Sam finds time for freelance reviewing around his PhD studies. Already he has written for us a few times. Sam's interest in *ABR* – and its digital ambitions – has impressed us all.'

Sam Ryan comments:

'*Australian Book Review* is such an important part of Australia's literary culture, not only in terms of its critical input, which is undeniable, but also for the ways in which it encourages and nurtures new writing. Since working with the magazine, I have been taken aback by the care applied to all its endeavours. Peter Rose has in the past described the journal as "entrepreneurial". I can't think of a better description, nor can I imagine a more useful attribute in contemporary publishing. To be a part of the magazine – first as a contributor and now as a Rising Star – is truly an honour. I have such a passion for the written word, and I know the positive effect keen criticism has. I look forward to sharpening my writing with *ABR's* guidance.'

Interviews

Sam Ryan is available for interview. Please direct requests to *ABR* Editor Peter Rose:
(03) 9699 8822 | editor@australianbookreview.com.au

Previous Rising Stars

Alex Tighe (2019), Sarah Walker (2019), Declan Fry (2020), Anders Villani (2021), Mindy Gill (2021)