

For Immediate Release

Bath Literature Festival Event New Writing: The Anthology

This year's most hotly tipped creative writing graduates read from their anthology at Bath Literature Festival, 28th February, 7.30pm, Bath Guildhall.

As part of the Bath Literature Festival, MA graduates will read from their newly published anthology, *Watermark*. "These snapshots – some tender, some cutting – offer a rare chance to sample some of tomorrow's brightest new literary voices," says *Watermark* editor and MA graduate Robin Pridy. The thirty-five diverse voices profiled in this anthology offer a feast of extracts and short stories, inviting you to experience new and strange worlds, love lost and found, comedy, horror or just life as we know it.

The MA in creative writing at Bath Spa University College is quickly proving itself to be the rising star of this decade's emerging literary scene. Tutors such as Booker shortlisted Gerard Woodward, *New Yorker* regular Tessa Hadley and best-selling thriller writer Mo Hayder have been attracting the writing talent, while former students continue to grab impressive publishing deals, literary prizes and media interest. Last year's graduates are no exception, already boasting several prize-winning stories, radio plays, and top agent signings.

NOTES TO EDITORS:

- The *Watermark* reading is Monday, 28 February 2005, 7.30-8.30pm at Bath's Guildhall; tickets cost £5.00 (£4.00), available from the Festivals Box Office on 01225 463362 event C7, or from www.bathlifefest.org.uk
- For details on press passes, please contact Julie at mail@peacockpr.com.
- Those interested in attending the post-reading launch party at Green Park Brasserie, please contact ann.newbegin@watermark.org.uk for further details.
- Images and author interviews available upon request at info@watermark.org.uk, 01273 711 668, or phone Louise Gethin on 07835874518 for further information.

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*I thought I would write
you a story and leave it
here.*

*...burning, not with love,
but like a cattle brand.*

*The first word I said
clearly was Baywatch.*

*I watched her gently bob
with the tide, like a
message in a bottle.*

*The wind sets the sugar
cane rattling in the dark
fields.*

*His mouth was small and
lipless, more suited to a
mollusc than a person,
something you might find
sucking the glass of a
fish tank.*

*God doesn't exist. Flip
flap, Ginger's gone out.*

*I dipped my toes in to
find it cool without
surprises. It was then my
feet let go.*

*...the precise, fractal
margin...*

*The neatness of the
arrangement pleased and
comforted me.*

*Kate, in comparison,
looked like a flower
border, without the
flowers.*

*...a blue truck shimmered
in and out of the heat.*

*Water, sand, lava, shell
and pebble ping
beautifully like music,
like swimmers in the
fifty-meter pool: bubbles,
arms, shouts, breaths.*