
2024 FIRECRACKER AWARD WINNER, POETRY

Celebrating the Best of Independent Literary Publishing

The Limitless Heart
by Cheryl Boyce-Taylor (Haymarket Books)

“With expansive and intimate vision, Boyce-Taylor grapples with longing, grief, displacement, and motherhood among many other timely and engaging themes. The poems are always lyrical, vivid, each piece imbued with powerful affirmation and profound abundance.”

—Judges Allison Escoto, Crystal Wilkinson & Shelley Wong
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*The Quickening: Antarctica, Motherhood,
and Cultivating Hope in a Warming World*
by Elizabeth Rush (Milkweed Editions)

“*The Quickening* is an inspiring document of an expedition powered by a deep understanding of the consequences that lie ahead. It invites us, Rush’s readers, to turn and embrace hope.”

—Judges Edgar Gomez, Raquel Gutiérrez & Gaël LeLamer
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You Were Watching from the Sand
by Juliana Lamy (Red Hen Press)

“The language in this collection crackles with a propulsive energy, and there’s not a weak story to be found. Lamy’s impressive range is on full display; this is likely just the beginning of what looks to be a thrilling literary career.”

—Judges Zeyn Joukhadar, Talia Lakshmi Kolluri & Kevin Sampsell
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SWING

“*SWING* has made a bold outing as a journal that gathers evocative, fine-tuned writing from the South and beyond. The editors’ thoughtful, and sometimes sly, juxtapositions of pieces make the journal a delight to read.”

—Judges Sam Campbell, Manuel Gonzales & Dana Isokawa
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