

Steven Herrick, Poet and Author

“Poetry, to the Rescue”

REVIEWS & COMMENTS

“good, great, funny, excellent, radical, fantastic, awesome, cool, super”

Yrs K-6 BENALLA WEST PRIMARY, VICTORIA

“he was better than a public holiday”

Yr 11 STUDENT, ST. MARY’S TOOWOOMBA, QLD

“Teenagers wait-listed for a book of poetry? I kid you not. The response to love, ghosts & nose hair has been remarkable... Evocative and sensitive, punchy and humorous, at times intensely moving, this is a must on the teen and young adult book shelf.”

BEVERLY RICHARDSON, BOOKPHILE 1996

“And joy is what love, ghosts & nose hair is full of. I snickered, I chortled, I snorted with laughter...Read one or two poems to someone, and you’ll hear them begging to hear just one more.”

LINNET HUNTER, THE AUSTRALIAN, 16/11/96

THE PERFORMANCE

An innovative and energetic performance from one of Australia’s most popular children’s poets. A unique opportunity to appreciate the sound and humour of Modern Poetry. All students quickly recognise this poetry as being accessible, entertaining and above all, relevant to their lives. Steven’s experience and skill as a poet and performer effectively breaks down any uncertainties students have about understanding or enjoying poetry.

The programme features a brief talk on being a poet and a 45-minute performance. Strong emphasis is placed on the natural rhythms and sounds of everyday language. After Steven, every student will believe poetry belongs on the stage as well as on the page.

THE PERFORMER

Steven Herrick is Australia’s most popular poet for young people. He has written three books of poetry for teenagers, three books for children, and one picture book. His three verse novels, love, ghosts & nose hair, A place like this and The Simple Gift were the first poetry books ever to be short-listed for Book of the Year (Older Readers) in the prestigious Children’s Book Council Awards. All three books were also shortlisted for the NSW Premier’s Literary Awards. The Spangled Drongo was awarded the 2000 NSW Premier’s Literary Awards-Patricia Wrightson Prize for Children’s Literature. By The River was awarded the 2005 Ethel Turner Prize for Young Adult Literature.

Steven’s books for children and young adults have received wide critical acclaim, both here and overseas. He is unique in Australia, being the only poet writing books for adults, children, and teenagers. He has performed his work in the UK, Canada, the USA, and Singapore, as well as all over Australia. He is, arguably, Australia’s most travelled and widely heard poet!

BOOKS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS

Water Bombs UQP 1992,1995
love, ghosts & nose hair UQP 1996,1997,1998*
my life, my love, my lasagne UQP 1997,1998
A place like this UQP 1998,1999*
Poetry, to the rescue UQP 1998
The Spangled Drongo UQP 1999, 2000- 2000 NSW Premier’s Literary Award, Patrica Wrightson Prize
The Simple Gift UQP 2000*
Love poems and leg spinners UQP 2001
Tom Jones saves the world UQP 2002*
Do-Wrong Ron Allen & Unwin 2003*

By the river Allen & Unwin 2004- 2005 NSW Premier’s Literary Award, Ethel Turner Prize
Naked Bunyip Dancing Allen & Unwin 2005
Lonesome Howl Allen & Unwin 2006
Cold Skin Allen & Unwin 2007
Rhyming Boy UQP 2008
Untangling Spaghetti UQP2009
SLICE (juicy moments from an impossible life) Random House 2010
black painted fingernails Allen & Unwin 2011
Pookie Aleera is not my boyfriend UQP 2012

* Short-listed Book- The Children’s Book of Council of Australia

WEBSITE – www.stevenherrick.com.au MYSPACE - <http://www.myspace.com/179239067>

Cross Curriculum	Multimodal Texts	Curriculum Links
(3) Sustainability - Social	(A) Audio (G) Gestural	ENGLISH identifies patterns in poetry, - share feelings & thoughts about events & characters, - listens to spoken texts for different purposes DRAMA watch and listen as an active participant

DURATION: 45 minutes	SUITABILITY: Yrs 3-12
PERFORMANCE COST \$4.50 per student \$0.45 GST Total: \$4.95 (incl. GST)	PERFORMANCE MINIMUM (100 students) \$450.00 per performance \$.45.00 GST Total: \$495.00 (incl. GST)
* Teachers Notes Provided	

Young Australia Workshop

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Steven Herrick



Poet and Author

"POETRY, TO THE RESCUE"

ILLUSTRATION BY GREGORY ROGERS (WATERBOMBS – UQP 1993,1995)

"Steven Herrick doesn't preach: he allows his big theme to step lightly through these children's lives, awakening their minds and sympathies without unduly disturbing them."

JUDGES COMMENTS ON "NAKED BUNYIP DANCING" – SHORTLISTED FOR 2006 NSW PREMIER'S LITERARY AWARD

"Steven Herrick's ability to create rich pictures with an economy of words is brilliant."

JUDGES COMMENT ON "BY THE RIVER" – HONOUR BOOK 2005 CHILDREN'S BOOK COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA, BOOK OF THE YEAR AWARDS.

"What gives Steven Herrick's verse novels their particular power and appeal?... Adjectives like subtle, eloquent, beguiling, simple, economical, poignant, and understated re-occur in appraisals of his titles."

RUTH STARKE – REVIEW OF "LONESOME HOWL" IN MAGPIES 2006

"The flawless rhythm of his writing and the bittersweet tales he tells make him a unique storyteller."

THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD

"In this exceptional example of the verse novel, time and place are evoked and Harry's youthful voice is authentically rendered in poems notable for their spare beauty."

JUDGE'S COMMENTS ON "BY THE RIVER" – THE OUTSTANDING INTERNATIONAL BOOKLIST, SCHOOL LIBRARY JOURNAL USA

AWARDS

- * Twice won the NSW Premier's Literary Awards (2000 *The Spangled Drongo*; 2005 *By the River*)
- * Six times – shortlisted for the Children's Book Council Book of the Year Awards.
- * Twice won the Speech Pathology of Australia Book of the Year Award.
- * Shortlisted – Outstanding International Booklist – USA School Library Journal 2007.