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### PRESS RELEASE

# Announcement of the Finalists for the Proverse Prize 2023 Founded 2008, First edition, 2009

The Proverse Hong Kong Spring Reception 2024, supported by Hong Kong Arts Development Council and assisted by several volunteers and student helpers, took place at the Helena May in Garden Road, central Hong Kong, on Thursday, 25 November. This Literary and Literary Award event was well attended by luminaries of the Hong Kong and Macau academic, broadcasting, cultural, diplomatic, ecclesiastic, educational, language, publishing, and writing scenes, including loyal friends and writers and people whom the organizers confidently hope to see again at the next Proverse event, which will be the Proverse Autumn Reception 2024.

The programme consisted of a mixture of live and videoed interventions.

One of those who read in Hong Kong was present from Australia, and several Hong Kong writers and poets read or introduced their work; others read or gave presentations by prerecorded video from Australia, Canada, Greece, Malaysia, Singapore, UK, USA.

At a similar time as the venue event, to share the results to a worldwide audience, a prerecorded playlist of the main contents, "2024 Proverse Spring Reception: Parallel online event", was released on the Proverse youtube channel: youtube.com/@ProversePublishing. This remains available for viewing, direct link,

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLPHfT5TYFArfbXpo9vdEqDfsGvJxULklV

The Finalists for the Proverse Prize 2023 were announced by pre-recorded video by Dr Verner Bickley, MBE, Co-Founder, with his wife, Dr Gillian Bickley, of the Proverse Prizes.

The event was hosted live by Dr Gillian Bickley, Proverse Managing Editor and Co-Founder with her husband, Dr Verner Bickley, MBE, of the international Proverse Prizes.

# The Finalists are (in alphabetical order of surname)

Liam Blackford (Australia and Hong Kong)
Matthew Wong Foreman (Canada and Hong Kong)
Stewart McKay (Hong Kong and UK)
Michael Witts (Australia)
Pang Sern Yong (Malaysia).

# All Finalists may be viewed here:

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLPHfT5TYFArfbXpo9vdEqDfsGvJxULklV

## The international Proverse Poetry Prize (founded 2016)

Also at the Proverse Spring Reception 2024, *Mingled Voices 8: International Proverse Poetry Prize Anthology 2023* was launched. The winners of the international PROVERSE POETRY PRIZE 2023 were previously announced at the Proverse Autumn Reception in November 2023. A number of the winners, including those who won 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> places and those specially mentioned by the judges for a group of poems read their winning work at the Spring Reception 2024. They also may be viewed here:

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLPHfT5TYFArfbXpo9vdEqDfsGvJxULklV

The organizers and Proverse Hong Kong thank all for their support and attendance in Hong Kong and internationally.

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### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

The international PROVERSE PRIZE is awarded for <u>unpublished</u> work. On average, it takes a year or more for publishers and author to edit and prepare a winning work for publication. As a result, publication may take place a year or eighteen months after entry for the Prize.

The Winner(s) of the Proverse Prize 2023 will be announced and the winning works launched at the Proverse Autumn Reception, 21 November 2024. Additionally, among the semi-finalists, whose names were announced, one or more of those who do not advance to become the one or maximum two winners of the Proverse Prize may be awarded supplementary (publication) prizes, again as announced at the time of publication.

Also in November this year, the Winners of the annual international Proverse Poetry Prize (single poems) 2024 will be annualed.

### **Annual entry periods and procedures**

The competitions open for entry on 7 May and close on 30 June each year. Late entry available, 1-11 July. (All times, Hong Kong time.)

During the entry period, entry is available from

1) Submittable (preferred): https://proversehongkong.submittable.com/submit (with additional details)

and

2) https://www.proversepublishing.com (with additional entry possibilities for Hong Kong entrants)

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**Further information** Considerable information about Proverse and the International Proverse Prizes, is available on our website: https://proversepublishing.com. The Proverse YouTube

channel shows several past prize award events, with talks and readings by participating writers and poets: youtube.com/@ProversePublishing

The Proverse newsletter appears at 4-6-week intervals.

Free subscriptions are available to the YouTube channel and the newsletter.

To see most available Proverse titles, please visit and scroll through the following page -- https://cup.cuhk.edu.hk/ProverseHK

Ebook and paperback editions are also widely available online, most prominently from Amazon. Some Audiobook editions are also available from international retailers.

