

Etchings 1 & 2

Bright spots in the publishing gloom

Jane Sullivan
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Small independent magazines continue to encourage new talent, writes Jane Sullivan.

. . . Another independent publisher to watch is the Melbourne-based Ilura Press, which has much the same aim of "providing an avenue for creative writers whose work deserves a receptive and willing audience".

The first issue of its book-length magazine, *Etchings*, came out last year and another issue is out this month. It's an international publication featuring fiction, essays, art, photography and poetry from more than 30 authors and artists from Switzerland to Kuwait.

Although the focus is worldwide, there's a distinctly Melbourne flavour in the first issue, with a feature on stencil graffiti art and photographs by Christopher Lappas. Did you know Melbourne was a stencil graffiti capital? That's something you don't read about in tourist brochures. . . .

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