

CANBERRA TIMES

Etchings (207pp, \$68 for three issues) is the first edition of a magazine which seeks to cover much of the ground of the established journals (essay, fiction and poetry) but more besides (photography and art). (To be fair, *Heat* does include a series of paintings by Michael Bell on “studio and dogs”.) There is no obligation even on committed, addicted readers to support each new little magazine which appears in Australia, simply on the grounds that letting a hundred literary flowers bloom must be beneficial for the culture (or, eventually, the “story”). This one, though, does show promise, in a substantial poetry section, lots of fiction, two essays, and three ventures into art. Naomi Drury’s photograph, *Fallen*, is a beautiful study of leaves, Christopher Lappas treats seriously “the graffiti that is Stencil Art”, and Meera Atkinson contributes a cleverly turned story based on emails.

Reviewer: Mark Thomas