

**Second Light** network for ambitious women poets

**ARTEMISpoetry** must have, must read, twice-yearly journal

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## **NEW ANTHOLOGY of women's poetry: *HER WINGS OF GLASS***

Second Light Network has received support from the Arts Council of England for a 220pp plus anthology of ambitious poetry by women – a follow-up to the Arrowhead / SLP *Images of Women*\*, edited by Dilys Wood and Myra Schneider. They will edit the new book with Penelope Shuttle. The aim is to publish in Autumn 2014.

We invite you to send up to six poems, not more than 200 lines in total, with three copies of each poem to Dilys Wood at 3, Springfield Close, East Preston, West Sussex, BN16 2SZ, by January 15<sup>th</sup> 2014 together with the administrative fee of £5 (Second Light members) or £8 (non-members). Cheques payable to Second Light or pay online ([www.poetrypf.co.uk/shop.php?sort=ur](http://www.poetrypf.co.uk/shop.php?sort=ur) and filter to 'Wings'). Non-UK submissions may be sent by e-mail as .doc or .pdf attachments only to Anne Stewart at [editor@poetrypf.co.uk](mailto:editor@poetrypf.co.uk).

We will let you know by 30<sup>th</sup> June 2014 if any of your poems are selected and, if selected, you will receive a copy of the anthology when published. Submitted poems may be published (details on poem please) or unpublished or otherwise out in submission. We may also publish a short spin-off anthology if funds allow.

The following is to help you choose the right poems for *Her Wings of Glass*, which will complement but not overlap with *Images of Women*. The poems about women's life-cycle/experiences in the last section (*Inner Self and Imagination*) are closer to what we are looking for this time...

We expect to include many well-known poets and some with no previous publications. We will be looking, though, for honed poems that seem the right length and form for their content; we have (rarely) been known to suggest that an interesting poem is slightly shortened/reworked...

Poems may be in any style, including formal forms and short poems. The maximum length for any poem in the anthology is likely to be around 80 lines so that many women poets can be represented. Longer poems will need to be very exceptional; a truly free standing section of a long poem may be suitable...

The term 'ambitious' relates to the craft of poems but also to subject matter concerned with larger issues. These are likely to include the fate of the planet, mankind's role alongside other species, explorations of our humanity (and inhumanity), our creativity, the powerful emotions we experience, understanding of our inner selves, 'spirituality' in the broadest sense (but we do not want to pre-determine what the 'big issues' are for you)...

If this suggests that we are looking specifically for religious, moralising or goody-goody poems this is not so. We are not especially focussed on wild nature or wilderness, either. Urban life (good or bad) is central to modern experience and urban settings are equally valid as the location for experiences in depth...

Please bear in mind that there are many excellent anthologies, including those show-casing women's work only. We have not made final decisions about focus here (this will be determined by the submissions we get). However, we are determined to contribute to 'getting the balance right', confounding doubters who place 'women's poetry' *only* in the body/domestic/parochial context. Every aspect of life (from the mutation of a fly to the birth of a child) can be seen from a wide angle and we want to show the width, the depth, the 'science', the sheer unexpectedness of our concerns.

\**Images of Women*, eds Schneider and Wood, Arrowhead, 2006, £12.95, ISBN 1-904852-14-9 (last few copies are available at the offer price of £10 with your submission)



Supported using public funding by  
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