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BRYAN ASPDEN Born in Blackburn, Lancs, in 1933. Read English at Durham University. He has worked as a journalist and teacher in England and Spain and is now a local government officer in Gwynedd. Married with two children, he learned Welsh after moving to Wales in 1965 and writes in the language. With his first selection of poems, *News of the Changes* (1984), he won the Welsh Arts Council's New Poets Competition and has since published another volume, *Blind Man's Meal* (1988).

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JOHN BARNIE Born in Abergavenny, Gwent, in 1941. Educated at Birmingham University, he taught for thirteen years at the University of Copenhagen before returning to Wales in 1982. Since 1985 he has worked as co-editor of the magazine *Planet* and lives near Aberystwyth. He has published three collections of poetry, *Borderland* (1984), *Lightning Country* (1987) and *Clay* (1989), as well as a volume of essays, *The King of Ashes* (1989), which won a Welsh Arts Council Prize in 1990.

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DUNCAN BUSH Born in Cardiff in 1946, educated at Warwick University and Wadham College, Oxford. He lives at Penycae in the Swansea Valley, and lectures in Cultural Studies at Gwent College of Higher Education. He has published four volumes of poetry: *Nostos* (1980), *Aquarium* (1983) and *Salt* (1985), both of which won Welsh Arts Council prizes, and *The Genre of Silence* (1988).

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GILLIAN CLARKE Born in Cardiff in 1937, read English at the University College in the city. For many years a full-time writer and teacher in creative writing, she lives now at Talgarreg in Dyfed. She was the editor of *The Anglo-Welsh Review* from 1976 to 1984. Her verse has been collected in three volumes: *The Sundial* (1978), *Letter from a Far Country* (1982) and *Letting in the Rumour* (1989); her *Selected Poems* were published in 1985.

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TONY CURTIS Born at Carmarthen in 1946 and educated at University College, Swansea, and Goddard College, Vermont, Tony Curtis is Senior Lecturer in English at the Polytechnic of Wales. He has published four collections of poetry: *Album* (1974), *Preparations* (1980), *Letting Go* (1983) and *The Last Candles* (1989); a volume of his *Selected Poems* appeared in 1986. Among the books he has edited are *The Art of Seamus Heaney* (1982), *Wales: the Imagined Nation* (1986) and two anthologies of verse

about Pembrokeshire and Snowdonia. He has also contributed a monograph on Dannie Abse to the *Writers of Wales* series (1985). In 1984 he won the National Poetry Competition organized by the Poetry Society and BBC Radio 3.

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JOHN DAVIES Born at Cymmer Afan, Glamorgan, in 1944, and educated at the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth; he teaches English at Prestatyn, Clwyd. He has published five volumes of verse: *Strangers* (1974), *Spring in a Small Town* (1979), *At the Edge of Town* (1981), *The Silence in the Park* (1982) and *The Visitor's Book* (1985). With Mike Jenkins, he edited the anthology *The Valleys* (1984).

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CHRISTINE EVANS Born in West Yorkshire in 1943, and educated at the University of Exeter, she has lived in Pen Llŷn, Gwynedd, since 1967 and teaches English at Pwllheli, her father's birthplace. Her three collections of poetry are *Looking Inland* (1983), *Falling Back* (1985) and *Cometary Phases* (1989); with the last she won a Welsh Arts Council Prize in 1990.

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PETER FINCH Born in Cardiff in 1947 and educated at the Glamorgan College of Technology. He worked in local government before his appointment as Manager of the Welsh Arts Council's bookshop at Oriel, Cardiff, in 1973. He is the author of some twenty volumes of verse, including *The End of the Vision* (1971) and *Some Music and a Little War* (1984); his *Selected Poems* appeared in 1987. His short stories have been collected under the title *Between 35 and 42* (1982). The founder of the magazine *Second Aeon* in 1966, he was its editor until it ceased publication in 1974.

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CATHERINE FISHER Born in Newport in 1956, she still lives in her home-town, where she is a teacher; she was educated at the Gwent College of Further Education. Her first volume of poetry, *Immrama* (1988), won a Welsh Arts Council Prize and she won the Cardiff Literature Festival Poetry Competition in 1989. She is also the author of *The Conjuror's Game* (1990), a novel for children.

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STEVE GRIFFITHS Born on Anglesey in 1949. He has lived in London since 1970, where he co-ordinates Islington Council's programme against poverty. His three collections of poetry are *Anglesey Material* (1980), *Civilised Airs* (1984) and *Uncontrollable Fields* (1990).

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PAUL GROVES Born in 1947, brought up at The Narth, a hamlet between Monmouth and Chepstow, and educated at Caerleon College of Education. Formerly a teacher, he has recently been working on a novel and lives in Coleford, Glos. His verse has been published under the title *Academe* (1988).

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DOUGLAS HOUSTON Born in Cardiff in 1947, brought up in Glasgow and educated at the University of Hull. He returned to Wales in 1981 and now lives as a writer in Cwm Ystwyth, Dyfed. His first book of poems is *With the Offal Eaters* (1986).

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MIKE JENKINS Born in Aberystwyth in 1953 and educated at the University College in the town. He is a teacher in Merthyr Tydfil and the editor of the magazine *Poetry Wales*. Four collections of his verse have been published: *The Common Land* (1981), *Empire of Smoke* (1983), *Invisible Times* (1986) and *A Dissident Voice* (1990).

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NIGEL JENKINS Born in Gower in 1949. On leaving school he worked for four years as a newspaper reporter in England before studying literature and film at the University of Essex. He returned to Wales in 1976 and has lived since then as a writer in Swansea. He shared the Welsh Arts Council's Young Poet's Prize with Tony Curtis and Duncan Bush in 1974. Among his collections of poetry are *Song and Dance* (1981) and *Practical Dreams* (1983); a volume of his selected poems, *Acts of Union*, appeared in 1990. His play *Strike a Light!* was performed in 1985 and he has written about John Tripp in the *Writers of Wales* series.

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HUW JONES Born in 1955, brought up in Welshpool, Powys. He graduated in Theology at the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth. He was until recently a part-time tutor, teaching Welsh to adults with the Extra-Mural Department of the University College of North Wales, Bangor, but is now teaching in Botswana. His verse has been published in the volume *A Small Field* (1985).

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STEPHEN KNIGHT Born in Swansea in 1960, read English at Oxford. He has worked as a writer-in-residence in West Glamorgan and as a theatre-director in Leatherhead and Swansea. A selection of his poems appeared in *Poetry Introduction 6* (1985).

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HILARY LLEWELLYN-WILLIAMS Born in Kent in 1951, of partly Welsh parentage, took a degree in English and Theology at Southampton University. She settled in Wales in 1982 and now lives in Llanelli. In 1971 she won the Stroud Festival Guinness Poetry Competition and the Cardiff Poetry Competition in 1987. Her first volume of poetry, *The Tree Calendar* (1987),

won a Welsh Arts Council Prize and her second collection, *Book of Shadows*, appeared in 1990.

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CHRISTOPHER MEREDITH Born in Tredegar, Monmouthshire, in 1954 and educated at the University Colleges of Aberystwyth and Swansea. He once worked in a steel plant but is now a teacher in Brecon; he is a Welsh-speaker. He has published two volumes of verse, *This* (1984) and *Snaring Heaven* (1990), and a novel *Shifts* (1988), which won a Welsh Arts Council Prize.

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ROBERT MINHINNICK Born in Neath in 1952, educated at the University Colleges of Aberystwyth and Cardiff. He has worked in industry, for the Post Office and as manager of an environmental project on the Glamorgan Heritage Coast; he is an active member of Friends of the Earth and lives in Porthcawl. His five collections of poetry are *A Thread in the Maze* (1978), *Native Ground* (1979), *Life Sentences* (1983), *The Dinosaur Park* (1985) and *The Looters* (1989).

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SHEENAGH PUGH Born in Birmingham in 1950, of partly Welsh parentage, and has lived in Wales since 1971. She read Russian and German at Bristol University and then worked in the Welsh Office in Cardiff. Her four collections of poetry are *Crowded by Shadows* (1977), *What a Place to Grow Flowers* (1980), *Earth Studies and Other Voyages* (1983) and *Beware Falling Tortoises* (1987); her *Selected Poems* appeared in 1990. She has also published a volume of verse translated from the French and German, *Prisoners of Transience* (1985), and won the Babel Prize for Translation in 1984.

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OLIVER REYNOLDS Born in Cardiff in 1957. He studied Drama at Hull University and then worked in the theatre. He has published two collections of verse: *Skevington's Daughter* (1985) and *The Player Queen's Wife* (1987); the latter included the long poem, 'Rorschach Writing', with which he won the Arvon Foundation International Poetry Competition in 1985.

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GRAHAM THOMAS Born in Abertyleri, Monmouthshire, in 1944, educated at the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth. He is Head of the Faculty of Science and Mathematics in the comprehensive school of his home-town. His first collection of poetry is *The One Place* (1983).

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CHRIS TORRANCE Born in Edinburgh in 1941, settled in Glyn Neath in 1970. He lives as a writer and part-time tutor. The poems he has selected are from *The Magic Door*, of which four parts have so far appeared – *The Magic Door* (1975), *Citrinas* (1977), *The Diary of Palug's Cat* (1980) and *The Book of Brychan* (1982).

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JOHN POWELL WARD Born in Suffolk in 1937, educated at the Universities of Toronto, Cambridge and Wales. He was a

lecturer in Education at University College, Swansea, from 1963 to 1989, but has now retired and lives in Kent. His five collections of poetry are *The Other Man* (1968), *The Line of Knowledge* (1972), *From Alphabet to Logos* (1972), *To Get Clear* (1981) and *The Clearing* (1984). He has also published an essay on Raymond Williams in the *Writers of Wales* series and two critical studies, *Poetry and the Sociological Idea* (1981) and *Wordsworth's Language of Men* (1984). From 1975 to 1980 he was editor of the magazine *Poetry Wales*.

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NIGEL WELLS Born in Northampton in 1944, educated at the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth; he lives in Machynlleth, Powys. He has published three collections of verse: *Venturing Out from Trees* (1970), *The Winter Festivals* (1980) and *Wilderness/Just Bounce* (1988); with the last he won a Welsh Arts Council Prize in 1989.

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PENNY WINDSOR Born in 1946 and brought up in the West Country; she has been living in Swansea for more than twenty years. She has worked as a teacher and youth worker, and for

the National Association of Citizens' Advice Bureaux, but now lives as a writer. Her two collections of verse are *Dangerous Women* (1987) and *Like Oranges* (1989).

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