

## Do we judge a book by its cover?

The Library and Information Service of Western Australia's beautiful and successful exhibition, *Judging a book by its cover* is now available to other libraries around Australia.

Twenty-three Western Australian books were chosen for their cover designs, and the authors, designers and publishers were asked for their impressions regarding these covers. The result is a fascinating insight into the world of publishing.

The exhibition shows tremendous diversity — not only are books by such well-known and award-winning authors as Dorothy Hewett, Elizabeth Jolley, Glyn Parry and Mudrooroo shown, but first-time authors, self-published authors and historians are also part of the exhibition. The exhibition features novels, non-fiction books, biographies and children's literature, and some of the original artwork is on display.

*The Orchard thieves*, by Elizabeth Jolley, is one of the books featured. What the author says: 'The artist, Rosanna Vecchio, has covered *The Orchard thieves* with the richness and the remembered warmth of childhood. When I first held the book in my hand it seemed to glow and it still glows. The cover pleases immediately.'

What the illustrator says: 'The restraints of working within



Members of the public browsing the exhibition

a set brief didn't exist. Instead, I was lead by the emotional tones of the book, and by my own emotional response to Elizabeth's novel, as a reader.'

What the publisher, Viking/Penguin Australia, says: 'The central, stylised image of the tree is obviously taken from the book's title and has a simplicity and warmth — and also a hint of mystery, which works well with the title. The design of the cover reflects this esteemed author's standing in Australian letters, giving prominence to her name.'

There are two sets of twenty-four panels available to other libraries around Australia should they wish to exhibit them. LISWA will meet the cost of shipping the panels to any destination in Australia with the return freight to be paid by the exhibiting library. To book the exhibit, contact Doug George on telephone 08 9427 3150 or fax 08 9427 3152.

Australian  
Library and  
Information  
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### STUDY GRANT AWARD 1998

There are funds available to ALIA members wishing to undertake a study project. Study Grants are offered to provide an opportunity for librarians or library technicians to undertake projects that they would otherwise be unable to do because of the time and costs involved. Study Grants are open to practising librarian or library technician members who have been personal members for at least two years and have a minimum of three years experience.

The number of awards in any year will depend upon the funds available and the estimated costs of proposals received.

Nomination forms are available from ALIA National Office  
PO Box E441, Kingston ACT 2604  
ph 02 6285 1877, fax 02 682 2249  
e-mail awards@alia.org.au  
URL <http://www.alia.org.au/awards.html>

Applications close  
1 September 1998

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