

# Vision Australia library awards 1999

**O**n the *Goddess Rock* by Arlene Chai is the winner of the Audio Book of the Year, announced during the Bib Stillwell BMW Vision Australia Library Awards dinner on 19 August. Mersina Malakellis from Random House, accepting the award on behalf of the author, read a note sent by Chai: 'Authors write out of a need to tell stories, but our labour does not end with putting words down on paper. We are creatures who wish to be read and, if not, then at least heard. Audio books allow storytellers to reach a wider audience and to have their characters live on in the hearts and minds of their listeners. For this reason, I am grateful to Louis Braille Audio for transforming *On the Goddess Rock* into an audio book. And I am deeply honoured to have it receive an Audio Book Award from the Vision Australia Library'.

The winner of the Narrator of the Year Award was David Tredinnick. His reading of *Silences long gone* (by Anson Cameron) was considered near perfection.

Bryce Courtenay was presented with the Braille Book of the Year Award for his novel *Jessica*. The Sanderson Young Adult Audio Book of the Year Award went to Sonya Hartnett for her book *All my dangerous friends*. The judging panel, comprised of library borrowers and students from Nazareth College, considered it the 'most real book' of all nominations. The same panel selected Stig Wemyss as the Sanderson Young Adult Narrator of the Year for his reading of *Falling forward* by David Metzenthen.

The Vision Australia Library Awards were presented at the ANZ Pavilion, Victorian Arts Centre, as part of the Mel-

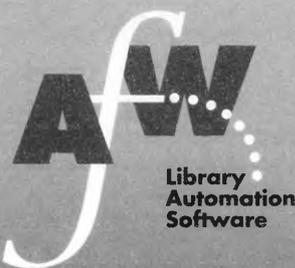


David Tredinnick — Narrator of the Year

bourne Writers' Festival. The awards were sponsored by Bib Stillwell BMW and Sanderson Computers. ■



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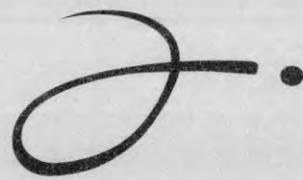
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