

20 June 2012

**THE TRUST COMPANY ANNOUNCES ANNA FUNDER AS WINNER OF THE 2012  
MILES FRANKLIN LITERARY AWARD**

***Debut novelist awarded Australia's most prestigious literary prize for her novel, All That I Am***

The Trust Company, as Trustee, and the 2012 judges have announced Anna Funder as the winner of this year's Miles Franklin Literary Award at an event held at the State Library of Queensland, Brisbane for her first novel, *All That I Am*.

The Miles Franklin Literary Award, recognised as Australia's most prestigious literary prize, was established in 1954 through the Will of *My Brilliant Career* author, Stella Maria Sarah Miles Franklin, to encourage and support writers of Australian literature. The annual Award is presented to the novel of the year which is judged to be of the highest literary merit and "presents Australian Life in any of its phases". Funder will receive \$50,000 in prize money.

"The judges admired this ambitious novel that moves across continents and decades to remind us that experiences of exile and dislocation have long been part of Australian life.

"Inspired by interviews and memoirs of those who resisted the Third Reich from the beginning, Funder's novel is shaped by the flawed memories and recollections of its two narrators, Ruth and Toller, who survive to bear witness. In this way the novel is both a testimony to those who led the resistance to Nazism, and a reflection on the limited ways that fiction and history can represent the traumatic past and do justice to its victims," said Prof Gillian Whitlock, Australian Research Council Professorial Fellow at the University of Queensland speaking on behalf of the 2012 judging panel.

The panel also included Richard Neville, State Library of New South Wales, Mitchell Librarian, Murray Waldren, journalist and columnist at *The Australian* newspaper, Anna Low, a Sydney based bookseller and Prof Julianne Schultz AM, founding editor of Griffith REVIEW.

Based on real people and events, *All That I Am* is a masterful and exhilarating exploration of bravery and betrayal, of the risks and sacrifices some people make for their beliefs, and of heroism hidden in the most unexpected places.

While *All That I Am* is Funder's first novel, she is also author of the international, non-fiction bestseller *Stasiland*, which won the 2004 Samuel Johnson Prize and was published in 20 countries and translated into 16 languages.

Funder was selected as the 2012 winner of the Miles Franklin Literary Award by the judging panel from the field of five shortlisted authors including; Tony Birch *Blood*, Gillian Mears *Foal's Bread*, Frank Moorhouse *Cold Light* and Favel Parrett *Past the Shallows*.

In announcing the winner John Atkin, CEO of The Trust Company, reiterated his call for the Government to consider making the \$50,000 prize money tax free in line with The Prime Minister's Literary Awards, for which the winner receives \$80,000 tax free. "It is my great honour to announce Anna Funder as the winner of the 2012 Miles Franklin Award. As Trustee of the Award, we consider our role in propagating the legacy of Miles Franklin to be one of our most treasured responsibilities and extend our congratulations to Anna.

"This has been a very exciting year for the Miles Franklin Literary Award as we constantly work to enhance the heritage of the Award as the most prestigious in Australia and ensure Miles Franklin's legacy remains relevant to future generations of Australian literature. The Trust Company will continue its campaign for the prize to become tax free continuing our support for Australian authors," he said.

MILES FRANKLIN LITERARY AWARD



**THE  
TRUST  
COMPANY**  
*as Trustee*

Join the Miles Franklin conversation on Twitter #milesfranklin

## ENDS

**For further information (bios, shortlist judges' report, synopses, images) or to arrange an interview, please contact:**

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### **About the Miles Franklin Literary Award:**

The Trust Company Limited is Trustee for the Miles Franklin Literary Award. *My Brilliant Career* author Stella Maria Sarah Miles Franklin left the residue of her estate to establish the award in 1954. Celebrating Australian character and creativity, the Award was established to support authors for the advancement, improvement and betterment of Australian literature. Last year's winner of the \$50,000 prize was Kim Scott for his novel, *That Deadman Dance*.

Copyright Agency's Cultural Fund is a proud supporter of the Miles Franklin Literary Award.

### **About The Trust Company**

The Trust Company is one of Australia's foremost trustee companies, offering trustee services for individuals, companies and charitable trusts from our offices in Australia, New Zealand and Singapore.

The Trust Company Group has around A\$900 million in charitable funds under administration. Currently serving as trustee for over 800 charitable trusts, this includes the Marten Bequest Travelling Scholarships and the Portia Geach Memorial Award. The Trust Company has recently launched a new Engaged Philanthropy program, designed to create lasting social impact in the community. This is led by 17 strategic partnerships with key non-profit organisations across the sector.

The Trust Company provides a wide range of financial services including:

- Personal Client Services offers estate planning and administration, lifestyle and executor assist, financial planning, personal trusts, wealth management and Health & Personal Injury services.
- Corporate Client Services offers Responsible Entity, Property & Infrastructure Custody, Superannuation Compliance & Trustee, Structured Finance Trustee and REIT Trustee services.