

GUIDELINES & TERMS FOR THE BOOK WORKS OPEN CALL 2025: SATIRICAL STRAINS, GUEST-EDITED BY HOLLY PESTER

Please read these eligibility and entry rules carefully before submitting. Submissions that do not fit these requirements will not be considered.

Entry requirements & guidelines

Submissions must be sent via email to hannah@bookworks.org.uk by midnight (GMT) on 22nd July 2025, with the subject line Satires, and must include the following:

- A proposal for a short, book-length body of work (maximum 40,000 words, or an equivalent suitable to the form if not prose). This proposal should include an outline of the finished work, and should communicate clearly the scope, style and structure of the project. Proposals may incorporate research, images or additional material if the book includes them, or the entrant feels it would strengthen their application. The proposal itself should be no more than 5,000 words.
- A writing sample **from the proposed work** (minimum 5,000 words). The writing sample may be previously published work (magazines and journals). If the writing sample is poetry, or uses verse-lines, we will require a minimum of ten pages.
- A short biography, no more than 200 words. Please include the following contact details at the top of the first page: postal address, email address, contact telephone number.
- A completed equal opportunities monitoring form ([download PDF](#)).

Proposals, writing samples and CVs should be sent as attachments and titled with the entrant's name and the nature of the document. E.g 'Name Surname_writing sample'

All submissions should include page numbers, set in Times New Roman, 12pt, double spaced.

Eligibility, terms and conditions

The proposals must be original and unpublished, or and not previously under contract with a publisher. Proposals that have been partially excerpted in magazines and journals are permitted.

Outside of publishing in magazines and journals, this must be the entrant's first full-length book. Entrants who have previously published zines or poetry chapbooks (less than 100 pages) are eligible to enter.

Entrants must not have literary agents or be represented by a gallery.

Work must be submitted in English language only.

Entrants must be over eighteen.

Book Works reserves the right not to publish once the work has been commissioned.

Unsuccessful applicants will be contacted, but we regret that we do not have the capacity to offer feedback.

Royalties will be paid from the published work, less advance (£1000 fee), on the following basis:

10% of cover price on all direct and trade sales in the UK and Europe at less than 50% discount, shipped from Book Works.

