*TRANSNATIONAL LITERATURE

Syd's Songs

Lyn Jacobs

In the long surge between lunch and launch the spun words spill from the lip tasting a flavour or two of slanted light before quitting the business of corridors with a slow slide down the Humanities stairwell to cruise along the ring-route's downhill run.

Gathering pace by the staff club, impressing observers with their momentum, they repel nudging cars and buses ignore the options of right or left, and lift off, over the Medical Centre to head north-west for the sub-continent.

Later that evening a boy at his music sounds a note so true that the sky trembles. His father's words, out-of-sight now, re-align overseas in new and interesting ways, before falling like a gentle shower into the up-turned palms of willing readers.

Lyn Jacobs is Associate Professor (adjunct) in Australian Literature and Australian Studies at Flinders University where she taught English between 1979-2002. She is the author of Against the Grain: Beverley Farmer's Writing (UQP) 2001 and her research, reviews and articles continue to be published locally and internationally.