**ARTIST’S PROFILE: Rodney Williams**Writing poems for over 50 years, Rodney Williams is the editor of ‘Catchment - Poetry of Place’, a literary journal within the Bbaa website. Its first edition went live online in December, 2023, presenting work from 65 Australian poets, in Western free verse & Japanese-based tanka. Its second issue will be released in June, 2024.

A former secretary of the Australian Haiku Society, Rodney has had writing in that genre published widely, here and overseas. He has also done editorial work with tanka in the ‘Atlas Poetica’ website (USA).

His longer poetry has appeared in significant periodicals, including ‘Mascara Literary Review,’ ‘Overland’ and ‘The Long Paddock’ from ‘Southerly’ (Australia); plus ‘Adelaide Literary Magazine’ (NYC) and ‘Antipodes’ (also USA); along with ‘Blackmail Press’ (NZ) and ‘Poetry New Zealand’. 

Rodney had essays included in ‘Five Bells,’ alongside poems.   
‘StylusLit’ has published his poetry and short fiction. His creative prose has also been posted online by the ‘Sudo Journal’.

Collaborating on a multi-genre book with oil-painter Otto Boron, Rodney has had six volumes of verse released through Ginninderra Press, with artwork provided by Jeff Thege, Helen Timbury and Sally Walk. He wrote lyrics for CD’s by singer-songwriter-guitarists Ricky Allan & Todd Cook. 

For 35 years, Rodney was a secondary school English teacher: in retirement - through Bbaa - he convenes Time to Write. He has conducted workshops and presentations within provincial writing festivals, community arts events & the regional library system. Rodney Williams has likewise given readings on radio, in theatrical performances and at poetry nights, including the Melbourne Writers’ Festival.    
  
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***Three poems by Rodney Williams:***  
  
**Landed**

speckled troutseveral pounda cubit long  
elbow to fingertip  
tail to lip  
 no fishy story, this  
  
this one that got away  
from many a barb  
 squirming worm  
many a lure  
 wobbling gleam  
many a fly  
 floating hoax  
  
at last had mouthed a hook  
it could not spit:  
  
 rainbow trout  
 stiff as a trophy fish  
 landed by drought  
  
Nerrena Hills, South Gippsland, 1982Published in Rodney’s poetry collection ‘In this dusty rear-view mirror: 55 poems’ (2015)**Tanka**  
  
dark too soon  
on this autumn night ...  
a wailing train  
heads back to the city  
so far behind me

Princes Highway, Trafalgar East(first published in ‘A Hundred Gourds’ 2:4 Sept 2013)  
  
Later included in Rodney’s chapbook ‘Fred the Rescue Cat: 70 tanka’ (launched through the   
Bbaa in 2023)

**Beyond that next crest**A triolet for KPR from Omeo, VICBeyond that next crest along the way –   
Over this high country – aspire   
Towards being whole. Let yourself delay   
Beyond that next crest. Along the way   
Go free to reflect, respecting interplay   
Between cloud & blue sky, aiming higher  
Beyond that next crest, along the way:   
Over this high country, a spire ...

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