As the Solstice Shorts Festival entered its fifth year, in December 2018, we celebrated Noon on the shortest day of the year. Flash fiction, poems and music marked the highest the sun gets at midwinter, in Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Carlisle, Holyhead and London.
Writers from all around the world contributed their thoughts on **Noon**, and performers read them, at **Noon**...

A flash of inspiration in the winter darkness.

In keeping with the transitory nature of the theme our authors played with ideas as diverse as momentary mistakes and cataclysmic change, being on time and celebration, chance meetings, serendipity and rituals.

Mad dogs and Englishmen get their say, but not as you might expect, as do scientists and dreamers.
High Noon is enacted on the streets of Glasgow, language is explored in Senegal and light in Australia, drinks are taken on a veranda and vampires strut the streets of Mallorca.
And everywhere, the sun sticks in an oar, and clocks strike.

Stories from Barbara Renel, Clare Shaw, Diana Powell, Elaine Hughes, Karen Ankers, Karen Boissonneault-Gauthier, Liam Hogan, Lily Peters, Marka Rifat, Patience Mackarness, Roppotucha Greenberg and Su Yin Yap.
Poems from Alison Gerhard, Alison Lock, Anne Elizabeth Bevan, Catriona Yule, Elinor Brooks, Gareth Culshaw, Graham Burchell, Ian Grosz, Jane Aldous, Laila Sumpton, Mandy Macdonald, Marika Josef, Michelle Penn, Natalie Gasper, Nicholas McGaughey, Patricia McCaw, Paul Foy, Sara Elgerot, Stuart McKenzie, Susan Cartwright-Smith and Vanessa Owen.

SOLSTICE SHORTS FESTIVAL

£8.99

ISBN 978-1-909208-69-8
9 781909 208698

NOON: Stories and Poems from Solstice Shorts Festival 2018 ed. Cherry Potts ARACHNE PRESS

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