

Outstanding  
**WOMEN** of  
Scotland



# Saltire Society Outstanding Women of Scotland 2015



SALTIRE  
SOCIETY  
SCOTLAND  
COMANN  
CRANN  
NA H-ALBA



**GLASGOW  
WOMEN'S  
LIBRARY**

Welcome



Throughout its history the work of the Saltire Society has benefited from the energy and leadership of exceptional women. As academics, commentators, office bearers, Council members, award winners and more, women have played a central role in our work. There is continued concern with the representation of women in civic matters and in discussing this informally with many of the women involved in our work, the idea of a Saltire project that considers this matter was welcomed.

In 2014 the Saltire Society, in partnership with the Glasgow Women's Library, launched The Outstanding Women of Scotland campaign. Celebrating a woman who has made a significant contribution to Scottish culture and society every day through social media, the campaign reached over 250,000 people in its first two weeks alone.

This event on International Women's Day, is being held to celebrate and recognise the significant difference women have made to Scottish culture through their influence and leadership. Nominations for the honour were open to the public and ten women have been selected as the Outstanding Women of Scotland for 2014. Each of our inductees will be presented a limited edition print by an up and coming printmaker Jessica Copsey, presented to them by a member of Women in Leadership, University of Strathclyde.

We hope this event is the beginning of an annual celebration bringing together a community of women who have influenced, and continue to shape, Scotland.

**Sarah Mason**  
Programme Director  
The Saltire Society

**#saltirewomen**

**[www.saltiresociety.org.uk/discuss-and-debate/saltire-women/](http://www.saltiresociety.org.uk/discuss-and-debate/saltire-women/)**



**GLASGOW  
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# Programme

**3.00pm**

**Arrival - tea and coffee**

**3.15pm Welcome**

**Susan Garnsworthy**

Former Saltire Society Council Member and founding member of Outstanding Women of Scotland campaign.

**3.20pm**

**Presentation of the  
Outstanding Women of Scotland 2015  
by Hannah MacGill**

Freelance writer and critic, former artistic director of the Edinburgh International Film Festival and Saltire Literary Awards panel member.

**4.00pm**

**Vote of Thanks**

**&**

**Raising a glass to our Inductees**

**Adele Patrick**

Glasgow Women's Library Lifelong Learning and Creative Development Manager and founding member of Outstanding Women of Scotland campaign.

**4.05pm**

**Drinks reception**

**5.00pm**

**Finish**



# Inductees



We are delighted to announce our inaugural Outstanding Women of Scotland are:

**Dame Elish Angiolini**

**Dame Winifred Ewing**

**Bashiba Fraser**

**Jackie Kay**

**Doris Littlejohn**

**Liz Lochhead**

**Anne Lorne Gillies**

**Rebecca Lunn**

**Karine Polwart**

**Nicola Sturgeon**



# Dame Elish Angiolini



**My inspiration**





Elish Angionlini was born into a working class family in Govan. She experienced crime as a teenager, with her family home being burgled on multiple occasions. When asked to give evidence as a witness to the burglary of a neighbour's home, Elish was disappointed with the way in which the courts dealt with witnesses. Inspired by a need to change such failings of the criminal justice system, Elish went on to become a lawyer. In 2001, Elish was appointed Solicitor General for Scotland by then First Minister Jack McConnell.

In 2006 Elish became Scotland's first female Procurator Fiscal and Lord Advocate. As Lord Advocate Elish took forward the most wide-ranging programme of modernisation in the department's history. She took particular responsibility for the approach to cases involving vulnerable victims with the national roll out of the Victim Information and Advice Service and ensured that prosecutors provided skilled support to the domestic abuse court in Glasgow.

Elish chaired the department's Strategy Group on Diversity and helped victims from minority communities achieve greater confidence in the prosecution service. A review of the investigation and prosecution of rape and sexual crimes which she instigated was a major undertaking which resulted in profound and successful changes to prosecution practices.

Elish was the first patron of LawWorks Scotland, a charitable organisation that assists those who cannot afford legal help. In 2012, Elish was made the Principal of St. Hugh's College, Oxford. Since 2013, Elish has been chancellor of the University of the West of Scotland.



# Dame Winifred Ewing



Winifred 'Winnie' Margaret Ewing is a Scottish nationalist, lawyer, prominent SNP politician and former Member of Parliament and Member of the European Parliament. Her election victory in 1967 was a significant by-election in Scottish political history and began a surge of support for the SNP. She was elected SNP Party President in 1987.

Born Winifred Margaret Woodburn in Glasgow, she was educated at Battlefield School and Queen's Park Senior Secondary School. In 1946 she matriculated at Glasgow University where she earned an MA and went on to study for an LLB. After graduation she qualified and practised as a solicitor and notary public.

Winnie became active in campaigning for Scottish independence through her membership of the Glasgow University Scottish Nationalist Association, and came to prominence in 1967 when she won the watershed Hamilton by-election as the Scottish National Party (SNP) candidate. She famously said at the time of her election, 'stop the world, Scotland wants to get on'.

Winnie first became an MEP in 1975, at a time when the European Parliament was still composed of representative delegations from national parliaments. She ceased to be a Westminster MP after the May 1979 election, but within weeks had won a seat at the European Parliament in the first direct elections to the Parliament. It was during this time that Winnie acquired the nickname 'Madame Ecosse' because of her strong advocacy of Scottish interests in Strasbourg and Brussels. In 1999 she gave up being an MEP and became an MSP in the first session of the Scottish Parliament, representing the Highlands and Islands.

In 2003 Winnie stood down from being an MSP. She continued to serve as the SNP's President until 2005 when she announced she would be stepping down as President of the Scottish National Party at its September Conference, bringing to an end her 38-year career in representative politics.



# Bashabi Fraser



**My inspiration**



Bashabi Fraser is an Indian-born Scottish poet, children's writer, editor, translator and academic. Bashabi writes about transnationalism, culture and identity. Her publications include *Raga & Reels*, *Scots Beneath the Banyan Tree: stories from Bengal*, *From the Ganga to the Tay*, *Bengal Partition Stories: An Unclosed Chapter*, *Tartan & Turban* and *A Meeting of Two Minds: the Geddes–Tagore letters*.

She has worked with the British Council and the BBC, as well as the Pushkin Prizes in Scotland, The Scottish Book Trust, The Scottish Arts Council, The Poetry Society, and The Arvon Foundation. She has taught at Calcutta University, Rabindra Bharati University, the Open University, the University of Edinburgh and is currently a professor at Edinburgh Napier University where she co-founded the Scottish Centre of Tagore Studies (ScoTs). Bashabi is also a Royal Literary Fund Fellow at Dundee University.

In 2014 Bashabi was awarded the Rabindra Bharati Society Honour, the Women Empowered: Arts and Culture Award in 2010 and the IAS Prize for Literary Services in Scotland in 2009. Bashabi is a Patron of the Federation of Writers in Scotland, an executive committee member of the Writers in Prison Committee (Scotland) and the Poetry Association of Scotland. Bashabi is also on the management committee of the Scottish Writers Association and has been on the executive committee of Scottish PEN for two terms. She is a Trustee of the Kolkata Scottish Heritage Trust, was invited to join as the Board of Directors for the Patrick Geddes Trust and has been a Consultant Advisor for the Kolkata British Council's Kolkata-Scotland Connection programme.



# Jackie Kay MBE



## My inspiration

### **Julia Darling**

Award winning novelist, poet and dramatist Julia Darling published her first collection of poems *Small Beauties* in 1988. Passionate about collaboration across art forms, Julia established the Women's Intellectual Group, working with musicians, artists and film makers. Despite a diagnosis of breast cancer in 1995, Julia continued to contribute to the British poetry scene, holding a Royal Literary Fund fellowship at the University of Newcastle from 2000. Julia produced two collections: *Sudden Collapses in Public Places* and *Apology for Absence*, inspired by her battle with cancer. Julia believed poetry should be present in every hospital, and hoped her final book *Poetry Cure*, would be read by doctors and patients everywhere.

### **Audre Lorde**

Caribbean-American writer Audre Lorde was a poet, feminist and civil rights activist. She published her first book of poetry; *The First Cities* in 1968, starting a prolific writing career. Audre became a highly influential figure within the realms of poetry, civil rights and feminist activism. She confronted issues of racism in feminist criticism. Speaking in a documentary about her life, Audre stated that being a Black lesbian feminist poet in the 1960s meant she was 'triple invisible' in society. Such feelings influenced her activism, illustrated in her work with the women of the Afro-German movement between 1984 and 1992 in Berlin. Until her death, Audre remained an advocate and campaigner for gender, racial and sexual equality.

Jackie Kay was born in Edinburgh in 1961 to a Scottish mother and a Nigerian father. She was adopted as a baby by a white Scottish couple, Helen and John Kay, and grew up in Bishopbriggs, a suburb of Glasgow. They adopted Kay in 1961 having already adopted Jackie's brother, Maxwell, two years earlier. Jackie and Maxwell also have siblings who were brought up by their biological parents. Her adoptive father worked for the Communist Party full-time and stood as a Member of Parliament and her adoptive mother was the Scottish secretary for the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament. In August 2007, Jackie Kay was the subject of the fourth episode of the BBC Radio 4 series 'The House I Grew Up In', in which she talked about her childhood.

Jackie became a writer after Alasdair Gray, a Scottish artist and writer, read her poetry and told her that writing was what she should be doing. She studied English at the University of Stirling and her first book of poetry, the semi-autobiographical *The Adoption Papers*, was published in 1991 and won the Saltire Society Scottish First Book Award. Her other awards include the 1994 Somerset Maugham Award for *Other Lovers*, and the Guardian First Book Award Fiction Prize for *Trumpet*.

Jackie writes extensively for stage, screen and for children. Her drama *The Lamplighter* exploring the Atlantic slave trade, was broadcast on BBC Radio 3 in March 2007 and published in poem form in 2008. In 2010 she published *Red Dust Road*, an account of her search for her natural parents. Jackie was appointed Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) on 17 June 2006. She is currently Professor of Creative Writing at Newcastle University, and Cultural Fellow at Glasgow Caledonian University.



# Dr Doris LittleJohn



## My inspiration

The person who inspired me most was my mother. My mother was a very intelligent woman born in Gorbals in a family of 6 children. She would easily have qualified for a university education but her mother died when she was 14 and she was taken out of school to be a mother to the younger children. When I was in secondary school and aspiring to study law at university she kept telling me that if I could gain entry to university she and my father would meet the costs regardless of what sacrifices they had to make. They looked for no other reward than my success. That inspired me to study hard to obtain my degree and then to work hard to succeed in my profession. More importantly it created my resolve to inspire my children and to use the resources I have to work to eliminate inequalities in the world and to ensure that today's young people have the same opportunity that I did.



Doris Littlejohn is a volunteer at Citizens Advice Bureau and was until June 2014 a Non-executive Director of Law at Work where she utilised her professional knowledge and life skills for the benefit of others. She worked as a solicitor in private practice before becoming the UK's first female Industrial Tribunal Chairman in 1976. She is a former Chairman of the Court of the University of Stirling, former Vice chair of the management Committee of the MacRobert Centre in Stirling and a former Chairman of the Forth Valley Primary Health NHS Care Trust.

Between 1991 and her retirement in 2000 Doris was President of the Industrial Tribunals (Scotland). Since retiring she has been a member of the Leggatt Committee set up by the Lord Chancellor to review the UK tribunal system. Doris previously served on the Scottish Executive Independent Review Group which reviewed "previous post-mortem practice in Scotland, in particular in relation to organ retention". She has also served on the BBC Advisory Council, the Human Genetics Advisory Commission and the General Council of the BBC.

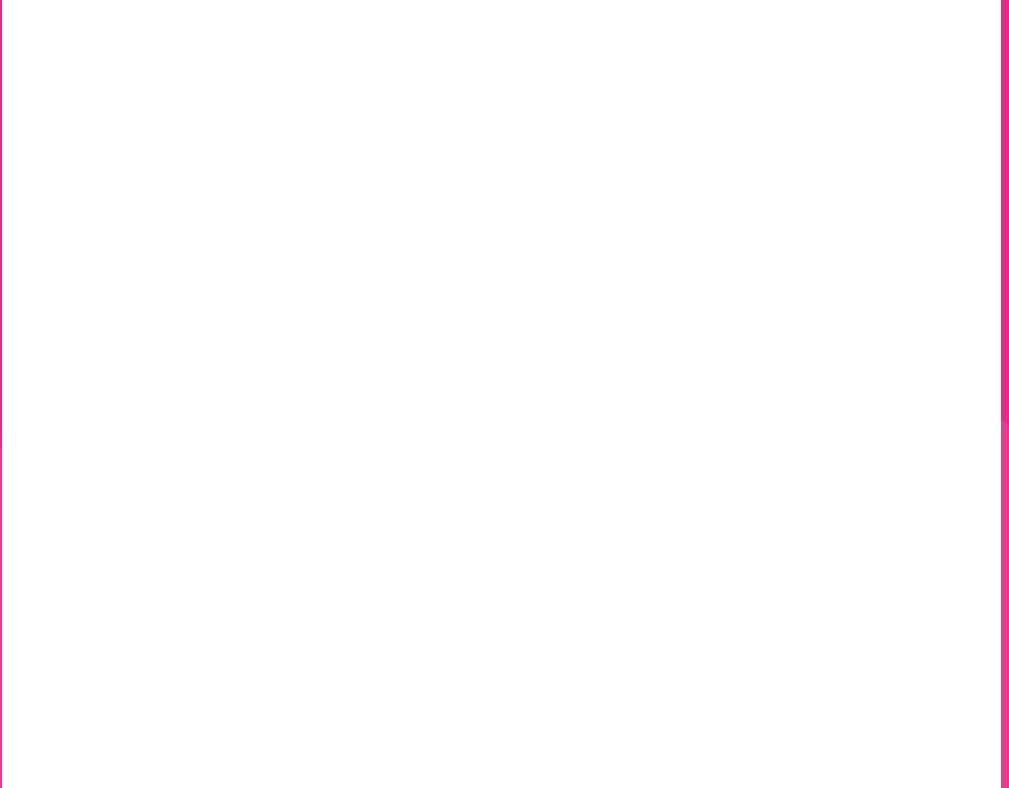
Outwith all these previous activities she remains active in her community, a loving mother, grandmother and caring friend. As she is about to enter her 80th year Doris, in a voluntary capacity, continues to support ordinary citizens caught up in life's testing moments. Doris continues to contribute to the community using her life experiences and professional skills selflessly for the benefit of others.



# Liz Lochhead



**My inspiration**



Liz Lochhead is a Scottish poet and dramatist, originally from Newarthill in North Lanarkshire. Liz wrote her first poem, 'The Visit', after she entered the Glasgow School of Art in 1965 where she attended an informal creative writing group. After graduating from Glasgow School of Art, she lectured in fine art for eight years before becoming a professional writer. Her plays include *Blood and Ice*, *Mary Queen of Scots Got Her Head Chopped Off* (1987), *Perfect Days* (2000) and a highly acclaimed adaptation into Scots of *Molière's Tartuffe* (1985). Liz adapted the medieval texts of the York Mystery Plays, performed by a largely amateur cast at York Theatre Royal in 1992 and 1996. Her adaptation of Euripides' *Medea* won the Saltire Society Scottish Book of the Year Award in 2001.

Many of Liz's works have been performed on BBC Radio 4, including *Blood and Ice* (11 June 1990), *The Perfect Days* (16 May 1999), *Mary Queen of Scots Got Her Head Chopped Off* (11 February 2001) and *The Stanley Baxter Playhouse: Mortal Memories* (26 June 2006). Her adaptation of Helen Simpson's short story *Burns and the Bankers* was broadcast on BBC Radio 4 on Burns Night 2012.

Liz's poetry is alive with vigorous speech idioms and her collections include *Memo For Spring* (1972), *True Confessions and New Clichés* (1985), *Bagpipe Muzak* (1991) and *Dreaming Frankenstein: and Collected Poems* (1984). She has collaborated with Dundee singer-songwriter Michael Marra. In January 2011 she was named Scots Makar, succeeding Edwin Morgan. She is currently the Honorary President of the Caledonian Cultural Fellows at Glasgow Caledonian University



# Dr Anne Lorne Gillies



## My inspiration

My professional singing career on TV and elsewhere has led me down many unexpected and rewarding paths over the years, including – in the early 1980s – an invitation from Helen Crummy to get involved in Craigmillar Festival, initially as a talent show judge, thereafter as a (very!) informal singing/performance “tutor”. The lessons I learned in Craigmillar defined and developed my own understanding of the arts and culture: not as an elitist privilege, or an occasional treat handed down from on high, but as a human right of crucial importance to the well-being of individuals and society at large; of fundamental relevance to all communities – from the socio-economically deprived housing estates of 1980s Edinburgh to the groups across the world who have gone on to follow Helen’s fearless leadership. A means of making real lasting change happen from the grassroots up. This philosophy also inspired my own subsequent work in the community at both local level, as Arts Development Officer for Greater Govan, and national, on behalf of the long-neglected, widely-dispersed Gaelic community, whose successes over the past decades confirm what Helen always used to say:

*History will be made when the People play their part.*

Dr Anne Lorne Gillies has enjoyed a long and distinguished career as a singer – among many other things.

She left her home in Argyll in 1962 with her head full of Gaelic songs, Scottish literature, and politics, and acquired classical vocal training in Edinburgh, Italy and London. Since then her musical performances have been wide-ranging, reflecting an ever-growing fascination with the musical, cultural and historical background of songs. One reviewer described her as ‘a Renaissance woman’. She says she is ‘an entertainer – with a mission’.

Throughout her life she has worked tirelessly to promote Gaelic education, not only through her work as a performer – live and on television – but also as parent, teacher, academic (in 1989 she gained a PhD in Gaelic-medium Education from the University of Glasgow) political activist, public speaker, TV presenter/producer and writer. Her books include children’s fiction and poetry, an autobiography, and *Songs of Gaelic Scotland* – recognised by academics for its contribution to the study of ethnomusicology, cherished by musicians and enthusiasts the world over.

The scope and nature of her contribution to Scottish culture and life has been recognised by a wide range of organisations, including an Honorary Doctorate awarded by the University of Edinburgh; Honorary Fellowships from the University of the Highlands and Islands, the Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland, and the Association for Scottish Literary Studies; and Rotary International’s prestigious Paul Harris Fellowship.



# Professor Rebecca Lunn



## My inspiration

The woman who has influenced me the most is a mathematician, an academic and my mother; Dr Mary Lunn. Mary grew up in a mill-working family in Huddersfield. Against the odds, she won an undergraduate scholarship to Oxford University and went on to graduate top in her year (1964) and to receive the Junior Mathematical Prize; only the second woman in the history of Oxford University to achieve this. Mary pursued an academic career at Oxford University, where she influenced a wide range of research fields, taught mathematics and inspired a string of illustrious alumni before retiring in 2008. She is still publishing world-class research in statistics with interests as diverse as the psychological applications of survival analysis, the study of cognitive decline with ageing and the stochastic modelling of microbial systems. Achieving all of this in male dominated Oxford of the late-twentieth century is all the more impressive because she simultaneously raised a family. In 1965 she still had to ask permission from the University to marry my father, Dan. They then went on to have two children; my brother Peter and myself. She undoubtedly fought some battles but we rarely heard tale of them and with my mum as the norm, it never even occurred to me to question what I could achieve as 'a woman in a man's world'. As a result, I have a challenging and successful career in engineering, and she has three grandchildren!

Professor Lunn has over 20 years of research experience in engineering geosciences, with a particular focus on energy challenges such as nuclear decommissioning and disposal, geological carbon dioxide storage and production of oil and gas. She is an internationally leading researcher in geological disposal of radioactive waste, developing new technologies for grouting of rock fractures and for monitoring and design of engineered barriers. Since 2008 she has been a member of the Committee for Radioactive Waste Management which provides independent scrutiny and advice to government ministers, including the devolved Governments, on radioactive waste management and disposal. She was a member of the UK Government's Ad Hoc Advisory Board on Nuclear Research and Development that made recommendations to government in 2013 and is currently an invited member of the Scottish Government Working Group on geothermal energy production.

Prof Lunn's research experience is highly multi-disciplinary and she collaborates with structural geologists, seismologists, mathematicians, microbiologists, psychologists and statisticians. She has built an internationally recognised research group at Strathclyde and has a current research portfolio of over £5M. Her contribution to research was recognised in June 2011, by the award of the Geological Society's Aberconway Medal in recognition of 'distinction in the practice of geology with special reference to work in industry'; she was both the first woman and the first engineer to receive this award. In 2014, Prof Lunn became the first female in civil engineering to be elected as a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.



# Karine Polwart



## **My inspiration**

### **The Women and Folksong evening class at the Scots Music Group, Edinburgh (1997-99 and beyond)**

Groups of women, and not famous ones, have had a far greater influence upon my life than any named individual woman. That's true especially of a small posse of brilliant women - assorted child protection workers, housing rights advisors, community activists and youth support workers - who, like me, decompressed from their working days by singing their hearts out every Monday night in a Victorian classroom at Boroughmuir High School. It was here, and in rousing after class singing sessions at The Oxford Bar, that I felt the enervating communal spirit of folk song, cried to hear the the old ballads with their stories of women who've gone centuries before, and glimpsed the possibility of making song one of the centres of my own life. I salute five women in particular - Eileen Penman (who taught that class with boundless enthusiasm and knowledge), Sylvia McGowan, Elaine Wallace, Rebecca Mckinney and Claire Lamond. I thank them for their beautiful and feisty songs, for the resolute ethical and political principles that they apply to their work and their lives (now, in the case of Claire and Rebecca, as award winning animators and published novelists), and for their resilience and dignity in bearing some of the worst that life has had to offer. I thank them for being friends and my sisters in song.



Karine Polwart is a folk singer-songwriter who draws from folk music's long tradition while keeping pace with the ceaselessly changing times. Her songs deal with humanity in all its many guises: there is tenderness, triumph and sorrow, raised flags of rebellion and independence, flashes of anger at power abused and misused.

Her debut album *Faultlines* won three awards at the 2005 BBC Folk Awards, including Best Album. Its follow up, *Scribbled in Chalk* (2006), contained "Daisy", a gentle word to the wise to one of life's givers and truth-tellers who can't quite comprehend that "there are people in this world who don't think like you do". The song won Karine another BBC Folk Award for Best Original Song in 2007.

Karine's achievements can't simply be measured in terms of industry acclaim. Having studied politics and philosophy at university and later worked in the area of women's and children's rights, Karine has always wanted her music to perform some useful social function. In that, too, she has succeeded time and time again.

"For me" says Polwart, "music is one of the most powerful ways of making sense of the world. It's for celebrating, grieving, sharing, wondering. Nothing inspires me more than the realisation that any one of my songs means something to someone else".

Karine's music features in Anthony Baxter's documentary movie *A Dangerous Game* (2014), the follow-up to the award-winning *You've Been Trumped* (2011) following American Billionaire property developer Donald Trump's incursion into Scotland to build a luxury golf course.



# Nicola Sturgeon

**My inspiration**



Nicola Sturgeon is the first female First Minister for Scotland. Nicola was Deputy First Minister of Scotland from 2007 until 2014 and has been the Depute Leader of the SNP since 2004.

Born in Irvine in 1970 Nicola joined the SNP at the age of 16 and has been campaigning for Scottish independence ever since. Nicola studied Law at the University of Glasgow and graduated with a Bachelor of Laws and Diploma in Legal Practice. Before she became an MSP, Nicola worked as a solicitor at Drumchapel Law Centre.

It was at the first elections to the Scottish Parliament in 1999 that Nicola became the SNP's spokeswoman on justice, and later on education and health. Following the resignation of John Swinney in 2004, she announced that she would stand as a candidate for the leadership of the SNP. Nicola later withdrew in favour of Alex Salmond but stood as Deputy Leader on a joint campaign with Salmond. Both were subsequently elected and Nicola led the SNP in the Scottish Parliament from 2004–2007 until Salmond was elected back to the Scottish Parliament in the 2007 election.

The SNP won the highest number of seats in the Scottish Parliament following the 2007 election and Salmond was subsequently appointed First Minister of Scotland. He appointed Sturgeon as his Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing. Nicola is also currently the Cabinet Secretary for Parliament and Government Strategy, the Cabinet Secretary for Infrastructure, Investment and Cities, and the Member of the Scottish Parliament (MSP) for Glasgow Southside.



# Special Mention



# Professor Ailsa McKay

During the campaign we were overwhelmed by the nominations received for Professor Ailsa McKay who sadly passed away in 2014. The Outstanding Women of Scotland Campaign would like to take this opportunity to celebrate Ailsa's life and all of her achievements. She was an important voice in Scotland that will be greatly missed.

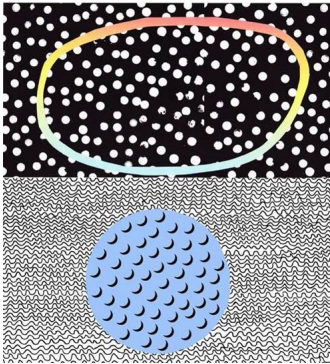
Professor Ailsa McKay was an outstanding thinker, economist, teacher, and campaigner for women's equality. She was a founding member of the Scottish Women's Budget Group and European Gender Budgeting Network, government adviser, and equality activist. Her work on alternative thinking about how economic policy can and should advance women's equality has influenced the Scottish Government (among others) in recent years. Ailsa was a member of the Scottish Government's Equality and Budgets Advisory Group and was an Adviser to the Scottish Parliament's Equal Opportunities Committee. She was the first woman Professor of Economics at Glasgow Caledonian University, where she established the Women in Scotland's Economy Research Centre as Scotland's foremost source of data, analysis and research on women's economic contribution and potential to Scotland's economic growth and wellbeing. As a feminist economist Ailsa was the first member in Scotland of the International Association for Feminist Economics. Ailsa was an advocate of a Citizen's Basic Income as a radical alternative to social protection and welfare, and has written widely on this topic, as well as on gender budget analysis, and economics for equality. Ailsa was an adviser on government panels on welfare reform, and a highly regarded academic and scholar.

Ailsa McKay was an exceptional campaigner for women's equality. Her commitment to women's equality and social justice are outstanding, as was her capacity for compassion and intellectual engagement. Her work has pioneered new thinking on economic and social policy and has led to real change in government policy in Scotland and elsewhere.



Limited  
Edition  
Print

The Outstanding Women of Scotland campaign commissioned a young up and coming female printmaker to create a limited edition print to commemorate the inaugural inductees. Each inductee will be presented with a print and the Saltire Society and Glasgow Women's Library will each hold a print as the first of a collection to honour Outstanding Women of Scotland.



### **About the Print**

I looked at lots of outstanding Scottish women while researching for the print, from the world of sports, science, the arts, politics, anarchists and many more. I took several bold visual cues from women in these areas and made an abstract piece rooted in the diverse incredible women that Scotland has produced, celebrating the full spectrum of their achievements, discoveries and talents.



### **About the printmaker Jessica Copsey**

Jess is a printmaker and designer who lives and works in Glasgow where she works at the Glasgow Print Studio. She works with bright colours and bold patterns to add fun and playful chaos into her imagery, celebrating the unusual and the intriguing.



# Partners



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## **Celebrating the Scottish imagination...**

### **The Saltire Society is:**

- An apolitical membership organisation open to all.
- An international supporter and patron of the arts and cultural heritage of Scotland.
- An international supporter and patron of the arts and cultural heritage of Scotland.
- A champion of free speech on the issues that matter to the cultural life of every Scot.
- A promoter of the best of what we are culturally, now and in the future.
- A catalyst to ensure new ideas are considered and the best of them are made real.

The Saltire Society and its members believe that culture is at the heart of who we are as individuals, as a community, as a country. We care deeply about that aspect of our lives and work tirelessly to promote all that's best about it. We are inclusive in outlook, international in our perspective and independent in our views. We are not beholden to any political orthodoxy. Our loyalty is to the inspiring men and women who enlighten our lives and times, past present and future.

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# GLASGOW WOMEN'S LIBRARY

Glasgow Women's Library is a unique resource in Scotland. It is an award-winning , accredited museum, archive and lending library specialising in, conserving and promoting women's history and culture. The Library houses a fascinating collection of materials from suffragette memorabilia to campaigning badges, political pamphlets to knitting patterns. GWL works with thousands of visitors, learners, audience members and enquirers each year and programmes exciting and innovative events, learning programmes and activities including heritage walks, exhibitions, film screenings and literary events. From its inception in 1991 GWL has developed through the involvement of artists, writers and other women creatives and is highly regarded as a crucible for generating new cultural works by women. In 2014 GWL relocated to permanent premises, a former Carnegie library in Bridgeton, and has invested £1million on a major refurbishment including the creation of bespoke archive and museum conservation and display areas. The Library has a specialised staff team that are experienced in engaging with a diverse users and works with over 100 volunteers each year . Our wide range of projects reach women locally and nationally. In 2014 Glasgow Women's Library won the Enterprising Museum of the Year Award sponsored by Museums Galleries Scotland at the Arts and Business Scotland Awards. GWL is the only resource of its kind in Scotland and is currently bidding to become a Recognised Collection of National Significance. Glasgow Women's Library is proud to be working in collaboration with Saltire Society on the new Outstanding Women of Scotland Awards.

**@gwlkettle**

**womenslibrary.org.uk**





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