



16 September 2009 – For immediate release

A new imprint for the twenty-first century – diiarts.com announces the launch of its inaugural list

Dragon International Independent Arts – diiarts.com – today (16 September) announces the launch of its inaugural list. Four titles will be published on 14 November 2009.

[Harbour](#), by Paul House, explores the many facets of society in Hong Kong between 1937 and 1941; the interaction and conflict between colonial, Chinese and Japanese cultures; and the inexorable disintegration of this colonial society in the months prior to the Japanese invasion. It is a moving examination of a society on the brink, as its denizens struggle with a world that has slipped from their grasp.

[May 1812](#), by M.M. Bennetts, revolves around the assassination of Sir Spencer Perceval, and is the first in a sequence of four novels set against the turmoil of Napoleonic Europe. Based on a foundation of the latest historical research, with a bibliography of over 150 books, and ten years in the writing, **May 1812** is a compelling account of a young code-breaker who finds himself caught up in the domestic war effort, whilst juggling his responsibilities to his family, estates and society as the war in Europe enters its twentieth year.

SJ Marquis, Co-Founder of diiarts.com, said: “Both books combine extensive historical research with the kind of literary craftsmanship that we believe is fast disappearing from the lists of many major publishers.”

The two historical novels will be complemented by two thrillers: [Whom Must I Kill To Get Published?](#) by Jason Horger, and [Pistols for Two – Breakfast for One](#) by Matthew Dick.

Diiarts is a new imprint, aiming to deliver high quality books from authors to readers with fewer barriers in between. Ms. Marquis said: “We offer books with character – books that entertain, challenge and inspire. They’re books for people who love books.”

Press Release

“Diiarts is a lot like farmers’ markets. When you go to the supermarket, whichever one you go to, the fruit and veg is all the same. The cucumbers and the bananas are straight and the tomatoes are all the same size. Farmers’ markets are unlikely to put supermarkets out of business, but they have at least offered people something different. They’re offering food which looks real and smells real – it’s not all shrink-wrapped. Across the country, people love that – and it’s starting to change the way supermarkets behave too.

“We believe there is a great deal of high quality, distinctive writing out there, which the larger publishers are just not picking up. Not only are readers missing out, but we’re losing something of the richness and diversity of the English language. We’re in danger of losing the spirit of innovation and thoughtfulness that’s been the hallmark of the English novel since we invented it. What we’ve seen is that more and more authors are expected to compromise on their vision, their voice and their artistic values, to cut their work down at whatever cost to fit supermarket display racks. We believe – passionately – that our authors should be in control of their own work. When they are, great books are the result.”

- ENDS -

Notes to Editors

1. The UK launch of diiarts.com’s inaugural list will take place on Saturday 14 November at 7.00 for 7.30, at the London Canal Museum, 12-13 New Wharf Road, London N1 9RT. Please contact SJ Marquis (contact details below) for an invitation.
2. Advance Information sheets about the four titles are available from the links above or the diiarts.com website.
3. For further information, please contact SJ Marquis on 07532 283309 or sj@diiarts.com.
4. Following the UK launch, diiarts will also release its titles in the USA.