
THE 2020 MLS AWARDS

In 2019 (TML 27) the Magic Lantern Society announced the first winners of our awards recognising new work related to the magic lantern, in memory of our two departed friends and colleagues Dick Balzer and Mervyn Heard. We had an excellent field of entries, offering some new ways of looking at familiar things, and we are delighted to repeat the process in 2020. The two awards are:

- The **Mervyn Heard Award** for any written work, archival research programme or smaller-scale digitisation project. The winner would be expected to publish a description or version of their work in *The Magic Lantern* and/or give a presentation at a Society meeting.
- The **Dick Balzer Award** for any work using the magic lantern or lantern slides in a performance or work of art. The winner would produce an original or reworked artwork or performance, provide something to publish via the Society website (for example photographs, a video or animation) and/or give a presentation at a Society meeting.

Each award comprises a direct payment of **£300** to the winner, plus a book of the winner's choice from the Society's catalogue of available publications. **Closing date for submissions: 17 October 2020.**

Entry is open to both members and non-members of the Society, from all backgrounds, with or without affiliation to any academic institution. Previous entrants may enter again but their proposal must be different from that entered before. Existing works or projects may be submitted, although the awards are not intended to recognise or reward work completed or published more than a year before the closing date. Ongoing projects and work in progress, if expected to be finished within six months after the closing date, would be welcome.

The judges will be looking for originality, practicality and relevance to the field. All submissions must be made in English, but please don't worry if this is not your first language. The judges will assess the quality and appeal of your ideas rather than your written English. Submissions should consist of a single-page outline of the work or project, explaining clearly why it is original and how it contributes to knowledge, understanding or enjoyment of the field, plus a single-page *curriculum vitae* of each



Mervyn Heard



Dick Balzer

person making the submission. Submissions may include links to online supporting resources (e.g. publications, performance video, etc.), but please do not submit any other items as separate files.

All submissions must be made either by email to awards@magiclantern.org.uk, or by post to Magic Lantern Society Awards, 17 Dean Street, Exeter EX2 4HH, UK, to be received no later than **17 October 2020**. Direct any enquiries about the awards to the same addresses.

The winners will be judged by a panel selected from the Committee of the Magic Lantern Society. The decision of the judges will be final and the judges reserve the right to make shared awards or no awards, as they see fit, based on the submissions received. Members of the MLS Committee may not enter. The judges will not be able to discuss or correspond about their decisions.

Winners will be notified by 30 November 2020. The winning projects will be announced in the December 2020 issue of *The Magic Lantern* and at the Society's AGM in January 2021. The winners will be invited to present their work at an MLS meeting in the UK during 2021.