

ABSENT FRIENDS: TWO NEW MAGIC LANTERN AWARDS

In late 2017 the magic lantern world lost two of its leading lights: Mervyn Heard and Dick Balzer. Internationally respected as scholars, collectors and performers, they were also notable for their openness to new ideas and new ways of working with the subjects they knew and loved. In memory of Dick and Mervyn, the Magic Lantern Society is pleased to announce two new awards to support original work related to the magic lantern, lantern slides and optical projection.

- 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 November 2019**.

Entry is open to both members and non-members of the Society, from all backgrounds, with or without affiliation to any academic institution. Revised versions of existing works or projects may be submitted, although the awards are not primarily 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.

There are no more specific criteria for either award, but 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



Mervyn Heard



Dick Balzer

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 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 November 2019. Make 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 are not eligible for the awards.

Winners will be notified by 15 December 2019. The winning projects will be announced in the December 2019 issue of *The Magic Lantern* and at the Society's AGM in January 2020. The winners will be invited to present their work at an MLS meeting in the UK during 2020.

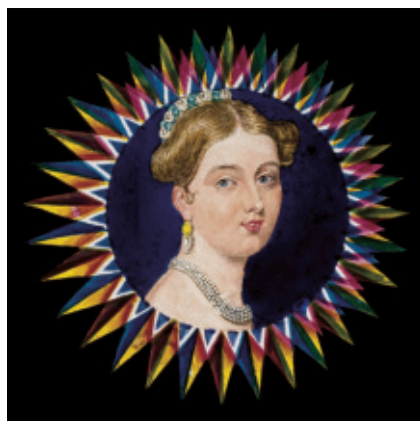
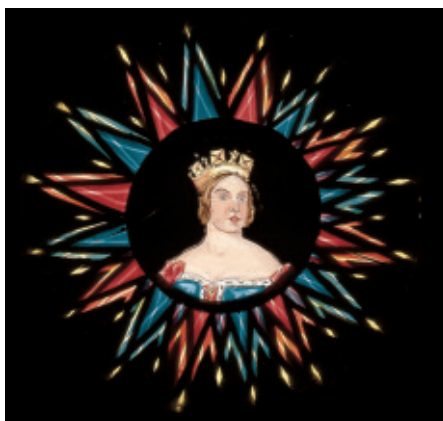
(from page 9)



10. (a) Title slide from a 'life of' set.
(b) A popular image of the Royal Family from a transfer set



11. Multiple images of Queen Victoria as seen through a 'beetle's eye' (courtesy of Lester Smith)



A CONUNDRUM

These are two chromatropes featuring Queen Victoria – or are they? The one on the left (courtesy of David and Lesley Evans) definitely is her. The one on the right (courtesy of Jeremy Brooker) appears to be from the line of the neck, the pearl necklace, mouth shape, etc. (compare with Fig. 8(a) on page 9) but the hair is markedly different. What do you think?