

Filipino Poet Ryan Caidic Wins First Int'l Poetry Prize at London's Bermondsey Literary Festival

Southwark, London Jun 11, 2025 ([IssueWire.com](https://www.IssueWire.com)) - Filipino poet **Ryan Caidic** has been awarded the **first-ever International Poetry Prize** at the inaugural **Bermondsey Literary Festival**, a new celebration of literary excellence across the London Borough of Southwark.

The festival, which seeks to elevate both **local voices and global literary talent**, culminated in a public reading and awards ceremony held at **Canada Water Library**, one of Southwark's central cultural hubs. Caidic's winning poem, "Rules for Leaving," was selected from **hundreds of submissions**, standing out for its poignant meditation on **loss, cultural ritual, and the structured ways grief is expressed and contained** across traditions.

The **Bermondsey Literary Festival**, in its inaugural year, aims to spotlight the **creative vibrancy of Southwark and beyond**, offering a platform for new and established voices to share their work in poetry.

Ryan Caidic is a widely published Filipino poet whose work has appeared in numerous literary journals, often dealing with themes of diaspora and identity.. His debut collection, *50 Ways Home*, is forthcoming from **Fernwood Press (US) in 2026**.

Check out the other winning works from the Bermondsey Literary Festival here: <https://www.biglocalworks.org.uk/literary-festival-bermondsey-and-beyond/>

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