



C&R to launch commercial fiction imprint

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Constable & Robinson is to launch Canvas, a new commercial fiction list headed by commissioning editor Victoria Hughes-Williams.

The Canvas list will initially publish 12 new titles a year, in print and digital, with its first title, *The Summer of Secrets* by Alison Lucy, to be published in May 2012. This will be followed by the paperback of *French Lessons* by Ellen Sussman and *Sworn Secret* by debut author Amanda Jennings.

Lost and Found by fellow debut author, Tom Winter, will be published in 2013. Also signed to the list is the New York-set 666 Park Avenue series by Gabriella Pierce and Barbara Delinsky, as well as Katie O'Rourke whose three novels, focusing on dark familial secrets, will be published in quick succession in 2012.

Fiction publisher James Gurbutt said: "Victoria's role and the launch of Canvas form part of a long-term objective to grow the business and to diversify our fiction offerings. The new list will be predominantly women's fiction—focusing on the mass market—an area in which, until now, we have not had a presence."

Hughes-Williams added that Canvas will be experimenting with how they engage directly with readers, saying: "It's an incredibly exciting time to be acquiring, as we develop new ways to shape the form of the books we bring to market."