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'THE GERANIUM WOMAN'

THE RARELY GLIMPSED WORLD OF WOMEN IN THE BOARDROOM



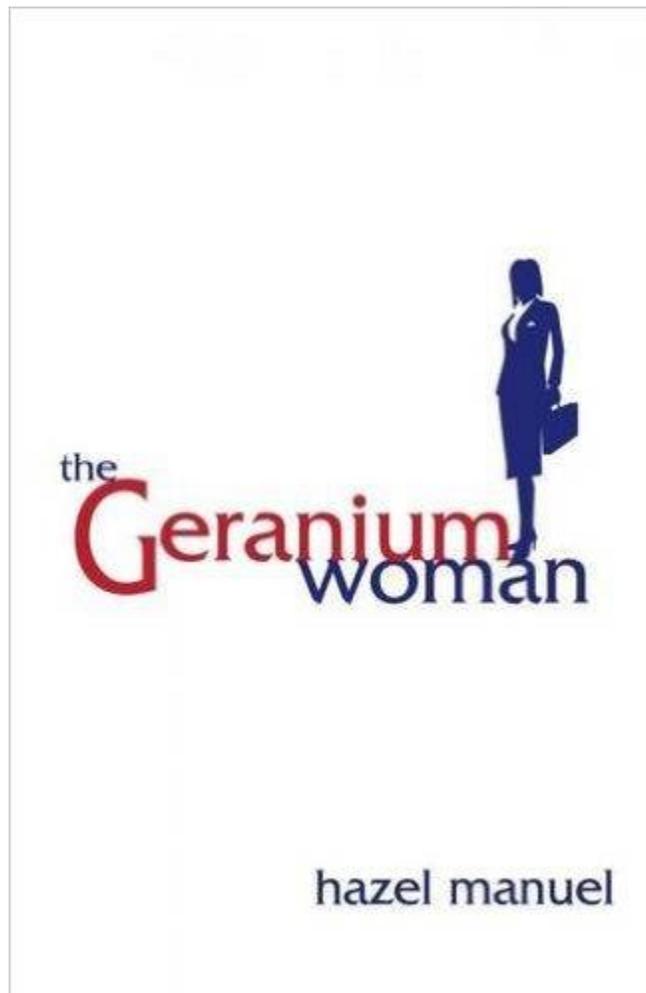
With her latest novel *The Geranium Woman* (published by Cinnamon Press), Company CEO turned award-winning author Hazel Manuel, offers a rare and timely glimpse into the world of boardroom politics and tells a tale of corporate ambition as seen through female eyes.

Set in Paris and Mumbai, and with a female CEO as the central character, issues of gender, personal autonomy and corporate responsibility are all explored with a deft yet nuanced touch in this ambitious and thought-provoking novel. Questioning what it means to succeed, our protagonist must choose between building an ethically sound company and appeasing the shareholders. Her resolve is tested to the full, not least by Tristan, her board-room nemesis. Meanwhile, should she continue with either or both of her lovers: dependable confidante Theo-Paul, or Ardash, the exciting but commitment-shy Indian 'fixer'?

Manuel intends the novel to highlight issues of gender, and business ethics. '*The Geranium Woman* has been an absorbing and exciting project for me,' she says. 'I feel strongly that if we want to offer our children and grand-children a sustainable, healthy and egalitarian life, we must consider how we operate our businesses and the effects they have on our world.' Her hope is that in writing this book, she has contributed to a shift in perspective that will encourage business to be a force for good.

Hilarie Owen, CEO of the Institute of Leadership says of *The Geranium Woman*: 'A woman of our time – this novel is a sublime read which explores our understanding of the challenges and strengths of women in leadership roles.'

Manuel's writing follows a rewarding corporate career, heading up two Wales-based education companies. She now lives and writes in Paris. Her first novel 'Kanyakumari' won the 2013 Cinnamon Press first novel award and was nominated for Wales Book of the Year 2015. Read more at www.hazelmanuel.net



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Review copies available on request