

Shortlist 2014 – International IMPAC DUBLIN LITERARY AWARD

5 novels in translation make the IMPAC Dublin Award truly international

9<sup>th</sup> April 2014: 10 novels have been shortlisted for the 2014 International IMPAC DUBLIN Literary Award, managed by Dublin City Council's library service. The list includes five novels in translation from Argentina, Colombia, France, Norway, and The Netherlands and novels from Australia, Ireland, Malaysia, the UK and the USA.

The IMPAC DUBLIN Award, an initiative of Dublin City Council, Ireland, is worth €100,000 to the winner and is the world's most valuable annual literary award for a single work of fiction published in English.

The shortlisted titles, announced are:

1. ***The Detour*** by **Gerbrand Bakker**, (Dutch) translated by David Colmer.  
Published by Harvill Secker.
2. ***Questions of Travel*** by **Michelle De Kretser** (Sri Lankan / Australian) Published by Allen & Unwin.
3. ***Absolution*** by **Patrick Flanery** (American) (First novel) Published by Atlantic Books.
4. ***A Death in the Family*** by **Karl Ove Knausgaard** (Norwegian) Translated by Don Bartlett.  
Published by Harvill Secker.
5. ***Three Strong Women*** by **Marie NDiaye** (French) Translated by John Fletcher. Published by MacLehose / Quercus and by Alfred A. Knopf.
6. ***Traveller of the Century*** by **Andrés Neuman** (Argentinian) Translated from the original Spanish by Nick Caistor and Lorenza Garcia. Published by Pushkin Press and by Farrar, Straus & Giroux.
7. ***The Light of Amsterdam*** by **David Park** (Northern Irish) Published by Bloomsbury.
8. ***The Spinning Heart*** by **Donal Ryan** (Irish) (First novel) Published by Doubleday Ireland / Lilliput Press.
9. ***The Garden of Evening Mists*** by **Tan Twan Eng** (Malaysian) Published by Myrmidon.
10. ***The Sound of Things Falling*** by **Juan Gabriel Vásquez** (Colombian) Translated from the original Spanish by Anne McLean. Published by Bloomsbury.

"This is a truly global shortlist" said Margaret Hayes, Dublin City Librarian, "stories imagined and inspired by authors and themes from countries as far apart as Australia and Malaysia on the one side of the globe and Argentina, Columbia and the USA on the other, with an eclectic selection of European titles in the middle with five stories told in translation from Dutch, French, Norwegian and Spanish."

In all 110 library systems in 39 countries world wide participated in nominating books for the 2014 award.

"This is a list of high quality literature that includes five novels in translation", says Deputy Lord Mayor Cllr. Henry Upton: "that is the beauty of this award – readers around the world will find authors both familiar and new on what is a truly international shortlist".

The Deputy Lord Mayor remarked that the Award is just of the many annual events that earned Dublin its UNESCO City of Literature status: "Readers throughout the world have plenty of time to pick their own

favourites between now and 12<sup>th</sup> June, when The Lord Mayor announces the winner here in Dublin” he said.

The titles on this year’s shortlist were nominated by public libraries in Australia, Croatia, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Mexico, Norway, South Africa and The Netherlands.

One of the shortlisted authors is a previous winner. **Gerbrand Bakker** won the prize in 2010 for his novel ***The Twin***. *The Twin*, translated from Dutch by David Colmer was the 7<sup>th</sup> novel in translation to win the award since its inception in 1996. Previous winners in translation include: ***Out Stealing Horses*** by **Per Petterson**, translated from Norwegian by Anne Born: ***This Blinding Absence of Light*** by **Tahar Ben Jelloun**, translated from French by Linda Coverdale: ***My Name is Red*** by **Orhan Pamuk**, translated from Turkish by Erdag M. Göknar; ***Atomised*** by **Michel Houellebecq**, translated from French by Frank Wynne; ***The Land of Green Plums*** by **Herta Müller** translated from German by Michael Hofmann and ***A Heart So White*** by **Javier Marías**, translated from Spanish by Margaret Jull Costa.

The five member international judging panel, chaired by Hon. Eugene R. Sullivan, will select one winner which will be announced by the Lord Mayor of Dublin and Patron of the Award, Oisín Quinn on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> June in a morning announcement.

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The International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award is presented annually for a novel written in English or translated into English. Founded in partnership with IMPAC, the Award is an initiative of Dublin City Council and is managed by Dublin City Public Libraries.

The Award is presented annually with the objective of promoting excellence in world literature. It is open to novels written in any language and by authors of any nationality, provided the work has been published in English or English translation in the specified time period as outlined in the rules and conditions for the year.

All the novels nominated can be viewed on [www.impactdublinaward.ie](http://www.impactdublinaward.ie).

Recent previous winners of the International IMPAC DUBLIN Literary Award include:

*City of Bohane* by Kevin Barry (2013), *Even the Dogs* by Jon McGregor (2012), *Let the Great World Spin* by Colum McCann (2011), *The Twin* by Gerbrand Bakker (2010), *Man Gone Down* by Michael Thomas (2009), *De Niro’s Game* by Rawi Hage (2008), and *Out Stealing Horses* by Per Petterson (2007)

Profiles of the 2014 Judging Panel below.

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## The Judges:

**Tash Aw** is the author of three novels, *The Harmony Silk Factory*, *Map of the Invisible World* and *Five Star Billionaire*, which have won the Whitbread and Commonwealth Prizes and twice been longlisted for the MAN Booker Prize; they have also been translated into twenty four languages. His short fiction has won an O. Henry Award and been published in *A Public Space* and the landmark *Granta 100*, amongst others. He lives in London.

**Catherine Dunne** is author of nine novels. The most recent, *The Things We Know Now*, won the 700th anniversary Giovanni Boccaccio International Prize for Fiction in 2013 and was shortlisted for the Eason Novel of the Year at the Irish Book Awards 2013. Catherine has also published one work of non-fiction, a social history of Irish immigrants in London, called *An Unconsidered People*. She was awarded the International Prize at the Vigevano Literary Festival in Vigevano, Italy, in 2006, and has been shortlisted for, among others, the Kerry Group Irish Novel of the Year Award and the Italian Booksellers' Award. Catherine Dunne lives in Dublin.

**Giles Foden** was born in 1967 to Irish and English parents. He grew up mostly in Africa, spending his summer holidays in north Kerry. Between 1990 and 2006 he worked on newspapers and magazines in Britain, during which period he published his debut novel *The Last King of Scotland*, which won the 1998 Whitbread First Novel Award. He is author of three other novels — *Ladysmith*, *Zanzibar* and *Turbulence* — and a work of narrative non-fiction, *Mimi and Toutou Go Forth*. Giles is currently Professor of Creative Writing at the University of East Anglia. He has been a judge on the Kerry Group Irish Fiction Award, the Hennessy New Irish Writing Award, and the MAN Booker Prize.

**Maya Jaggi** is an award-winning critic and cultural journalist in Britain who received an honorary doctorate from The Open University in 2012 for her outstanding contribution to education and culture over 25 years, especially in 'extending the map of international writing.' A longstanding profile writer and critic for the *Guardian Review*, she also writes for the *Financial Times*, *Independent*, *Newsweek* and *Literary Review*, and appears on BBC radio and television. Educated at Oxford University and the London School of Economics, she has interviewed 12 Nobel prizewinners in literature, and judged literary awards including the Orange, David Cohen, Caine and Commonwealth Writers prizes. She chaired the Man Asian Literary Prize jury in Hong Kong in 2013.

**Maciej Świerkocki** is a former academic teacher with a Ph.d. in comparative literature, currently an award-winning freelance translator, critic, screenwriter, novelist and editor. He has translated more than 50 books from English into Polish, including works by John Barth, Angela Carter, Cormac McCarthy, Ciaran Carson, Robert Graves, Richard Hughes, Jack Kerouac, Henry Miller, John Irving, Howard Jacobson, John Updike and W.B. Yeats. His prose was published in English in *The Tampa Review* and *The Yellow Nib*. His latest book, a collection of essays called *Echa postmodernizmu [Echoes of Postmodernism]* came out in 2010. Member of the Polish Writers' Association and the Polish Film Academy. He lives and works in Łódź, Poland.

**Hon. Eugene R. Sullivan**, non-voting chair of the judging panel, is a former Chief Judge of a US Court of Appeals and brings a wealth of experience from sixteen years on the bench. His first novel, *The Majority Rules*, was published in 2005. His second novel of his political thriller trilogy, *The Report to the Judiciary*, was published in 2008. When not recalled to the Federal Bench, Judge Sullivan is a partner in the Washington, D.C. law firm of Pepper Hamilton, LLP

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