# THE VONDEL PRIZE

## FOR TRANSLATION FROM THE DUTCH

THE SOCIETY OF AUTHORS
TRANSLATION PRIZES

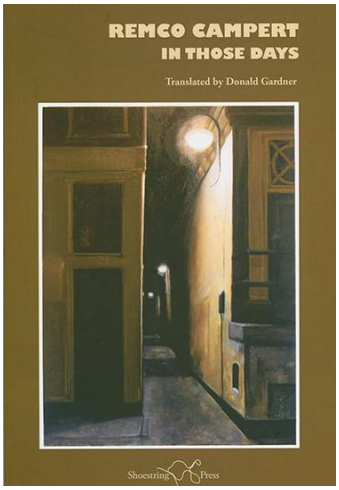
The 2015 Vondel Prize was presented by judges Paul Binding, David Colmer and David McKay at the Society of Authors' Translation Prizes on 17 February 2016, and hosted at Europe House. The prize this year is shared by two translators.

The €5,000 prize is generously sponsored by The Dutch Foundation for Literature and The Flemish Literature Fund.

## WINNERS

### DONALD GARDNER

FOR HIS TRANSLATION OF
*IN THOSE DAYS* BY REMCO CAMPERT (Shoestring Press)

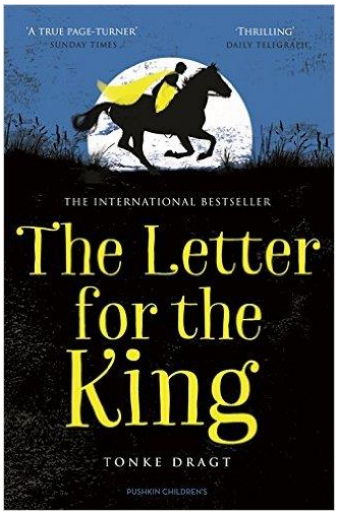



**The judges said:**

*'Gardner's translations show true empathy, the authentic voice of the original Dutch poems rings through in the translation. This is a great accomplishment.'*

**Donald Gardner** is a poet and literary translator. He has translated Latin American literature and work by many Dutch and Flemish poets. Collections of his own work include *The Glittering Sea* and *The Wolf Inside* (Hearing Eye).

**Remco Campert** is a writer and poet who has also written columns in De Volkskrant. He has won the P.C. Hooft Prize and his recent collections include *Nieuwe herinneringen* (*New Memories*) and *Licht can mijn level* (*Light of my life*).




### LAURA WATKINSON

FOR HER TRANSLATION OF
*THE LETTER FOR THE KING* BY TONKE DRAGT (Pushkin Press)

**The judges said:**

*'Watkinson has managed to preserve what readers love about Dragt's prose in Dutch – the way it pulls you into the story. The books reads as though written in English – lovely limpid English too.'*

**Laura Watkinson** is a British translator who has studied at Oxford, Cambridge and University College London. She translates works from Dutch, Italian and German and founded the Dutch chapter of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators. She currently lives in Amsterdam.

**Tonke Dragt** is a Dutch writer and illustrator. *The Letter for the King* was her second book, after which she became one of the best known authors in the Netherlands.

## COMMENDED

**SAM GARRETT** FOR *TIRZA* BY ARNON GRUNBERG (Open Letter)

Sam Garrett also won the Vondel Prize in 2009 for his translation of *Ararat: In Search of the Mythical Mountain* by Frank Westerman (Harvill Secker).

## NOTES TO EDITORS

The €5,000 Vondel Prize has been awarded biannually since 1996 and takes its name from the most prominent Dutch poet and playwright of the 17th century, Joost van den Vondel.

For further information please contact Paula Johnson on PJohnson@societyofauthors.org / 020 7373 6642.

Nederlands Letterenfonds
dutch foundation for literature

Flemish Literature Fund