

The Society of Authors (SoA) promotes and supports 11 translation prizes, 8 of which are presented tonight. It is the UK trade union for more than 12.400 writers, illustrators and literary translators, at all stages of their careers, and has been advising individuals and speaking out for the profession since 1884. It administers many other prizes including the Society of Authors' Awards, the ALCS Educational Writers' Award and the Sunday Times Charlotte Aitken Trust Young Writer of the Year Award.

The Translators Association (TA) advocates for the rights and interests of the SoA's 800+ literary translators and represents all genres and stages of professional development. The TA co-programmes the Literary Translation Centre at the London Book Fair and actively engages with the wider translation community. Current initiatives include a focus on readers reports and making the sector more inclusive and transparent.

Hawthornden Foundation is a private charitable foundation supporting contemporary writers and the literary arts. Established by Drue Heinz, the noted philanthropist and patron of the arts, the Foundation is named after Hawthornden Castle in Midlothian. Scotland, where an international residential residency program provides month-long retreats for creative writers from all disciplines to work in peaceful surroundings.

GOETHE INSTITUT

















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The British Library, a Grade 1 listed

The Knowledge Centre can accomodate up to 255 delegates in the Theatre, with facilities for simultaneous translation. film, sound and vdideo presentation, combined with afull team of techincal expertise.



WEDNESDAY 7 FEBRUARY 2024 BRITISH LIBRARY LONDON & ONLINE



The Premio Valle Inclán for translation from Spanish

The Saif Ghobash Banipal Prize for translation from Arabic

The TA First Translation Prize for debut translation from any language

The Schlegel-Tieck Prize for translation from German

The Scott Moncrieff Prize for translation from French

The Goethe Institute Prize for translation from German

The Great Britain Sasakawa Foundation Translation Prize for translation from Japanese



THE BERNARD SHAW PRIZE FOR TRANSLATION FROM SWEDISH

Winner:

Saskia Vogel for a translation of *Strega* by Johanne Lykke Holm (Lolli Editions)

Saskia Vogel's translation of this astonishing novel is truly virtuosic — the text comes alive in all its uncanny beauty as the English language is made to bend supplely and excitingly without ever losing its elasticity.

Nichola Smalley

Runner-up:

Jennifer Hayashida for a translation of Euphoria by Elin Cullhed (Canongate Books)

Claiming Sylvia Plath's voice as her own, author Elin Cullhed makes a daring move with her novel Euphoria — and it pays off. Transforming Cullheds voice — strongly influenced by Plath, yet still uniquely her own — cannot have been an easy feat for translator Jennifer Hayashida, but she does it so brilliantly. Euphoria is a remarkable read, brimming with life and sorrow.

Amanda Svensson

Shortlisted:

Kira Josefsson for a translation of *The Trio* by Johanna Hedman (Hamish Hamilton, Penguin Random House UK)

John Litell for a translation of Nordic Fauna by Andrea Lundgren (Peirene Press)

Alice Menzies for a translation of We Know You Remember by Tove Alsterdal (Faber and Faber)

Alice E. Olsson for a translation of The Herd by Johan Anderberg (Scribe UK)



Sponsors:

Anglo-Swedish Literary Foundation Judges: Alison Flood Nichola Smalley Amanda Svensson

Saskia Vogel is an author and translator of over 20 Swedish books. Permission (2019), her debut novel, was published in five languages and longlisted for the Believer Book Award The Swedish edition was translated by Johanne Lykke Holm. She was Princeton University's Fall 2022 Translator in Residence, where she worked on Balsam Karam's The Singularity and Linnea Axelsson's Aednan. From Los Angeles, she now lives in Berlin.

The Anglo-Swedish Literary
Foundation promotes cultural
exchange between Sweden and the UK.

When George Bernard Shaw received the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1925 the prize money was donated to the newly created Anglo-Swedish Literary Foundation. The patron of the foundation is the King of Sweden and the trustees include the Swedish Ambassador to the United Kingdom.

THE PREMIO VALLE INCLÁN FOR TRANSLATION FROM SPANISH

Winner:

William Rowe and Helen Dimos for a translation of *Trilce. Translations and Glosses* by César Vallejo (Veer Books, Crater Press)

This translation of Trilce honours all the difficulties of this craft, by providing not only masterful translations of poetry, but enriching it with interpretative glosses. [...] This is truly a wonderful contribution to poetry.

— Dr Valentina Aparicio

Runner-up:

Rosalind Harvey for a translation of Still Born by Guadalupe Nettel (Fitzcarraldo Editions)

Rosalind Harvey's translation shows how the craft can bring out aspects of the original text that might be overlooked by readers. It not only encapsulates the voice of the original, but masterfully translates what could become difficult to read in English.

— Dr Valentina Aparicio

Shortlisted:

Jennifer Croft for a translation of Two Sherpas by Sebastián Martínez Daniell (Charco Press)

Simon Deefholts and Kathryn Phillips-Miles for a translation of *Take Six: Six Spanish Women Writers* by Various (Dedalus Limited)

Forrest Gander for a translation of *It Must Be a Misunderstanding* by Coral Bracho (Carcanet Press)

Victor Meadowcroft for a translation of *This World Does Not Belong to Us* by Natalia García Freire (OneWorld Publications)



Judges:

Juana Adcock Dr. Valentina Aparicio Gerard Woodward

Helen Dimos is a writer and translator living between Athens, London and Boston, Her No Realtor Was Compensated for This Sale was published by The Elephants in 2017 and her second book of poems. Intermissions & Things Auto/bio/ araphy, is forthcoming. Her poems have been published in poetry journals internationally. She has taught at the University of Iowa, SUNY Buffalo and BMCC CUNY and has translated the works of Greek writers Kostas Papageorgiou (together with Stratis Haviaras), Iossif Ventura, Maria Efstathiadi and Zafiris Nikitas, among others. She hosts poetry events in Athens and from 2014 – 2018 co-organized the Paros Poetry and Translation Symposium, an annual meeting of poets and translators in Greece.

William Rowe, FBA, Emeritus Professor of Poetics at Birkbeck College, has published translations of Raúl Zurita's INRI (NYRB), Antonio Cisneros's Un crucero a las islas Galápagos (Shearsman) and contributed to the Oxford Book of Latin American Poetry in Translation. His Collected Poems were published by Crater Press. His critical work includes Ensayos Vallejianos (Latinoamericana Editores), Poets of Contemporary Latin America: History and the Inner Life (OUP), Popular Culture in Latin America (with Vivian Schelling; Verso). Jointly with Vivian Schelling he was awarded the Modern Language Association of America Katherine Singer Kovacs Prize in 1992.

THE SAIF GHOBASH BANIPAL PRIZE FOR TRANSLATION FROM ARABIC

Winner:

Luke Leafgren for a translation of *Mister N* by Najwa Barakat (And Other Stories)

Mister N was the standout choice for its magnificent translation. In smooth, self-effacing prose, enriched by a widely varied vocabulary, Luke Leafaren leads the reader seamlessly into Najwa Barakat's creation of a labyrinthine world where all is not as it seems. The shifts in time and point of view are conveyed with aplomb, and the general effect is of a riveting psychological thriller written in delightfully rich and eloquent English. Capturing the spirit and the letter of the original in all its depth and virtuosity, it is an exceptionally good example of the translator's art. It is both faithful and creative, fully representing the original work with all its dark complexity, fragmented narration and splashes of sombre humour.

The Banipal Prize judges

Shortlisted:

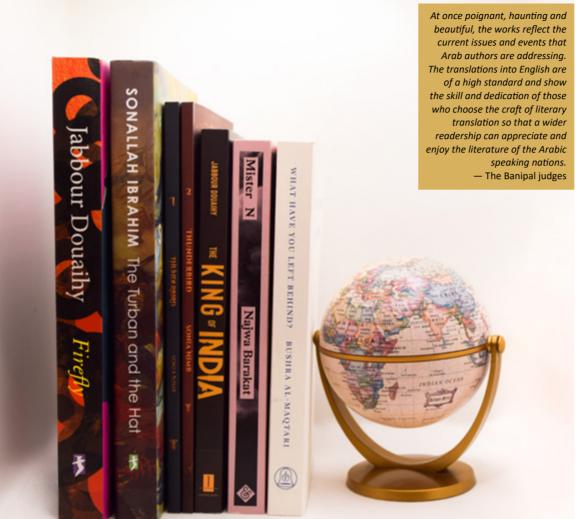
Bruce Fudge for a translation of *The Turban and The Hat* by Sonallah Ibrahim (Seagull Books)

Paula Haydar for a translation of *The King of India* by Jabbour Douaihy (Interlink Books)

Paula Haydar and **Nadine Sinno** for a translation of *Firefly* by Jabbour Douaihy (Seagull Books)

Sawad Hussain for a translation of What Have You Left Behind? by Bushra al-Maqtari (Fitzcarraldo Editions)

M. Lynx Qualey for translations of Thunderbird Book One & Thunderbird Book Two by Sonia Nimr (University of Texas Press)



Sponsors:

The Banipal Trust for Arab Literature Saif Ghobash family

Luke Leafgren is an Assistant Dean of Harvard College. He has published five translations of Arabic novels and received the 2018 Saif Ghobash Banipal Prize for Arabic Literary Translation for his English edition of Muhsin Al-Ramli's *The President's Gardens*.

Judges:

Ros Schwartz (chair) Tony Calderbank Sarah Enany Barbara Schwepcke

The Banipal Trust for Arab Literature was founded in 2004 by the publisher of Banipal magazine. It supports and promotes cultural dialogue between the Arab world and the West, the translation into English and publication of works by contemporary Arab authors, and the production of live literature events with Arab authors in the UK.

The prize is sponsored by the **Saif Ghobash family** in memory of their husband and father, the late Saif Ghobash (21 October 1932–25 October 1977) who was a passionate bibliophile.

THE TA FIRST TRANSLATION PRIZE FOR A DEBUT TRANSLATION FROM ANY LANGUAGE INTO ENGLISH

Winner:

Sophie Collins for a translation of The Opposite of a Person by Lieke Marsman (Dutch) and edited by Marigold Atkey (Daunt Books Publishing)

Sophie Collins' translation is an extraordinary act of art — careful, caring, and mesmerisingly clever. It moves between ideas, individuals, genres, styles and speeds with utter ease; only with a translator and an editor of exceptional versatility, instinct and craft could its English language version be a masterpiece. And so it is. — The TA First Prize judges

Runner-up:

Nguyễn An Lý for a translation of *Chinatown* by Thuận (Vietnamese) (Tilted Axis Press)

Nguyễn An Lý's translation, beautiful and unflinching in its stylistic choices, takes us on a trance of a ride. This is a bold and textured rendering that has created a memorable voice for the author in English.

— The TA First Prize judges

Shortlisted:

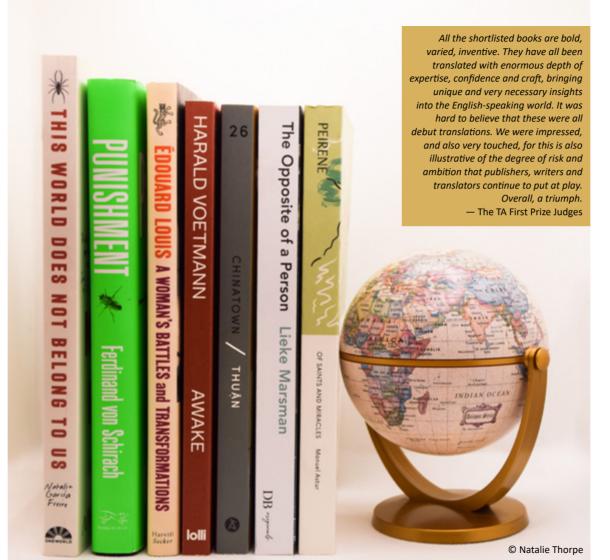
Tash Aw for a translation of A Woman's Battles and Transformations by Édouard Louis (French) and edited by **Ellie Steel** (Penguin Random House)

Katharina Hall for a translation of *Punishment* by Ferdinand von Schirach (German) and edited by **Abigail Scruby** (Baskerville, John Murray)

Victor Meadowcroft for a translation of This World Does Not Belong To Us by Natalia García Freire (Spanish) and edited by Juliet Mabey and Polly Hatfield (Oneworld Publications)

Johanne Sorgenfri Ottosen for a translation of *Awake* by Harald Voetmann (Danish) and edited by **Tom Conaghan** (Oneworld Publications)

Claire Wadie for a translation of Of Saints and Miracles by Manuel Astur (Spanish) edited by Gesche Ipsen (Peirene Press)



Sponsors:

Daniel Hahn Jo Heinrich Judges: Will Forrester Carolina Orloff Mui Poopoksakul

Sophie Collins grew up in Bergen, North Holland. She is the author of Who Is Mary Sue? (Faber, 2018) and small white monkeys (Book Works, 2017), and the editor of Currently & Emotion (Test Centre, 2016), an anthology of contemporary poetry translations. She is the translator, from the Dutch, of Lieke Marsman's The Following Scan Will Last Five Minutes (Pavilion, 2019), and of essays by Marsman and Mieke van Zonneveld for an edition of Virginia Woolf's On Being III (Uitgeverij HetMoet, 2021). She is a lecturer at the University of Glasgow.

Marigold Atkey is Publisher at Daunt Books Publishing, having previously worked at Bloomsbury. Authors she has published include Kathryn Scanlan, Nona Fernández and Scholastique Mukasonga.

Daniel Hahn is a writer, editor and translator. He founded the TA First Translation Prize in 2017 with his share of the winnings from the International Dublin Literary Award.

Jo Heinrich translates from French and German; her translation of Marzahn, Mon Amour by Katja Oskamp won the 2023 Dublin Literary Award and was runner-up for the 2022 TA First Translation Prize.

THE SCHLEGEL- TIECK PRIZE FOR TRANSLATION FROM GERMAN

Winner:

Jamie Bulloch for a translation of Hinterland by Arno Geiger (Picador, Pan Macmillan)

Jamie Bulloch's translation style is distinctively sensitive and impressionable. It digs into the tensions between language, memory, and history. His portrayal of Geiger's telling and sensitive account of people and war is brilliantly fluent, immersing the reader into an emotional and visual imagination.

— Anju Okhandiar

Runner-up:

Lucy Jones for a translation of *Siblings* by Brigitte Reimann (Penguin Modern Classics)

Lucy Jones excels in her translation as she conveys the message of change to the English-language reader twinned with the understanding of a specific era of the GDR — the era of the Berlin Wall (no longer existent). This is a modern translation about the quest of how much are we prepared to sacrifice for our ideals. — Ayisha Malik

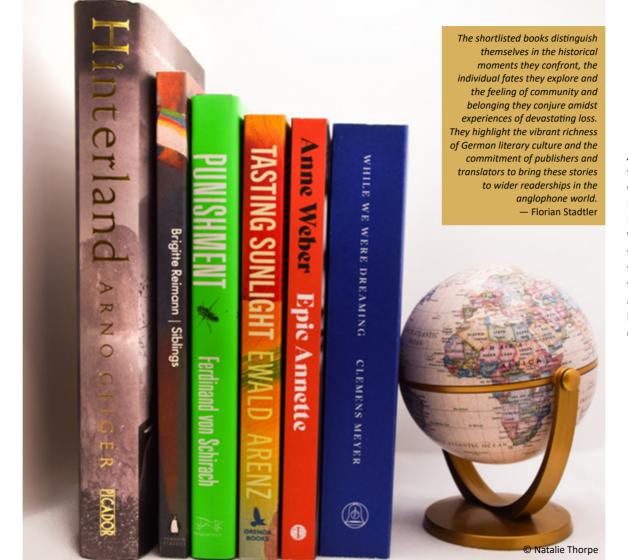
Shortlisted:

Katy Derbyshire for a translation of While We Were Dreaming by Clemens Meyer (Fitzcarraldo Editions)

Katharina Hall for a translation of *Punishment* by Ferdinand von Schirach (Baskerville, John Murray)

Tess Lewis for a translation of *Epic Annette: A Heroine's Tale* by Anne Weber (The Indigo Press)

Rachel Ward for a translation of Tasting Sunlight by Ewald Arenz (Orenda Books)



Judges:

Ayisha Malik Anju Okhandiar Florian Stadtler

Jamie Bulloch has translated almost fifty books from German, including works by Timur Vermes, Robert Menasse, Sebastian Fitzek and Daniela Krien. His translation of Birgit Vanderbeke's *The Mussel Feast* won the 2014 Schlegel-Tieck Prize, an award for which he has been runner-up on two further occasions. He is also the author of *Karl Renner: Austria*. Jamie lives in London with his wife and three daughters.

Lucy Jones is a literary translator who lives in Berlin. She has translated the works of Anke Stelling, Theresia Enzensberger and Silke Scheuermann, among others. Her own writing has been published online in StatOrec, SAND Journal, Pigeon Pages and 3AM Magazine.

SCOTT MONCRIEFF PRIZE FOR TRANSLATION FROM FRENCH

Winner:

Frank Wynne for a translation of *Standing Heavy* by GauZ' (MacLehose Press)

GauZ' brings his extraordinary observation skills and forensic political analysis to Paris. The writing has been superbly translated by Frank Wynne, losing none of the humour, the energy, the authentic street view. This is a tour-de-force in both languages, and reads as joyfully and sharply in English as it does in French.

- Jane MacKenzie

Runner-up:

Adriana Hunter for a translation of The Anomaly by Hervé Le Tellier (Michael Joseph, Penguin Random House)

A dazzling translation, which is as thrilling, funny, intriguing and philosophical as the source text. The translation captures with remarkable ease the many voices, shifting moods and multiple locales of this polyphonic and multifaceted novel.

— Constance Bantam

Runner-up:

Clíona Ní Ríordáin for a translation of *Yell, Sam, If You Still Can* by Maylis Besserie (Lilliput Press)

Maylis Besserie and her translator Clíona Ní Ríordáin create Beckett's inner voice so convincingly in the novel that at times you think it might have been written by the man himself.

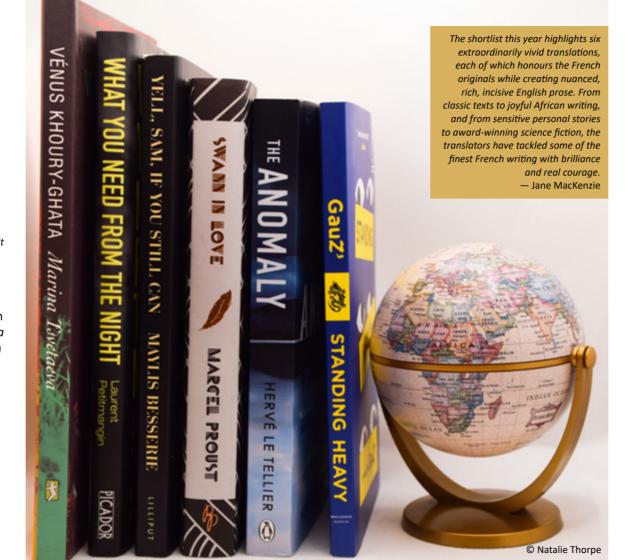
— David Mills

Shortlisted:

Teresa Lavender Fagan for a translation of *Marina Tsvetaeva: To Die in Yelabuga* by Vénus Khoury-Ghata (Seagull Books)

Lucy Raitz for a translation of *Swann In Love* by Marcel Proust (Pushkin Press)

Shaun Whiteside for a translation of What You Need From The Night by Laurent Petitmangin (Picador, Pan Macmillan)



Sponsors:

Institut français du Royaume-Uni

Judges:

Constance Bantam Jane MacKenzie David Mills

Frank Wynne is a translator from
French and Spanish. He has translated
works by, among others, Michel
Houellebecq, Frédéric Beigbeder,
Ahmadou Kourouma, Boualem Sansal,
Claude Lanzmann, Tómas Eloy
Martínez and Almudena Grandes. His
work has earned him a number of
awards, including the Scott Moncrieff
Prize and the Premio Valle Inclán. Most
recently, his translation of Standing
Heavy was shortlisted for the
International Booker 2023. He was
Chair of the International Booker Prize
judging panel in 2022.

The French Book Office, a department of the Institut Français in London, promotes French literature in the UK by informing publishers, translators, and other potential readers of new publications in French as well as translations into English and rights sales. It also supports translation from French into English via its Burgess Program and organises public events in connection with recent French publications.

GOETHE-INSITUT AWARD FOR TRANSLATION FROM GERMAN

For a translation of extracts from Hund, Wolf, Schakal by Behzad Karim Khani (Hanser Berlin, 2022)

Winner: Rob Myatt

We decided to award the prize to an entry that joyfully embraces translation as creative practice and establishes a distinct linguistic vision of the protagonists' individual personalities, their interactions, and their struggles to feel at home in two different parts of the world. The winning entry is a remarkably original translation whose mastery of voice we thoroughly enjoyed. We believe that it does what translations do at their best: write the next chapter of the life of a book originally published elsewhere. In that, it validates the challenges and ambitions of the book's protagonists themselves.

The Goethe-Institut Award judges

Runner-up: Fiona Graham

This excellent translation stood out thanks to its poetic expressiveness, featuring many idiomatic renderings and creative solutions. The snowmelt rivers come to life in this lyrical translation, being 'fed filth' before 'vomiting it up at the feet of the locals' and eventually dying 'a murky death.' The translation takes risks without ever overstepping the line, and shows what a tight call the selection process was.

The Goethe-Insitut Award judges

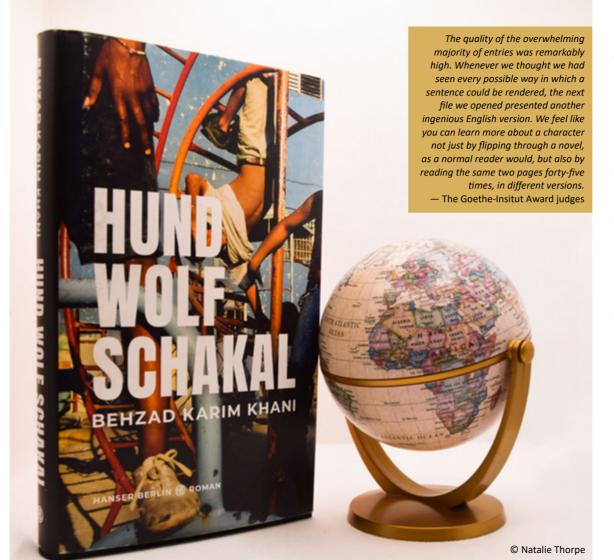
Shortlisted:

Nick Browne

Caroline Summers

Anne Thompson Melo

Stuart Vizard



Sponsors:

The Goethe-Institut

Judges: Rebecca DeWald Christophe Fricker

Rob Myatt has published translations from German, Danish and Polish in Your Impossible Voice, The Dodge and Turkoslavia and was a contributing translator to the forthcoming Early Chekhov Collection (Cherry Orchard Books). He has also published one non-fiction translation, Human Society (Människans Samhälle, Stara Books), from Swedish. He was shortlisted for the John Dryden Prize in 2021 and longlisted for the same prize in 2023. He lives and works in London.

Fiona Graham's dream is to bring cutting-edge fiction into English. She has translated for the European Commission, the European Parliament and the Dutch Foreign Office. She has also translated seven works of non-fiction (from Swedish and Dutch). As a translator, reviewer and reviews editor, she has contributed to

publications including No Man's Land, Words without Borders, the European Literature Network, the Swedish Book Review, and Litro. In 2016 she came second in Geisteswissenschaften International's non-fiction translation contest.

The Goethe-Institut, Germany's cultural institute, operates worldwide, promoting knowledge of the German language abroad and fostering international cultural collaborations. Their cultural and educational programmes offer an opportunity to engage with themes and questions relevant to contemporary German culture and society. Faced with the challenges of globalisation, they aim to strengthen intercultural dialogue and a global civil society.

THE GREAT BRITAIN SASAKAWA FOUNDATION TRANSLATION PRIZE FOR TRANSLATION FROM JAPANESE

Winner:

Alison Watts for a translation of The Boy and The Dog by Seishu Hase (Scribner, Simon and Schuster)

The biggest challenge translating a great page-turner would be to maintain the energy, momentum and cultural charms in order to keep the readers intrigued. This English translation succeeded across the board. Some elements are so beautifully sad that we may freely shed a tear or two. Everyone, please read this English translation and keep a handkerchief nearby.

- Nozomi Abe

Runner-up:

David Boyd for a translation of *Weasels in the Attic* by Hiroko Oyamada (Granta).

These exquisite and beautifully inscrutable stories are elegantly rendered in the English translation by David Boyd. This is our chance to indulge in the ocean of somewhat haunting words.

Nozomi Abe

Runner-up:

Sam Bett and **David Boyd** for a translation of *All The Lovers in The Night* by Mieko Kawakami (Granta)

A supple translation by Sam Bett and David Boyd moves seamlessly from the down-to-earth to flights of lyricism, conveying both the delicacy and the fireworks of the original.

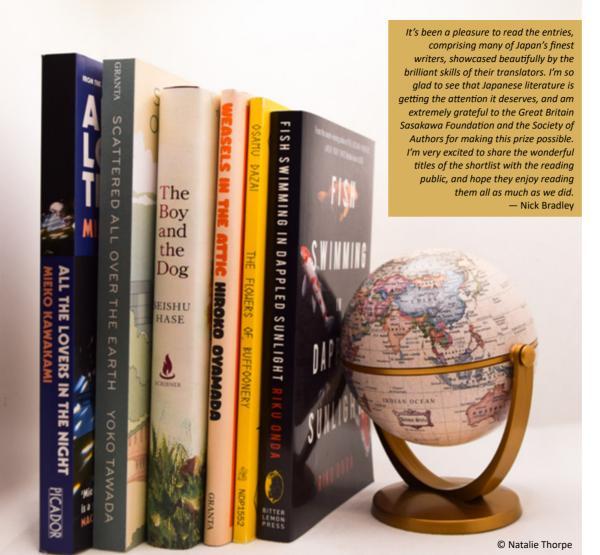
— Maya Jaggi

Shortlisted:

Sam Bett for a translation of *The Flowers of Buffoonery* by Osamu Dazai (New Directions)

Margaret Mitsutani for a translation of Scattered All Over the Earth by Yoko Tawada (Granta)

Alison Watts for a translation of *Fish Swimming in Dappled Sunlight* by Riku Onda (Bitter Lemon Press)



Sponsors:

The Great Britain Sasakawa Foundation

Judges: Nozomi Abe Nick Bradley Maya Jaggi

Alison Watts is an Australian former longtime resident of Japan. Her translations include Riku Onda's The Aosawa Murders (2020), Aya Goda's TAO: On the Road and On the Run In Outlaw China, Sweet Bean Paste by Durian Sukegawa, released in October 2017. The Boy and the Dog by Seishu Hase in 2022, and more recently What You Are Looking For is in the Library by Michiko Aoyama in 2023. In 2021 she won the Kvoko Selden Memorial Prize for Translation for an excerpt from Durian Sukegawa's travel memoir A Dosimeter on the Narrow Road to Oku.

The Great Britain Sasakawa

Foundation was established in 1985 as a non-governmental, non-profit making body with the purpose of helping to develop and sustain good relations between the United Kingdom and Japan. Its main objective is to promote among the people of both countries, in a global context, a mutual knowledge, understanding and appreciation of each other's culture, society, and achievements.

Being a judge [...] has been a transformative experience. Not only have I discovered or re-read wonderful books spanning many genres and themes; it has been particularly rewarding to explore these through the prism of translation and the translator's craft.

— Constance Bantam, Scott Moncrieff Prize judge

The Society of Authors' Translation Prizes 2024 (to be presented in 2025)

The TA First Translation Prize
The Saif Ghobash Banipal Prize
The Vondel Prize
The John Florio Prize
The Schlegel-Tieck Prize
The Scott Moncrieff Prize
The Premio Valle Inclán
The Great Britain Sasakawa Foundation Prize

For further information on the Translation Prizes:

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