



PROMOTED AND SUPPORTED BY

 **NONINO**  
Distillatori in Friuli dal 1897

# PREMIO NONINO

1975 · 2017 FORTY-SECOND YEAR

RONCHI DI PERCOTO, 28<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2017

## Press Release

The Jury of the Nonino Prize, presided by **V.S. Naipaul**, Nobel Laureate for Literature 2001, and composed by **Adonis, John Banville, Ulderico Bernardi, Peter Brook, Luca Cendali, Antonio R. Damasio, Fabiola Gianotti, Emmanuel Le Roy Ladurie, James Lovelock, Claudio Magris, Norman Manea, Edgar Morin** and **Ermanno Olmi** has awarded the **Nonino Prizes Forty-Second Year** as follows:

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**NONINO RISIT D'AUR PRIZE  
GOLD VINE SHOOT 2017**  
(Petruzzi, Ali&no, Mondadori)

**ISABELLA DALLA RAGIONE**

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**INTERNATIONAL NONINO PRIZE 2017**  
(Adelphi)

**PIERRE MICHON**

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**NONINO PRIZE 2017**  
(Einaudi)

**CYPRIAN BROODBANK**

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**NONINO PRIZE 2017  
'MASTER OF OUR TIME'**  
(Ponte alle Grazie, Fazi)

**JOHN GRAY**

The delivery of the Prizes will take place at the Nonino Distilleries in Ronchi di Percoto, on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2017 at 11:00, with the following program:

- \_ Meeting at the distillery and welcome Nonino Aperitif
- \_ Opening of the **celebrations for the 120 years of the Nonino Distilleries**
- \_ The Nonino Family will distil for the guests *Grappa Nonino Monovitigno® from dried grape pomace Cru Nonino Vineyard Buttrio - Friuli*
- \_ **Awarding ceremony of the Nonino Prizes Forty-Second Year**
- \_ Lunch
- \_ Toast with *Grappa Nonino Riserva AnticaCuvée® Cask Strength 5 Years in barriques and small casks*
- \_ Dance in the distillery



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## MOTIVATIONS

### **Nonino Risit d'Aur Prize – Gold Vine Shoot 2017**

#### **ISABELLA DALLA RAGIONE**

Arboreal archeologist, as she loves to define herself, among archives, chronicles and traditions, Isabella Dalla Ragione embraces the traditional knowledge bound to the territory. Coming into action with plantings and grafts, for years with devotion she has been preserving ancient colors, fragrances and tastes, saving them from their oblivion, the same love that for over forty years the Prize has been devoting to the rural civilization and its knowledge.

Let the prize be a spur and support to those who today do their utmost to save the Ancient Apples of Friuli, a treasure to be preserved for the future generations.

### **Nonino International Prize 2017**

#### **PIERRE MICHON**

Considered a cult writer, his writing is like the marble that envelopes “Michelangelo’s Prisoners”, for the world a mysterious draft, to true readers a masterpiece.

In *Small Lives* (published by Adelphi) the tales turn into frescoes where apparently tiny existences become extraordinary, paradigms of our being, ties to an ancestral world that is the deep soul of our culture.

### **Nonino Prize 2017**

#### **CYPRIAN BROODBANK**

Cyprian Broodbank’s work, now considered “a masterpiece of the archeological, historical and geographic research of the Mediterranean”, with a winning writing proposes in more than six-hundred pages the prehistory and evolution of the Middle Sea, from the birth of agriculture to the development of navigation and metallurgy, from the rising of archaic myths to the deep suggestions of art and thought, opening for us glimpses of modernity in the remote relations among Mediterranean peoples, a universe that helps us investigate the globalized world.

### **Nonino Prize 2017 ‘Master of our time’**

#### **JOHN GRAY**

The philosopher John Gray has held distinguished professorships at Oxford University and the London School of Economics. Over the past decade, however, he has also become one of the leading voices in contemporary thought. In a series of remarkable, widely read, and controversial books – which include *The Silence of Animals: On Progress and Other Modern Myths*; *Straw Dogs: Thoughts on Humans and Other Animals*; and *False Dawn: The Delusions of Global Capitalism* – Gray has questioned long held assumptions in social thought and political history. In the process, he has also accurately predicted recent social and political events such as the 2007 economic crisis and the current rise of populist governments.



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## Isabella Dalla Ragione

### Nonino Risit d'Aur Prize – Gold Vine Shoot 2017



#### BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Isabella Dalla Ragione, was born in Sansepolcro (AR) in 1957, and lives in Perugia.

She is an agronomist and for many years she has been taking care of the study and safeguard of vegetable biodiversity, in particular of old and ancient local fruit varieties.

She has just completed a PhD at the Department of Vegetal Biology of the University of Perugia with a thesis of historical and genetic research on ancient local varieties of pears.

In 1985, together with her father Livio, she established Arboreal Archeology, a collection orchard in Città di Castello (PG), for activities of research and preservation of local fruit trees and traditional knowledge. She is the founder and President of the Arboreal Archeology Foundation, born in 2014 with the aim of giving a future to the extraordinary heritage of local varieties saved from extinction and to carry on the activity and safeguard of biodiversity. In the scientific Committee there are the University of Perugia, Bioversity International, and FAO.

On this theme she had developed projects for several Regions (Abruzzo, Marche, Emilia Romagna, Umbria, and Lazio), Mountain Communities and Provinces. She has long cooperated with the University of Perugia. She has taken part in the pilot EU project for the management of genetic resources in Vietnam.

Since 2011 she has been cooperating with Pastilla Museum in Kolomna (Russia) with the Tolstoy Foundation in Ysanaya Polyana, Tula, about the research and safeguard of the ancient Russian varieties of the apple tree.

#### Works

She has written many articles on magazines and many publications, among which the books: *Archeologia Arborea*, *Diario di due cercatori di piante* (Arboreal Archeology, the Diary of two plant hunters), now at the fourth edition; *Tenendo innanzi frutta* Petruzzi publisher; *Frutti ritrovati* Mondadori publisher; *L'occhio ammira e resta incantato* published by Provincia di Terni, *I pregiati perzichi di Papigno*, published by Provincia di Terni. Articles on magazines and newspapers all over the world: The New Yorker, the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, Geo in the editions: German, Greek, Turkish, Bulgarian, Latvian, Russian, etc, the Herald Tribune, La Repubblica, Il Corriere della Sera, The New York Times.

Several documentaries on Rai, BBC and the Canadian and Russian Televisions. She is in the film *The fruit hunters*, by the Canadian director Yung Chang.

#### Awards and Honors

She has received several awards, among which in 2009, in Rome at the Capitol the Prize "I custodi della diversità del Mediterraneo", by Bioversity International and the Municipality of Rome. In 2011 -"Mimosa per L'ambiente 2011" 21<sup>st</sup> edition, by the Association of the Environmental Women of Parma. In 2012 she was awarded the title of "Cavaliere dell'ambiente" established by the Municipality of Cascia and the Province of Perugia. In 2014 in Sorrento The International Prize for Ecology (IV edition) by the Foundation Verde Ambiente - Medal of the President of the Republic. In 2016 in Rome, at the Capitol, she has received the special Prize "Bandiera Verde Agricoltura" by Confederazione Italiana Agricoltori (Italian Federation of Farmers).



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## Pierre Michon Nonino International Prize 2017



### BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Pierre Michon is a French writer born on 28<sup>th</sup> March 1945, at Cards, municipality of Châtelus-le-Marcheix, Creuse. After his father left the family he was brought up by his mother, a governess, and spent his childhood in Mourioux and then in Guéret, Creuse. He studied literature in Clermont-Ferrand with a thesis on Antonin Artaud.

Afterwards he traveled all over France as he had joined a theatrical company without having a stable profession. At the age of thirty-seven he entered the literary life with the publication of *Small lives*, considered a masterpiece of French contemporary literature. Years later he declared that the book saved his life. He has a daughter, Louise, born in 1998. Michon's writing is first of all a hard work on the language and in this sense it is possible to speak about Michon's works as poetry in prose: each word is chosen with perfection. His writing is oral writing; each sentence has a musicality that has led some authors to find in Michon's works an influence of the poetry sung by medieval troubadours.

His relationship with painting is intense.

His works have been translated into German, Dutch, Italian, Spanish, Greek, Portuguese, Polish, Serbian, Czech, Norwegian and English. He is going to publish, always for Adelphi publishing company, the work *Le Onze*, Grand Prix du Roman de l'Académie française.

### Bibliography

*Vies minuscules*, Gallimard, 1984. Translated by Deshays and Gladding, *Small Lives*, Archipelago Books, 2008;

*Vie de Joseph Roulin*, Verdier, 1988;

*L'empereur d'Occident*, with engravings by Pierre Alechinsky, Fata Morgana, 1989; Verdier Poche, 2007;

*Maîtres et serviteurs*, Verdier, 1990. Translated by Wyatt Mason, *Masters and servants*, Mercury House, 1997;

*Rimbaud le fils*, Gallimard, 1991. Translated by Deshays and Gladding, *Rimbaud the son*, Yale University Press, 2013;

*La Grande Beune*, Verdier, 1995; Folio-Gallimard, 2006. Translated by Wyatt Mason, *The Origin of the World*, Mercury House, 2002;

*Le roi du bois*, Verdier, 1996;

*Mythologies d'hiver*, Verdier, 1997. Translated by Jefferson, *Winter Mythologies and Abbots*, Yale University Press 2014;

*Trois auteurs: Balzac, Cingria, Faulkner*, Verdier, 1997;

*Abbés*, Verdier, 2002;

*Corps du roi*, Verdier, 2002, Décembre prize;

*Le roi vient quand il veut: propos sur la littérature*, Albin Michel, 2007;

*Les onze*, Verdier, 2009, Grand Prix du roman de l'Académie française. Translated by Deshays and Gladding,

*The Eleven*, Archipelago Books, 2013.

### Awards and Honors

Prix France Culture 1984 for *Small Lives*

Prix de la Ville de Paris for the complete works, 1996

Prix Louis-Guilloux 1997 for *La Grande Beune*

Prix Décembre 2002 for *Abbés et Corps du roi*

Grand prix de littérature de la SGDL for the complete works, 2004

Grand prix du Roman de l'Académie française 2009 for *Les Onze*

Petrarca Prize for the complete works, 2010

Grand prix Ardua (Universités d'Aquitaine) for the complete works, 2013

Prix Marguerite Yourcenar for the complete works, 2015

### Theater adaptations

Intégrale des *Vies minuscules*, mise en scène par Jean-Christophe Cochard, Théâtre de l'Argile

*Vie de Joseph Roulin*, mise en scène de Guillaume Delaveau (Le Grand T, Nantes, 2009)



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## Cyprian Broodbank Nonino Prize 2017



### BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Cyprian Broodbank, born on 26 December 1964, is a British archaeologist and academic.

From 2010 to 2014, he was Professor of Mediterranean Archaeology at University College London.

He studied history at the University of Oxford, graduating in 1986 Bachelor of Arts (BA). In 1987 he obtained the Master of Arts (MA) degree at the University of Bristol.

He undertook postgraduate study at the Faculty of Classics, University of Cambridge, and completed his Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree in 1996.

Broodbank began his academic career as a junior research fellow at University College, Oxford from 1991 to 1993.

In 1993, he joined the University College London as a lecturer in Aegean archaeology based in the Institute of Archaeology. In October 2010, he was appointed Professor of Mediterranean Archaeology.

In November 2013, it was announced that he had been elected to the position of Disney Professor of Archaeology at the University of Cambridge. He took up the appointment in October 2014.

In addition, he is the Director of the McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research, and a Professorial Fellow of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge.

On 11 October 2007, Broodbank was elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries (FSA).

Since 16 July 2015, he has been a Fellow of the British Academy (FBA).

### Awards

For *An Island Archaeology of the Early Cyclades* (Cambridge University Press, 2000) he was awarded the 2001 Runciman Award by the Anglo-Hellenic League and in 2003 the James R. Wiseman Book Award by the Archaeological Institute of America.

In 2014, he was awarded the Wolfson Prize for History for his book *The Making of the Middle Sea: A History of the Mediterranean from the Beginning to the Emergence of the Classical World* (Thames and Hudson, 2013) which has been described as 'an unprecedented work of scholarship; it is unlikely ever to be matched' and as a 'landmark publication'.





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## John Gray

Nonino Prize 2017 'Master of our time'



### BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

John Nicholas Gray is an English political philosopher with interests in analytic philosophy and the history of ideas. Born on April 17th, 1948 into a working-class family, in South Shields, in County Durham, he studied philosophy, politics and economics at Exeter College, Oxford, completing his B.A., and PhD in Philosophy

He formerly held posts as lecturer in political theory at the University of Essex, fellow and tutor in politics at Jesus College, Oxford, and lecturer and then professor of politics at the University of Oxford, visiting professor at Harvard University and Stranahan Fellow at the Social Philosophy and Policy Center, Bowling Green State University. He also held visiting professorships at Tulane University's Murphy Institute and Yale University. He was Professor of European Thought at the London School of Economics and Political Science until his retirement from academic life in early 2008, the chair in LSE was created for him.

Gray contributes regularly to *The Guardian*, *The Times Literary Supplement* and *The New Statesman*, where he is the lead book reviewer. In 2011 he presented a series of talks for BBC Radio 4. Across six talks for *A Point of View* he reflected on a range of topical issues. He presented a second sequence in 2014.

### Political and philosophical thought

He is known for a thoroughgoing rejection of Rawlsianism and for exploration of the uneasy relationship between value pluralism and liberalism in the work of Isaiah Berlin.

Gray's political thought is famous for its mobility across the political spectrum over the years. In the 1990s he became an advocate for environmentalism and New Labour. Gray considers the conventional (left-wing/right-wing) political spectrum of conservatism and social democracy as no longer viable. He has criticized neoliberalism, the global free market and some of the central currents in Western thinking, such as humanism, while moving towards aspects of green thought, drawing on the Gaia theory of James Lovelock.

It is perhaps for this critique of humanism that Gray is best known. Central to the doctrine of humanism, in Gray's view, is the inherently utopian belief in meliorism; that is, that humans are not limited by their biological natures and that advances in ethics and politics are cumulative. In opposition to this view, he asserts that history is not progressive, but cyclical. "Agonistic liberalism" appears in Gray's 1995 book *Isaiah Berlin*. Gray uses this phrase to describe his alternative to Berlin's theory of value pluralism and liberalism: whereas Berlin claims equal validity for conflicting liberal views, Gray's agonistic liberalism holds that over time solutions may be found that determine which values are correct. Agonistic liberalism is the theory that conflict rather than discussion is the basis of social change.

### Bibliography

*Berlin*, Fontana Modern Masters, 1995;

*Liberalism – Second Edition*, University of Minnesota Press, 1995;

*False Dawn: The Delusions of Global Capitalism*, London: Granta Books, 1998;

*Voltaire*, London: Routledge, 1998;

*Two Faces of Liberalism*, Cambridge: Polity Press, 2000;

*Straw Dogs: Thoughts on Humans and Other Animals*, London: Granta Books, 2002;

*Al Qaeda and What it Means to be Modern*, New York: The New Press, 2003;

*Heresies: Against Progress and Other Illusions*, London: Granta Books, 2004;

*Black Mass: Apocalyptic Religion and the Death of Utopia*, Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2007;

*Gray's Anatomy: Selected Writings*, Allen Lane, 2009;

*The Silence of Animals: On Progress and Other Modern Myths*, Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2013;

*The Soul of the Marionette: A Short Enquiry into Human Freedom*, Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2015.