



Since 1975

**NONINO**

'Best Distillery in the World'  
SPIRIT BRAND / DISTILLER OF THE YEAR 2019  
by Wine Enthusiast

# PREMIO NONINO

## FORTY-SIXTH YEAR

BORN FOR THE VALORIZATION OF THE RURAL CIVILIZATION

### PRESS RELEASE

We are happy to announce that the **Nonino Prize Forty-sixth Year** will be held on **Saturday, January 27, 2024**, as per tradition in Ronchi di Percoto, at the Nonino Distillery and will see the Jury of the Nonino Prize enriched with three new members: **Amin Maalouf**, Lebanese writer, member of the Académie Française, **Jorie Graham**, American poet and **Mauro Ceruti** Italian philosopher.

**So we will meet again in January 2024** and now we say goodbye with their messages and with a toast in the "Nonino spirit" with joy and friendship.

See you soon



**Nonino Prize 2022 the prizewinners, the jury and the Nonino family.**

*From left front row:* Sofia and Gaia Cendali, Caterina Giustiniani, Chiara and Francesca Bardelli Nonino, Cristina and Elisabetta Nonino.

*Seated from left:* Antonio Damasio (President), Adonis, Benito Nonino, Alain Touraine e Claudio Magris.

*Standing from left:* Antonio Davide Bardelli Nonino, Luca Cendali, Ivan Esposito for Affidò Culturale (Nonino Risit d'Aur Prize 2022), Giannola Nonino, David Almond (Nonino International Prize 2022), Nancy Fraser (Nonino Prize to a 'Master of our time' 2022), Antonella Nonino, Mauro Ceruti (Nonino Prize to a 'Master of our time' 2022), John Banville, Beatrice and Costanza Giustiniani.



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RONCHI DI PERCOTO  
JANUARY 27, 2024

### DECLARATIONS

#### Amin Maalouf

“The Nonino Prize holds a special place in the cultural landscape, where literature and ideas merge with friendship, conviviality and the poets’ ancient veneration for nature and beauty.

I had the privilege of receiving the prize a quarter of a century ago, and I immediately felt, on my way to Percoto, that this prize was much more than a literary prize; it really represented, for my wife and for me, a kind of symbolic adherence to Italy, its generous land, its millenary civilization, and its art of living.

Joining the jury of the Prize further reinforces this feeling. I am grateful for this invitation and delighted at the possibility of meeting the other jurors soon, those who already are my friends and those who will be”.

***Nonino International Prize 1998***

#### Jorie Graham

“It is a great pleasure for me to join the Jury and the great Family of the Nonino Prize and to contribute, in this way, to celebrate with you that long vision that, with its deep real and metaphorical roots in the land of Friuli, wished later to cultivate also the arts and sciences in our time – a vision that seeks which vine varieties to promote, which varieties to graft and nurture. And it does so for humanity as a whole, throughout the world. The impact of their generosity is immense.

I am deeply honored for having been invited to serve the spirit of this vision”.

***Nonino International Prize 2013***

#### Mauro Ceruti

“I am happy and honored to be received as a member of the Nonino Prize Jury.

Today more than ever, in such a dramatic and uncertain time, the great family of the Nonino Prize can be, as it has always been, a protagonist in promoting the development of an awareness and knowledge of the origins, potentialities and destinies of mankind, encouraging the most creative exponents of international culture, in all its expressions, to imagine a civilization of the Earth that recognizes in the symbiosis between human beings and nature the fragile but fruitful ‘vine’ of a planetary ethos, necessary to resist disruptive drives and to face the challenge of complexity and peace. It will be an exciting privilege to feel part of this adventure”.

***Nonino Prize to a ‘Master of our time’ 2022***



# PREMIO NONINO

FORTY-SIXTH YEAR

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JURY

—

ANTONIO DAMASIO *President*

ADONIS

SUAD AMIRY

JOHN BANVILLE

LUCA CENDALI

MAURO CERUTI

JORIE GRAHAM

EMMANUEL LE ROY LADURIE

AMIN MAALOUF

CLAUDIO MAGRIS

NORMAN MANEA

EDGAR MORIN

**The Nonino Prize has anticipated six times the choices of Nobel Laureates:**

**RIGOBERTA MENCHÙ** (Nonino Prize 1988, Nobel Prize 1992)

**V.S. NAIPAUL** (Nonino Prize 1993, Nobel Prize 2001)

**TOMAS TRANSTRÖMER** (Nonino Prize 2004, Nobel Prize 2011)

**MO YAN** (Nonino Prize 2005, Nobel Prize 2012)

**PETER HIGGS** (Nonino Prize 2013, Nobel Prize 2013)

**GIORGIO PARISI** (Nonino Prize 2005, Nobel Prize 2021)

## BRIEF HISTORY OF THE NONINO PRIZE

**The Nonino family has devoted itself to the Art of Distillation since 1897**

**1973** Giannola and Benito Nonino revolutionize the way of producing and introducing Grappa in Italy and in the world: they create the Monovitigno® Nonino distilling the pomace of Picolit Grapes separately.

**In 1975** searching for the ancient autochthonous Friulian vine varieties to distill their pomace, the Noninos discover that the most representative of them – Schioppettino, Pignolo and Tazzelenghe – are dying out, as their growing is forbidden. These varieties are joined by Ribolla Gialla. On November 29, with the aim of “stimulating, awarding and having the ancient autochthonous Friulian dying vine varieties officially acknowledged”, and so preserving the biodiversity of the territory, they establish the Nonino Risit D’Aur Prize.

**In 1977**, with the clear aim of highlighting the permanent topicality of rural civilization, the Nonino Risit D’Aur Prize is joined by the Nonino Literary Prize which, since 1984, will be completed with the International Section.



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## Amin Maalouf

*Nonino International Prize 1998*



Amin Maalouf was born in Lebanon on February 25, 1949. Descendant of a family which has given Lebanon about twenty writers since the 18<sup>th</sup> century; Amin is the son of Ruehdi Maalouf, a journalist, writer, poet, painter and a leading figure in Beirut between the 1940s and 1980s. After studying political economy and sociology, following in his father's footsteps, he becomes a journalist. Thus, he has the opportunity to travel around sixty Countries and to experience several events, from the Vietnam war to the Iranian revolution. At the outbreak of the war in Lebanon Maalouf chooses exile and moves to Paris. His first book was published in 1983, *The crusades through Arab Eyes*, now a classic translated into many languages. His first novel was published in 1986, *Leo Africanus* followed by *Samarkand*, 1988, inspired by the life of the Persian poet Omar Khayyam, *The gardens of light* (1991), the itinerary of prophet Mani, founder of Manichaeism, *The First Century after Beatrice* (1992), *The Rock of Tanios* (1993), Prix Goncourt, *Ports of call* (1996), the novel that won him the International Nonino Prize in 1998. His more recent books include *Balthasar's Odyssey* (2000), the story of an adventurous journey in search of a book and the mysterious truths it contains, and *Origins: A Memoir* (2004), in which Maalouf dedicates himself to the reconstruction, through archival and personal documents, of the history of the previous generations of his family; a family tale that becomes emblematic of the complex relationships between Eastern and Western civilizations between the nineteenth and twentieth century. The book *The Disoriented* (2012), a choral reconstruction of the Levant seen through the eyes of an exile, also revolves around autobiographical themes, whereas among his most recent publications we should mention the essays *Un fauteuil sur la Seine: Quatre siècles d'histoire de France* (2016) and *Adrift: How Our World Has Lost Its Way* (2019) and the novel *Nos frères inattendus* (2020). In 2010 he won the Prince of Asturias Prize for literature. On June 23, 2011 he was elected to the Académie Française, where he holds the chair that had been Lévi-Strauss's\*.

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\* Claude Lévi-Strauss received the International Nonino Prize in 1986.





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## Jorie Graham

*Nonino International Prize 2013*



Born in 1950, Jorie Graham is one of the most celebrated poets of the American postwar generation. She is the author of 15 collections of poetry, including *Hybrids of Plants and Ghosts* (1980), *Erosion* (1983), *The End of Beauty* (1987), *Region of Unlikeness* (1991), *The Dream of the Unified Field: Selected Poems 1974-1992* (1995), *Sea Change* (2008), *Place* (2012), *From the New World* (2015), *Fast* (2017), *Runaway* (2020), *[To] The Last [Be] Human* (2022), and *To 2040* (2023). She is also the editor of *Earth Took of Earth: 100 Great Poems of the English Language* (1996) and *The Best American Poetry* (1990).

Born in New York City, Graham was raised and educated in Rome, Italy and in France. She attended the Sorbonne in Paris, where she studied philosophy, and New York University, where she pursued filmmaking. While in New York, she began writing and studying poetry, earning an MFA (Master of Fine Arts) from the Iowa Writer's Workshop. She taught at the Writers' Workshop and since 1996 she has been the Boylston Professor at Harvard, a position previously held by Seamus Heaney - the first woman to hold this position. Known for her deep interest in history, language and perception, she is widely translated and has received many honors and awards for her work. Among these are the Pulitzer Prize, The Forward Prize (UK) - (Graham was the first US woman to be awarded this prize) - the Wallace Stevens Award, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur fellowship, the 2018 Bobbitt National Prize for Poetry (given by the US Library of Congress) and the Morton Dauwen Zabel Award from the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters.

Her influence as a poet has been compared by the "New York Times" to Bob Dylan's in terms of its originality and the power with which it has irreversibly transformed both its medium and the entire cultural landscape. "Writing poems" - confessed Graham, who won the Nonino Prize in 2013 - "means entering an endless river, in many languages and even in multiple art forms, besides history, philosophy and science." She believes powerfully in the historic civic role of the poet as moral witness. As she said recently in The New Yorker Magazine, "Every time they try to dehumanize, whether politically or technologically, our task is to rehumanize."

Visual art, mythology, history, and philosophy are central to Graham's work. The influences of her mother, a sculptor, and father, a journalist, her tri-lingual upbringing, and her early immersion in European culture are all evident in her poetry. The form and flow of her poetry, characterized by her trust in truth as unity and sense of perception, is influenced by William Butler Yeats, T. S. Eliot, and Wallace Stevens, among others. Using long and short lines, indentation and spacing, Graham's forms explore the dualities and polarities of life - of the creative and destructive tensions that exist between spirit and flesh, between the real and the mythical, stillness and motion, inner life and exterior existence. Moreover, Graham's belief in the power of poetry to reshape reality, & the human story, by bearing witness, courses powerfully through all her books.



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## Mauro Ceruti

*Nonino Prize 'Master of our time' 2022*



Born in Cremona in 1953. Philosopher and theorist of complex thought. Professor of Philosophy of Science and Director of the PhD School for Communication Studies at IULM University in Milan. Graduated in Philosophy with Ludovico Geymonat at the University of Milan, he was then Researcher at the Faculty of Psychology of the University of Geneva and at the CNRS in Paris. He has been Dean of the Faculty of Education of the University of Milan-Bicocca and then of the Faculty of Letters and Philosophy of the University of Bergamo; Director of CE.R.CO. - Research Center on Anthropology and Epistemology of Complexity.

He has been Senator of the Italian Republic in the XVI Legislature.

He has been Member of the National Committee for Bioethics of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, as well as of the National Observatory for the Integration of Foreign Students and Intercultural Education of the Ministry of Education. Today he is Member of the Scientific Committee of the Association Européenne Modélisation de la Complexité (MCX); of the WWF Scientific Community; of the Italian Association of Systemic Medicine and Health (ASSIMSS), and of the Scientific Committee of the Reflection Group on Franco-Italian Creative Industries of the French - Italian Observatory of IULM University of Milan and Université Sorbonne Nouvelle.

His philosophical and cultural project is aimed at promoting complex thinking capable of addressing the problems of the new global human condition, as well as to develop "the consciousness of the community of destiny which, in front of the same dangers, indissolubly binds all the peoples of the Earth among themselves, and the whole of humanity to the Earth".

To this aim he has dedicated his books, translated into many languages. Among them: *Il Secolo della Fraternità. Una scommessa per la cosmopoli*, Castelvechi, 2021; *Abitare la complessità. La sfida di un destino comune*, 2020, *Sulla stessa barca*, 2020; *Evolution without Foundations*, 2019; *Il tempo della complessità*, 2018; *La fine dell'onniscienza*, 2015; *Constraints and possibilities*, 1996; *Solidarity or Barbarism*, 1996; *The Narrative Universe*, 2002; *La danza che crea*, 1989.