



Press Release

Lattes Grinzane Literary Prize – 9th edition

Haruki Murakami is the winner of “La Quercia” section

Lectio magistralis and prize-giving
Friday, 11th October at 6 p.m. in Alba

Roberto Alajmo (Italy), Jean Echenoz (France), Yewande Omotoso (South Africa), Alessandro Perissinotto (Italy) and Christoph Ransmayr (Austria) are the finalists of “Il Germoglio” section

Meeting with general audience and students: Saturday, 12th October at 10 a.m. in Monforte d’Alba
Award ceremony: Saturday, 12th October at 4.30 p.m. at the Castle of Grinzane Cavour

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Haruki Murakami (Japan), published in Italy by Einaudi (official translators Antonietta Pastore and Giorgio Amitramo) is the winner of **Lattes Grinzane Prize 2019 “La Quercia” section**. This prize is awarded to an international author, whose work has been praised by the readers and the critics.

Mr. Murakami will be in Italy on **Friday, 11th October**, to hold a **lectio magistralis** and to be awarded the prize (at 6 p.m. at Teatro Sociale of Alba). The event will be introduced and presented by the writer **Marcello Fois**.

In order to meet the author’s request, the audience and the press are forbidden to take photos or record videos and audios.

The lectio magistralis by Haruki Murakami on Friday and the prize-giving ceremony on Saturday are sold out.

No book-signing will take place at the end of the lectio.

Roberto Alajmo (Italy) with *L’estate del ’78* (Sellerio), **Jean Echenoz** (France, translated by Federica e Lorenza Di Lella) with *Inviata speciale* (Adelphi, translated by Federica e Lorenza Di Lella), **Yewande Omotoso** (South Africa) with *La signora della porta accanto* (66thand2nd, translated by Natalia Stabilini), **Alessandro Perissinotto** (Italy) with *Il silenzio della collina* (Mondadori) and **Christoph Ransmayr** (Austria) with *Cox o il corso del tempo* (Feltrinelli, translated by di Margherita Carbonaro) are the finalists of the **Lattes Grinzane Prize 9th edition “Il Germoglio” section**, an International award joining together Italian and foreign writers, with regards to the best fictional novels that were published in 2018.

Saturday, 12th October these five writers will be in Monforte d’Alba at Bottari Lattes Foundation (at 10 a.m.) for a meeting with general audience and students and at the Castle of Grinzane Cavour (at 4.30 p.m.) to be awarded during the **prize-giving ceremony**, where the **absolute winner** will be proclaimed, after counting of votes of students involved in **School Juries**. The ceremony will be presented by **Loredana Lipperini**, journalist, writer and radio host.

The names of the “Il Germoglio” finalists and the “La Quercia” winner were announced on **Saturday, 13th April**, in Cuneo at the **CRC Foundation Headquarters** (an institution supporting and collaborating with the Literary Prize for the three-year period 2017-2019) by the **Technical Jury** of the prize. These are the members



of the Technical Jury: president **Gian Luigi Beccaria** (linguist, literary critic and essayist), **Valter Boggione** (university professor of Italian literature), **Vittorio Coletti** (linguist and advisor of “Accademia della Crusca”), **Rosario Esposito La Rossa** (bookseller in the neighbourhood of Scampina, Naples), **Giulio Ferroni** (literary critic and scholar of Italian literature), **Bruno Luverà** (journalist), **Alessandro Mari** (writer and editor), **Romano Montroni** (president of “Centro per il Libro e la Lettura” – Centre for books and reading, an Italian public institution), **Laura Pariani** (writer), **Marco Vallora** (art critic) and **Bruno Ventavoli** (literary critic).

Between April and September 2019 the five finalist books will be read and discussed by **400 students** from **25 School Juries**. Twenty-four juries were selected in order to cover **the whole Italian territory**: four in Piedmont (seat of the Prize) and at least one from the other regions. Plus, the foreign jury, this year located in Madrid, at the Scuola Italiana Statale.

The School Juries are located in: **Alba** (Cuneo), **Biella**, **Budrio** (Bologna), **Campobasso**, **Castiglione del Lago** (Perugia), **Crotone**, **Fabriano** (Ancona), **Foggia**, **La Spezia**, **Matera**, **Milan**, **Nuoro**, **Pescara**, **Pinerolo** (Turin), **Pistoia**, **Rieti**, **Pordenone**, **Rivoli** (Turin), **Rovereto** (Trento), **Salerno**, **Trapani**, **Treviso**, **Verrès** (Aosta). An extra Jury is represented by the book club “La Scugnizzeria” meeting at Scampia neighbourhood in Naples.

The previous La Quercia winners were: **António Lobo Antunes** (2018; Portugal), **Ian McEwan** (2017; United Kingdom), **Amos Oz** (2016; Israel), **Javier Marías** (2015; Spain), **Martin Amis** (2014; United Kingdom), **Alberto Arbasino** (2013; Italy), **Patrick Modiano** (2012; France), Nobel Prize for Literature in 2014, **Enrique Vila-Matas** (2012; Spain).

The winners of Il Gremoglio section in the previous years were: **Yu Hua** (China) in 2018; **Laurent Mauvignier** (France) in 2017; **Joachim Meyerhoff** (Germany) in 2016; **Morten Brask** (Denmark) in 2015; **Andrew Sean Greer** (United States) in 2014; **Melania Mazzucco** (Italy) in 2013; **Romana Petri** (Italy) in 2012; **Colum McCann** (Ireland) in 2011.

Lattes Grinzane Literary Prize, dedicated to Mario Lattes (publisher, painter and writer), is organised by Fondazione Bottari Lattes with the support of Regione Piemonte, Fondazione CRC (main partner 2017-2019), Fondazione CRT, Banca D'Alba, Giulio Einaudi Editore, Cantina Giacomo Conterno, Banor; the patronage of Mibac, Consolato Generale del Giappone a Milano, Istituto Giapponese di Cultura in Roma, Institut Français Milano, Città di Alba, Comune di Grinzane Cavour, Comune di Monforte d'Alba, Città di Cuneo, Unione di Comuni Colline di Langa e del Barolo, “Polo del '900”; the contribution of Enoteca Regionale Piemontese Cavour, Cantina Terre del Barolo, Fiera Internazionale del Tartufo Bianco d'Alba, Felicin-Ristorante Albergo Dimora Storica, La Ribezza Boutique Hotel, Antica Torroneria Piemontese; under the auspices of “Centro per il libro e la lettura”.

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