**PRESS RELEASE**

**For immediate release, 19 January 2023**

**The Booker Prize launches competition to name its trophy**

Readers are invited to enter to be part of the prize’s history and for the chance to win prizes from The Folio Society and Montegrappa worth more than £700



***Readers can enter at*** [***www.thebookerprizes.com***](https://thebookerprizes.com/the-booker-library/features/name-the-booker-prize-trophy-and-win-a-folio-society-edition-of-wolf) ***Entries close on Friday January 27, 2023.***

[thebookerprizes.com](https://thebookerprizes.com/)

@TheBookerPrizes | #BookerPrize2023

**Thursday January 19 2023:** The Booker Prize Foundation (BPF) today launches a new competition to give the golden Booker Prize trophy a name.

Originally designed by Jan Pieńkowski in 1969, the distinctive statuette had been out of use for decades. Pieńkowski, best known as the author of such much-loved children’s books as *Haunted House* and as the illustrator of the Meg and Mog series, died in February 2022. The statuette was reinstated in his honour and awarded to the winner of the Booker Prize 2022, Shehan Karunatilaka.

However, it has never had a name – and now it is up to the public to choose one.

Entrants are invited to draw inspiration from the history of the Booker Prize and to put forward ideas for the coveted trophy’s official title. From these suggestions, a judging panel will select a shortlist of six names, then ask the public to pick the final name via the Booker Prizes website. The winner of the prizes will be the person who nominated the chosen name. In the event that more than one person suggests the final name, the winner will be selected at random from those entrants.

Inspired by an art deco lamp Pieńkowski found in a junk shop in Portobello Market, the first statuette was pewter-coloured and stood two feet tall. It was awarded to P.H. Newby, whose wife disliked the colour and spray painted it gold, unwittingly altering the future of its design.

In 2022 P.H. Newby’s original trophy was tracked down, scanned and 3D-printed by Adam Lowe’s Madrid-based Factum Foundation, a not-for-profit that used cutting edge photogrammetry technology to reinstate the female figure for the 2022 awards. She now stands 38cm high and is cast in brass, adopting Mrs. Newby’s legacy. This will be the trophy that Booker Prize winners receive for the foreseeable future.

The competition entries will be whittled down by a group of acclaimed literary judges with personal connections to the prize or the trophy. The panel will consist of: **Shehan Karunatilaka,** winner of the Booker Prize 2022 for his novel *The Seven Moons of Maali Almeida***; Margaret Busby,** Britain’s first black female publisher and Chair of the Booker Prize 2022 judges; **Gabriel Schenk**, P.H. Newby’s grandson; **David Walser**, partner and frequent collaborator of the late Jan Pieńkowski; and **Gaby Wood**, Director of the Booker Prize Foundation.

The winner of the competition will receive The Folio Society [collector’s edition of *Wolf Hall*](https://www.foliosociety.com/uk/wolf-hall.html?gclid=Cj0KCQiAiJSeBhCCARIsAHnAzT92Qcs0oJGkCYyanxZm4qVnXLfinvHXIjb5t7KS5IfSPoSxxVAwer8aAj8eEALw_wcB&gclsrc=aw.ds), the Booker Prize-winning novel by the late the Hilary Mantel, illustrated by Igor & Marina, and a Montegrappa [Zero Fountain Pen](https://www.montegrappa.co.uk/products/montegrappa-zero-fountain-pen-yellow-gold-plated-14k-gold-nib-iszet34y-pre-order-now%5d) with a 14k solid gold, gold-plated nib.

Entries should be submitted via the [Booker Prizes website](https://thebookerprizes.com/the-booker-library/features/name-the-booker-prize-trophy-and-win-a-folio-society-edition-of-wolf) and explain why the suggested name is appropriate.

A shortlist of six names will be announced on the Booker Prizes website on Wednesday February 8, 2023. The public will then vote for their favourite name, with the competition winner announced on Thursday February 23, 2023.

**Gaby Wood, Director of the Booker Prize Foundation, says:**

‘We’re incredibly grateful to our partners, The Folio Society and Montegrappa, for donating such elegant and luxurious prizes – and grateful in advance to members of the public for joining us in this venture to give the Booker Prize trophy a name.

She will, we hope, come to stand not only for the triumph of a single winner but for the aims of the Booker Prize Foundation as a whole: to change lives and expand minds through the pleasures of reading.

Once she has a name she can be a beacon, lighting the way to the world’s best literature. We’d like readers everywhere to be part of that.’

A compact, ten-inch version of Pieńkowski’s trophy was created in 1973 by artist Patricia Turner. This was handed out for several years, until it was replaced by leather-bound copies of an author’s winning book, followed by a perspex panel which has been awarded to winners up until last year. The newly named trophy will be awarded at the Booker Prize 2023, and, with any luck, for many years to come.

***To enter the competition, readers should fill in the form and submit via the Booker Prizes website:*** [***www.thebookerprizes.com***](https://thebookerprizes.com/the-booker-library/features/name-the-booker-prize-trophy-and-win-a-folio-society-edition-of-wolf)***. Entries close on Friday January 27, 2023.***

***The shortlist of names will be shared via the Booker Prizes website on Wednesday February 8, 2023, and public voting will close on Friday February 17, 2023. The winning name and competition winner will be announced on Thursday February 23, 2023.***

**ENDS**

**Find out more:**

Visit [www.thebookerprizes.com](http://www.thebookerprizes.com)

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**Assets**

Please find images of the trophy, the judges and Booker Prize logos [HERE](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1LwY-QQMV-6TJCurMpIrTETwvhmgRqtPw?usp=sharing)

**Notes to Editors**

* The Booker Prize – awarded annually in the autumn – is the leading literary award in the English-speaking world. It was first awarded in 1969 and has brought recognition, reward and readership to outstanding fiction for over five decades. It was called the Man Booker Prize for Fiction when sponsored by Man Group from 2002-2018. Each year, the prize is awarded to what is, in the opinion of the judges, the best work of long-form fiction written in English and published in the UK and Ireland, irrespective of the nationality or citizenship of the author. The winner receives £50,000 as well as the £2,500 awarded to each of the six shortlisted authors. Both the winner and the shortlisted authors are guaranteed a global readership and can expect a dramatic increase in book sales. The winner of the Booker Prize 2022 was *The Seven Moons of Maali Almeida* by Shehan Karunatilaka. The Booker Prize 2023 judging panel is chaired by Esi Edugyan and includes Adjoa Andoh, Mary Jean Chan, James Shapiro and Robert Webb. The longlist will be announced in July 2023.
* The International Booker Prize – awarded annually in spring – is for the best single work of fiction translated into English and published in the UK and Ireland. It was known until 2019 as the Man Booker International Prize when sponsored by Man Group. The winner's prize purse is £50,000; £25,000 for the author and £25,000 for the translator (or divided equally between multiple translators). There will be a prize of £5,000 for each of the shortlisted titles: £2,500 for the author and £2,500 for the translator (or divided equally between multiple translators). The winner of the International Booker Prize 2022 was *Tomb of Sand*, written by Geetanjali Shree and translated by Daisy Rockwell. The International Booker Prize 2023 judging panel is chaired by Leïla Slimani and includes Uilleam Blacker, Tan Twan Eng, Parul Sehgal and Frederick Studemann. The longlist for the International Booker Prize 2023 will be announced on Tuesday March 14, 2023. The shortlist announcement will follow on Tuesday April 18, 2023 at the London Book Fair, and the winner at a ceremony held in London in mid-May.
* Please visit the [Notes to Editors](https://thebookerprizes.com/notes-to-editors) page on the Booker Prizes website to find out more about the Booker Prize, the International Booker Prize, and the Booker Prize Foundation, including its trustees, advisory committee, partners and beneficiaries.

**About the competition prizes**

* The Folio Society’s collector’s edition of *Wolf Hall*

The rise and fall of Thomas Cromwell is brilliantly portrayed in Hilary Mantel’s Booker Prize-winning Wolf Hall. So eminent a novel requires the finest treatment reminiscent of the pomp and riches of the era, and this startling Folio Society edition will be treasured for a lifetime.

Award-winning artistic duo Igor & Marina have created 11 full-page pencil drawings of exceptionally fine detail, as well as a remarkable colour frontispiece. The artists also painted a captivating portrait of Cromwell, hidden gracefully in the ornate binding design, while a ribbon marker, family trees and sumptuous gold page-edges complete this spectacular collector’s edition.

This product currently retails at £85. Find out more at  [www.foliosociety.com/wolfhall](http://www.foliosociety.com/wolfhall)

* Montegrappa Zero fountain pen

Inspired by Italian writing culture, the Montegrappa Zero fountain pen is the next chapter in the evolution of modern writing style. Fitted with a converter/cartridge-fed nib that is 14k solid gold and gold plated, it combines sartorial presence, precision engineering and uncompromising strength.

This product currently retails at £640. Find out more at [www.montegrappa.co.uk](http://www.montegrappa.co.uk/)

Booker Prize Foundation

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