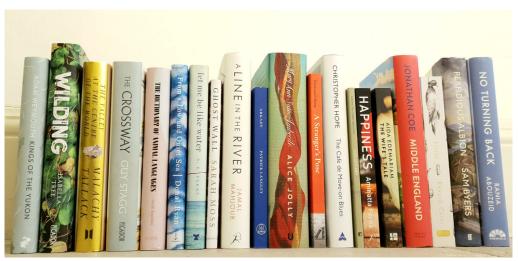




RSL Ondaatje Prize 2019: The Longlist

The £10,000 RSL Ondaatje Prize is awarded annually to a book of the highest literary merit – fiction, non-fiction or poetry – which best evokes the spirit of a place. I

This year's judges are Sabrina Mahfouz, Michèle Roberts and Ian Thomson.



No Turning Back

Rania Abouzeid Sam Byers **Edward Carey** Jonathan Coe Aida Edemariam Aminatta Forna Gaia Holmes Christopher Hope Emmanuel Iduma Alice Jolly Patrick Langley Jamal Mahjoub Sarah Moss S.K. Perry Donal Ryan Heidi Sopinka Guy Stagg Malachy Tallack Isabella Tree

Adam Weymouth

Perfidious Albion Little Middle England The Wife's Tale **Happiness** Where the road runs out The Café de Move-on Blues A Stranger's Pose Mary Ann Sate, Imbecile **Arkady** A Line in the River **Ghost Wall** Let Me Be Like Water From a Low and Quiet Sea The Dictionary of Animal Languages The Crossway **The Valley at the Centre of the World** (Canongate Books) Wilding Kings of the Yukon

(Oneworld) (Faber & Faber) (Aardvark Bureau) (Viking) (4th Estate) (Bloomsbury Circus) (Comma Poetry) (Atlantic Books) (Cassava Republic) (Unbound) (Fitzcarraldo Editions) (Bloomsbury Publishing) (Granta Books) (Melville House UK) (Doubleday) (Scribe UK) (Picador) (Picador) (Particular Books)

The shortlist will be announced at our event 'The Spirit of a Place' on Tuesday 16 April The winner will be announced on Monday 13 May

Notes to editors

The RSL Ondaatje Prize is an annual award of £10,000 for a distinguished work of fiction, non-fiction or poetry, best evoking the spirit of a place. We are grateful to Sir Christopher Ondaatje for sponsoring the Prize.

Founded in 1820 the Royal Society of Literature is Britain's charity for the advancement of literature. In addition to the RSL Ondaatje Prize, the RSL runs the RSL Christopher Bland Prize for best debut from a writer over 50, the Encore Award for best second novel of the year, the V. S. Pritchett Short Story Prize, RSL Literature Matters Awards and the RSL Giles St Aubyn Awards for Non-Fiction, as well as regular events, young people's outreach and research into literature in the UK today.

RSL Ondaatje Prize winners

The RSL Ondaatje Prize shortlist will be announced on 16 April at our event celebrating 15 years of the prize.

The Spirit of a Place

Tuesday 16 April, 7pm, British Library

Celebrating fifteen years of the RSL Ondaatje Prize, four past winners (Alan Johnson, Hisham Matar, Pascale Petit and Peter Pomerantsev) discuss the challenges and delights of writing to evoke the spirit of a place, chaired by presenter and broadcaster Eleanor Rosamund Barraclough. This event will be broadcast by BBC Radio 3's Free Thinking programme and available as an Arts & Ideas podcast. The shortlist will be announced first at this event.

Press wishing to attend the event or wanting more information on the Prize should contact:

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