

GORDON BURN PRIZE

The longlist is announced for the **Gordon Burn Prize 2017**

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The longlist is today announced for the **Gordon Burn Prize 2017**, which was established in 2012 to celebrate the legacy of one of literature's great innovators.

Gordon's writing was precise and rigorous, and often blurred the line between fact and fiction. He wrote across a wide range of subjects, from celebrities to serial killers, politics to contemporary art; his works include the novels *Fullalove* and *Born Yesterday: The News as a Novel*, and non-fiction including *Happy Like Murderers: The Story of Fred and Rosemary West*, *Best and Edwards: Football, Fame and Oblivion* and *Sex & Violence, Death & Silence: Encounters with Recent Art*.

The Gordon Burn Prize, run in partnership by the Gordon Burn Trust, New Writing North, Faber & Faber and Durham Book Festival, seeks to celebrate the work of those who follow in his footsteps: novels which dare to enter history and interrogate the past; non-fiction adventurous enough to inhabit characters and events to create new and vivid realities. The prize is open to works in English by writers of any nationality or descent who, at the time of entering, are permanently resident in the United Kingdom or the United States of America.

The longlist for the Gordon Burn Prize 2017 is:

- *Autumn* by Ali Smith (Hamish Hamilton)
- *Between Them* by Richard Ford (Bloomsbury)
- *Black Teeth and a Brilliant Smile* by Adelle Stripe (Wrecking Ball Press)
- *Border: A Journey to the Edge of Europe* by Kapka Kassabova (Granta Books)
- *Estuary: Out from London to the Sea* by Rachel Lichtenstein (Hamish Hamilton)
- *First Love* by Gwendoline Riley (Granta Books)
- *I Hate the Internet: A Novel* by Jarrett Kobek (Serpent's Tail)
- *Lincoln in the Bardo* by George Saunders (Bloomsbury)
- *The Fact of a Body: A Murder and a Memoir* by Alexandria Marzano-Lesnevich (Macmillan)
- *The Long Drop* by Denise Mina (Harvill Secker)
- *The Secret Life: Three True Stories* by Andrew O'Hagan (Faber & Faber)
- *This Is the Place to Be* by Lara Pawson (CB Editions)
- *This is Memorial Device* by David Keenan (Faber & Faber)
- *You Too Can Have a Body Like Mine* by Alexandra Kleeman (4th Estate)

Carol Gorner, on behalf of the **Gordon Burn Trust**, said: "The longlist for the 2017 Gordon Burn prize was difficult to reach, as there was such a wide range of books of a very high standard to choose from. In the end, we arrived at a longer list than usual; it will be very exciting to follow the process to achieve the shortlist. It is particularly encouraging that there is such a strong showing of women writers this year."

Claire Malcolm, chief executive of **New Writing North**, said: "The longlist for the Gordon

PTO..2/ continued and notes for the editors

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GORDON BURN PRIZE

Burn Prize represents some of the most interesting contemporary writing coming out of the UK and the US. The prize always attracts a wide-ranging selection of titles – from true crime to boundary-breaking fiction – and it is exciting to see the list come together as one. If you love to read ambitious writing that makes you consider the world with fresh eyes, these are the books you will want to read in 2017.”

The shortlist will be announced in July and the prize itself will be awarded at the Durham Book Festival on **Thursday 12th October**.

About the judges:

Cosey Fanni Tutti is an artist and musician, known for her art, her work in the sex industry, as co-founder of Industrial Records and Throbbing Gristle, and her pioneering electronic music as half of Chris & Cosey and Carter Tutti. Her autobiography, *Art, Sex, Music*, will be published by Faber & Faber in 2017.

Petina Gappah is a Zimbabwean writer with law degrees from Cambridge, Graz University and the University of Zimbabwe. Her debut collection of short stories, *An Elegy for Easterly*, won the Guardian First Book Award in 2009. Her debut novel, *The Book of Memory*, was published in 2015. Her latest collection of short stories, *Rotten Row*, was published in 2016. She is published by Faber & Faber.

Allan Jenkins is the award-winning editor of *Observer Food Monthly*. He was previously editor of the *Observer Magazine* and once lived in an experimental eco-community on Anglesey. He is the co-author of *J. Sheekey: Fish*, and lives in north-west London. His book *Plot 29: A Memoir* was published in 2017 by 4th Estate.

Ian Sansom is a novelist, broadcaster and journalist, contributing to, among others, the *Guardian*, *Times Literary Supplement* and *London Review of Books*. He is the author of fourteen works of fiction and non-fiction and is the Director of the Oscar Wilde Centre, Trinity College Dublin.

Previous winners:

2013 Benjamin Myers, *Pig Iron*

2014 Paul Kingsnorth, *The Wake*

2015 Dan Davies, *In Plain Sight: The Life and Lies of Jimmy Savile*

2016 David Szalay, *All That Man Is*

Social media:

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www.gordonburnprize.com

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