

The Publishing Triangle's 27th Annual Triangle Awards Presented April 23

Winners Announced for Best LGBT Fiction, Debut Fiction, Nonfiction & Poetry Published in 2014

Rigoberto González Receives Lifetime Achievement Award

April 23, 2015—The 27th annual Triangle Awards, honoring the best lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender fiction, nonfiction, and poetry published in 2014, were presented this evening at The Auditorium of the New School (66 West 12th Street, New York City) at 7 p.m. Sponsored by Farrar Straus Giroux, HarperCollins, and Curtis Brown, Ltd., the ceremony was free and open to the public, with a reception afterward.

The Publishing Triangle, the association of lesbians and gay men in publishing, began honoring a gay or lesbian writer for his or her body of work a few months after the organization was founded in 1989, and has now partnered with the Ferro-Grumley Literary Awards to present an impressive array of awards each spring.

The Ferro-Grumley Award for lesbian and gay fiction was established in 1988 to recognize, promote excellence in, and give greater access to fiction writing from lesbian and gay points of view. The award, which has widened to embrace bisexuals and the

transgendered, honors the memory of authors **Robert Ferro** (*The Blue Star, Second Son*) and **Michael Grumley** (*Life Drawing*), life partners who died that year of AIDS, within weeks of each other. The winner receives an honorarium of \$1000. Judges are selected from throughout the U.S. and Canada, from the arts, media, publishing, bookselling, and related fields. The award was presented by **Stephen Greco**, head of the Ferro-Grumley Literary Awards, and **Sarah Van Arsdale**, a longtime board member.

Winner: *Mr. Loverman*, by Bernardine Evaristo (Akashic Books)

Finalists for the Ferro-Grumley Award for LGBT Fiction

All I Love and Know, by Judith Frank (William Morrow/HarperCollins)

I Loved You More, by Tom Spanbauer (Hawthorne Books)

Sideways Down the Sky, by Barry Brennessel (MLR Press)

When Everything Feels Like the Movies, by Raziel Reid (Arsenal Pulp Press)

The Publishing Triangle's newest literary award, the **Edmund White Award for Debut Fiction**, was first presented in 2006. This prize, which highlights the Publishing Triangle's ongoing commitment to emerging LGBT talent, carries an honorarium of \$1000. **Charles Rice-Gonzalez** presented the prize.

Winner: *For Today I Am a Boy*, by Kim Fu (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)

Finalists for the Edmund White Award for Debut Fiction

Little Reef and Other Stories, by Michael Carroll (University of Wisconsin Press)

New York 1, Tel Aviv 0, by Shelly Oria (Farrar Straus and

Giroux)
Unaccompanied Minors, by Alden Jones (New American Press)

The Publishing Triangle began giving the Shilts-Grahn awards for nonfiction in 1997. Each winner receives \$1000. **Christopher Bram** and **Michele Karlsberg** presented these prizes.

The **Judy Grahn Award for Lesbian Nonfiction** honors the American writer, cultural theorist and activist (b. 1940) best known for *A Simple Revolution* (2012) and *Another Mother Tongue* (rev. ed., 1984). It recognizes the best nonfiction book of the year by or about lesbians, bisexual women, and/or transwomen, or that has a significant influence upon the lives of queer women.

Winner: *Ain't Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me Around: 40 Years of Movement Building with Barbara Smith*, by Barbara Smith; edited by Alethia Jones and Virginia Eubanks (SUNY Press)

Finalists for the Judy Grahn Award for Lesbian Nonfiction

A Cup of Water Under My Bed, by Daisy Hernandez (Beacon Press)

Eating Fire: My Life as a Lesbian Avenger, by Kelly Cogswell (University of Minnesota Press)

The End of Eve, by Ariel Gore (Hawthorne Books)

The **Randy Shilts Award for Gay Nonfiction** honors the journalist whose groundbreaking reporting on the AIDS epidemic for the *San Francisco Chronicle* made him a hero to many in the community. Shilts (1951–1994) was the

author of *The Mayor of Castro Street, And the Band Played On*, and *Conduct Unbecoming*. This award recognizes the best nonfiction book of the year by or about gay men, bisexual men, and/or transmen or that has a significant influence upon the lives of queer men.

Winner: *Gay Berlin: Birthplace of a Modern Identity*, by Robert Beachy (Alfred A. Knopf)

Finalists for the Randy Shilts Award for Gay Nonfiction

Hold Tight Gently, by Martin Duberman (The New Press)

The Prince of los Cocuyos, by Richard Blanco

(Ecco/HarperCollins)

Wagstaff: Before and After Mapplethorpe, by Philip Gafter

(Liveright/W.W. Norton)

The Publishing Triangle established its poetry awards in 2001. **Sarah Sarai** and **Rickey Laurentiis**, two of this year's judges, presented these awards, which carry a prize of \$500 apiece.

The **Thom Gunn Award for Gay Poetry** honors the author of *The Man with Night Sweats* (1992), *Boss Cupid* (2000; the winner of the very first Triangle Award for Gay Male Poetry), and other works. The British-born Gunn, a longtime resident of San Francisco, died in 2004, at the age of seventy-four. This award was renamed in his honor in 2005.

Winner: *The New Testament*, by Jericho Brown (Copper Canyon Press)

Finalists for the Thom Gunn Award for Gay Poetry

I Don't Know Do You, by Roberto Montes (Ampersand

Books)

Prelude to Bruise, by Saeed Jones (Coffee House Press)

The Selected Poetry of Pier Paolo Pasolini: A Bilingual Edition, edited and translated by Stephen Sartarelli (University of Chicago Press)

The **Audre Lorde Award for Lesbian Poetry** honors the American poet, essayist, librarian, and teacher. Lorde (1934-1992) was nominated for the National Book Award for *From a Land Where Other People Live* and was the poet laureate of New York State in 1991. She received the Publishing Triangle's Bill Whitehead Award for Lifetime Achievement shortly before her death. Among her other sixteen books are *Zami* (1982) and *A Burst of Light* (1989).

Winner: *Last Psalm at Sea Level*, by Meg Day (Barrow Street Press)

Finalists for the Audre Lorde Award for Lesbian Poetry
How a Mirage Works, by Beverly Burch (Sixteen Rivers Press)

Like a Beggar, by Ellen Bass (Copper Canyon Press)

Tiger Heron, by Robin Becker (University of Pittsburgh Press)

Rigoberto González is the 2015 recipient of the Publishing Triangle's **Bill Whitehead Award for Lifetime Achievement**, named in honor of the legendary editor of the 1970s and 1980s. He is the author of four books of poetry—most recently, *Unpeopled Eden*, which was a finalist last year for the Publishing Triangle's Thom Gunn Award for Gay Poetry and won the Lambda Literary Award for Gay

Poetry. His ten books of prose comprise two bilingual children's books; the three young adult novels in the Mariposa Club series; the novel *Crossing Vines*; the story collection *Men Without Bliss*; and three books of nonfiction, including *Butterfly Boy: Memories of a Chicano Mariposa*, which was a finalist for the Publishing Triangle's Randy Shilts Award for Gay Nonfiction and received the American Book Award from the Before Columbus Foundation. González has also edited *Camino del Sol: Fifteen Years of Latina and Latino Writing* and a volume of the poet Alurista's work, *Xicano Duende*. He is the recipient of, among others, a Guggenheim Fellowship and the Barnes & Noble Writer for Writers Award. González is contributing editor for *Poets & Writers* magazine, sits on the executive board of directors of the National Book Critics Circle, and is professor of English at Rutgers–Newark, the State University of New Jersey.

The Bill Whitehead Award is given to a man in odd-numbered years and to a woman in even years, and the winner receives \$3000. The poet **Eduardo C. Corral** presented the award to Mr. González.

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