

N C B R

Northern California Book Reviewers

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38th ANNUAL NORTHERN CALIFORNIA BOOK AWARDS

Media contact: Joyce Jenkins, cell 510-612-3958, editor@poetryflash.org. Photographs available on request.

Sunday, June 23, 2019, 1:00 pm

Koret Auditorium at the San Francisco Main Library

100 Larkin Street, Civic Center, San Francisco

Followed by book signing and reception in the Latino/Hispanic Community Room

Celebrate the Bay Area's vibrant literary scene on Sunday, June 23, 2019, 1:00 pm, when the 38th annual Northern California Book Awards recognize the best published works of 2018 by Northern California authors at Koret Auditorium, San Francisco Main Library, 100 Larkin Street, San Francisco. Poet and critic **Sandra M. Gilbert** will be presented with the Fred Cody Award for Lifetime Achievement and Service. (The Cody Award carries an honorarium of \$1,000.) Authors will read briefly from their winning books. "Meet and greet" reception and book signing with the authors will follow the Awards Ceremony in the Library's Latino/Hispanic Room. Nominated books will be available for purchase to benefit the Friends of the San Francisco Public Library. Eligible books are divided into eight categories: Fiction, General Nonfiction, Creative Nonfiction, Poetry, Children's Literature (Younger Readers and Older Readers), and Translation (Poetry and Prose). Northern California reviewers and editors, members of the Northern California Book Reviewers, select the awards by reading the books and discussing their merits. All of the nominated books, the **NCBR recommended reading list of books published in 2018**, will be saluted and celebrated at the ceremony.

NCBR GROUNDBREAKER AWARD - Small Press Distribution on their 50th Anniversary

NCBR RECOGNITION AWARD - John McMurtrie, *San Francisco Chronicle* Books Editor 2008-2019

FICTION

The Incendiaries, R.O. Kwon, Riverhead Books

The Winter Soldier, Daniel Mason, Little, Brown and Company

There There, Tommy Orange, Alfred A. Knopf

Winter Kept Us Warm, Anne Raeff, Counterpoint

Hungry Ghost Theater, Sarah Stone, WTAW Press

POETRY

Cenzontle, Marcelo Hernandez Castillo, BOA Editions

Be With, Forrest Gander, New Directions

Her Mouth as Souvenir, Heather June Gibbons, University of Utah Press

Extra Hidden Life, among the Days, Brenda Hillman, Wesleyan

Isako Isako, Mia Ayumi Malhotra, Alice James Books

Flyover Country, Austin Smith, Princeton University Press

CREATIVE NONFICTION

Lyric Multiples: Aspiration, Practice, Immanence, Migration, George Albon, Nightboat Books

Monk of Mohka, Dave Eggers, Alfred A. Knopf

Funk. Start. Reclaiming My Decade Lost in Scientology, Sands Hall, Counterpoint

A Last Survivor of the Orphan Trains, William Walters and Victoria Golden, Orphan Books

Raw Material: Working Wool In the West, Stephany Wilkes, Oregon State University Press

GENERAL NONFICTION

American Prison: A Reporter's Undercover Journey into the Business of Punishment, Shane Bauer, Penguin Press
And Then They Were Gone, Teenagers of Peoples Temple from High School to Jonestown, Judy Bebelar and Ron Cabral, Sugartown Publishing

Crush: The Triumph of California Wine, John Briscoe, University of Nevada Press

Birds of Berkeley, Oliver James, Heyday

Almost Nothing: The 20th-Century Art and Life of Józef Czapski, Eric Karpeles, New York Review of Books

TRANSLATION

Translation in Poetry

Wild Geese Sorrow, The Chinese Wall Inscriptions at Angel Island, new translations by Jeffrey Thomas Leong, Calypso Editions

Poetry Comes Out of My Mouth, Selected Poems of Mario Santiago Papasquiaro, translated from the Spanish by Arturo Mantecón, Artwork by Maceo Montaya, Diálogos Books

Translation in Prose

Poso Wells, Gabriela Alemán, translated by Dick Cluster, from the Spanish, City Lights Books

I Didn't Talk, Beatriz Bracher, translated by Adam Morris, from the Portuguese/Brazil, New Directions

Revolution Sunday, Wendy Guerra, translated by Achy Obejas, from the Spanish, Melville House

CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

Younger Readers

Ta-Da!, Kathy Ellen Davis, illustrated by Kaylani Juanita, Chronicle Books

Ode to an Onion: Pablo Neruda & His Muse, Alexandria Giardino, illustrated by Felicita Sala, Cameron Kids

Part-Time Mermaid, Deborah Underwood, illustrated by Cambria Evans, Disney-Hyperion

Older Readers

Picture Us in the Light, Kelly Loy Gilbert, Disney-Hyperion

Out of Left Field, Ellen Klages, Viking Books for Young Readers

Blanca & Roja, Anna-Marie McLemore, Feiwel & Friends

The Orphan Band of Springdale, Anne Nesbet, Candlewick

FRED CODY AWARD FOR LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT & SERVICE

Poet and literary critic Sandra M. Gilbert

Sandra M. Gilbert has published numerous volumes of criticism, in feminist literary criticism, feminist theory, and psychoanalytic criticism. She is best known for her collaborative critical work with Susan Gubar, *The Madwoman in the Attic: The Woman Writer and the Nineteenth-Century Literary Imagination*, widely recognized as a central text of second-wave feminism. Joyce Carol Oates said of it, “*The Madwoman in the Attic*, originally published in 1979, has long since become a classic, one of the most important works of literary criticism of the 20th century.” Carolyn See called it “A masterpiece” in the *Los Angeles Times Book Review*. Gilbert co-edited, with Susan Gubar, *The Norton Anthology of Literature by Women, Shakespeare's Sisters: Feminist Essays on Women Poets*, and co-authored *No Man's Land: The Place of the Woman Writer in the 20th Century* (in three volumes), among numerous other works. Sandra Gilbert edited the just published *Essential Essays: Culture, Politics, and the Art of Poetry*, a career-spanning selection of the courageous and boldly political prose of National Book Award-winning poet Adrienne Rich. Also a poet, Sandra Gilbert's tenth book of poetry, published in 2019, is *Judgment Day*. She has received many awards, including, in 2017, an honorary doctorate from Harvard University, and in 2012, together with frequent collaborator Susan Gubar, the National Book Critics Circle's Ivan Sandrof Lifetime Achievement Award. Distinguished Professor of English Emerita at the University of California, Davis, where she mentored many, Sandra Gilbert lives in Berkeley, California.

History of the Northern California Book Awards

Since 1981, the Northern California Book Reviewers, a volunteer group of book reviewers and book review editors, have honored the work of Northern California authors. One of the group's founders was Fred Cody, proprietor of the famed independent bookstore in Berkeley. The NCBR created an award in his name to honor a lifetime of achievements and distinguished service to the literary community. The Fred Cody Award for lifetime achievement is presented every year to a member of the literary community. Previous recipients include Daniel Ellsberg, Judy Grahn, Susan Griffin, Willis Barnstone, Adam Hochschild, Kay Ryan, Michael Pollan, Al Young, Andrew Hoyem, Diane di Prima, Orville Schell, Philip Levine, Ronald Takaki, Francisco X. Alarcón, Carolyn Kizer, Ishmael Reed, Maxine Hong Kingston, Robert Hass,

Lawrence Ferlinghetti, Malcolm Margolin, Adrienne Rich, Wallace Stegner, Kay Boyle, William Everson, Alice Walker, Gary Snyder, Jessica Mitford, Tillie Olsen, M.F.K. Fisher, Robert Duncan, Nancy J. Peters, and Tamim Ansary.

The Awards' Sponsors

Poetry Flash, Women's National Book Association-San Francisco Chapter, PEN West, Mechanics' Institute Library, San Francisco Public Library, and the Friends of the San Francisco Public Library sponsor and/or present the Northern California Book Awards.

Attention Calendar Editors

The 38th annual Northern California Book Awards take place on Sunday, June 23, 1:00 pm, Koret Auditorium, San Francisco Main Library, 100 Larkin Street, San Francisco. Poet and critic Sandra M. Gilbert will be honored with the 2019 Fred Cody Award for Lifetime Achievement. Northern California authors will be honored in Fiction, Nonfiction, Poetry, Translation, and Children's Literature. Book signing reception follows. Nominated books will be available for purchase by Readers Bookstore at the Main/Friends of the San Francisco Public Library. Sponsored by the Northern California Book Reviewers, Poetry Flash, Women's National Book Association-San Francisco Chapter, PEN West, Mechanics' Institute Library, San Francisco Public Library and Friends of the San Francisco Public Library. Admission and reception are free. Wheelchair accessible. For more information, contact NCBR@poetryflash.org, (510) 525-5476, or visit poetryflash.org.

Northern California Book Award-winners will be announced to the press and public at the awards event.

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