

Finalists Announced

2023 Queen Sofía Spanish Institute Translation Prize:

Winner to Be Announced at Nov. 14 Ceremony in New York

- The Queen Sofía Spanish Institute announces the shortlist of **finalists** for the 2023 Queen Sofía Spanish Institute Translation Prize, a **\$10,000 prize** honoring the **best English translation of a work written originally in the Spanish language.**
- The 2023 Translation Prize ceremony will take place on the evening of Tuesday, November 14th at the King Juan Carlos I Center at **New York University**. Guest speakers include writer **Juan Gabriel Vásquez** in partnership with Penguin Random House Grupo Editorial and **Samantha Schnee**, Founding Editor and Board Chair of Words Without Borders.

New York, October 24th 2023.

The Queen Sofía Spanish Institute (QSSI) announces the **shortlist for the 2023 Queen Sofía Spanish Institute Translation Prize**, a \$10,000 prize honoring the **best English translation of a work written originally in the Spanish language.**

The four shortlist texts were selected by a distinguished **Reading Committee** comprised of experts in translation: committee chair and translator **Sophie Hughes**; professor at Sarah Lawrence College and translator **Heather Cleary**; and **Amalia Gladhart**, Professor at the University of Oregon Winner of 2022 Translation Prize. This jury is guided by author **Carmen Posadas** member of the Institute's Cultural Advisory Committee in the field of literature.

Among the finalists are translations of works penned by renowned authors from across the Spain and Latin America, whose impact on literature is internationally celebrated: **Diamlea Eltit, Lara Moreno, Marvel Moreno, and Irene Vallejo.**

2023 Translation Prize Shortlist

- ***December Breeze* by Marvel Moreno, Translated by Isabel Adey & Charlotte Coombe, Published by Europa Editions**
 - Jury Comments: "Isabel Adey and Charlotte Coombe's translation of this intricate and fiercely intelligent novel is nothing short of heroic. Marvel Moreno's sprawling yet meticulous prose style is rendered into tightly-controlled and beautiful English. The translators have masterfully captured the essence of the original work, bringing the author's brilliance to an English-speaking audience."
- ***Never Did the Fire* by Diamela Eltit, Translated by Daniel Hahn, Published by Charco Press**
 - Jury Comments: "The translation of *Never Did the Fire* perfectly balances the utterly unique intricacy, symmetry, and variety of the original Spanish language. Diamela Eltit's purposeful repetition of sounds, words, and motifs builds to a painful and insightful emotional climax, and Daniel Hahn simply does not miss a beat. The translation preserves the work's rich tapestry of emotions and intricate storytelling."

- ***Papyrus: The Invention of Books in the Ancient World* by Irene Vallejo, Translated by Charlotte Whittle, Published by Knopf**
 - Jury Comments: “*Papyrus* is written in a conversational voice, contemporary without becoming coy, that never undermines the scholarly heft of the project. In her translation, Charlotte Whittle balances erudition and informality, expertly navigating shifts in register or tone. The English version maintains the original’s intellectual vigor while making it accessible to a wider readership.”
- ***Wolfskin* by Lara Moreno, Translated by Katie Whitemore, Published by Open Letter Books**
 - Jury Comments: “Lara Moreno and Katie Whitemore do a truly extraordinary job of making the reader feel, viscerally, both the oppressive summer heat and the treacherous landscape of Sofia’s inner world. The translation skillfully transports readers to the heart of the narrative, making it an immersive and unforgettable experience.”

The Queen Sofía Spanish Institute Translation Prize aims to recognize the fundamental role of translators in making significant literary works accessible to a global audience. The shortlisted translations reflect the dedication, skill, and artistry of the translators, who bridge linguistic and cultural gaps to convey the essence of these literary works.

The 2023 Queen Sofía Spanish Institute Translation Prize Award Ceremony is scheduled for 7:00 pm on **Tuesday, November 14th at the King Juan Carlos I Center at New York University**. This event will feature distinguished guest speakers, including the renowned writer **Juan Gabriel Vásquez**, as part of a partnership with **Penguin Random House Grupo Editorial**, and **Samantha Schnee**, Founding Editor and Board Chair of non-profit Words Without Borders.

The Queen Sofía Spanish Institute Translation Prize:

With the aim of elevating awareness and engendering appreciation of Spanish-language literature in the United States, this \$10,000 prize was created by the Cultural Committee and Board of Directors of the Queen Sofía Spanish Institute to honor the best English-language translation of a literary work written in Spanish. Formerly a triennial prize, it is now awarded yearly. The Reading Committee for the Queen Sofía Spanish Institute Translation Prize consists of a minimum of three scholars with expertise in Spanish and/or Latin American literature, translation, culture, and/or language. In 2010, the Reading Committee of the inaugural Queen Sofía Spanish Institute Translation Prize unanimously recommended Edith Grossman to receive the award for her extraordinary translation of Antonio Muñoz Molina’s *A Manuscript of Ashes*.

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