

JANE MARTIN POETRY PRIZE

2021

About the Jane Martin Poetry Prize

Girton College is delighted to invite entries for the 2021 Jane Martin Poetry Prize. Now in its 11th year, the prize is a key part of the College's support for poetry and will be of interest to all those who are serious about literary excellence.

The competition will be judged by experts drawn from across the literary world and academia. We are thrilled that this year the panel will include Sean Hewitt and Rosa van Hensbergen.

Building on the success of previous years, the 2021 winner will receive not just a cash prize of £700, but the opportunity to give a reading (live or pre-recorded) at a virtual celebratory event, at which the prize will be awarded. There will also be a second cash prize of £300.

About Girton College

Girton is a college of the University of Cambridge. Established in 1869 on the principles of equality and diversity, Girton played a leading role in opening higher education to women. Fully mixed for over 30 years, the College now prides itself on offering the highest quality of learning to all, regardless of background.

Girton has contributed to the education and shared in the lives of many celebrated authors and has a strong tradition of supporting creative writing. Alumni include Gwyneth Lewis (First National poet of Wales), Wendy Holden (*School for Husbands, Marrying Up*) and Emma Donoghue (*Room, the Woman Who Gave Birth to Rabbits*).

The Panel

The shortlisted entries for the 2021 Jane Martin Poetry Prize will be judged by an eminent panel, led by:

Sean Hewitt

Seán Hewitt is a poet, lecturer and literary critic. His debut collection, *Tongues of Fire* (Cape, 2020), was shortlisted for The Sunday Times Young Writer of the Year Award. In 2019, he won an Eric Gregory Award, and he is also the winner of the Resurgence Prize, 2017. His memoir, *All Down Darkness Wide*, will be published in 2022



Rosa van Hensbergen

Rosa van Hensbergen is a Junior Research Fellow in English at Queens' College, where she works on movement notation in post-war performance. She has five poetry pamphlets published with small presses, most recently *Under Plaster, Under Grass* (Equipage, 2019) and *In Accident & Emergence* (Veer, 2015); runs the poetry press Tipped Press; and co-edited, until recently, the women's poetry magazine *The Paper Nautilus* with Laura Kilbride. She was the 2011-12 Harper Wood Fellow in creative writing at St. John's College, and has subsequently held residencies for writing and performance, often with collaborators, at Tokyo Wonder Site, KulturKontakt Vienna, and Snape Maltings.



About Jane Martin

The Prize is named in memory of Jane Martin. Jane studied Classics at Girton, graduating in 1981. She retained an affection for the College and felt strong bonds with those who had taught and supported her. Jane had always taken great pleasure in writing. On her passing, her father chose to endow a national prize based at Girton for outstanding poetry, to be named after her.

How to enter

Entry rules for the 2021 Jane Martin Poetry Prize are:

- 1. Entrants must be resident in the UK and (on February 1st 2021) be between 18 and 30 years of age.**
- Valid entries will be written in English and consist of a maximum of two poems of no more than two sides of A4 in (total) length.
- There is no fee for submissions but entries are limited to two poems per person per year, submitted as one entry.
- The judges may, at their discretion, request further samples of work from short-listed candidates.
- The first prize for the winning poet is £700 and £300 for the second prize, though the panel reserves the right to distribute this.
- Entries will be judged anonymously.
- Previous winners are not permitted to enter again.
- There is a shortlisting process undertaken by Girton's Fellows in English.
- We regret that copies of poetry can not be returned.
- Poems submitted must not have been previously published.
- The prize will open on 1st February 2021 and close at noon on 5th March 2021. The winner will be notified by mid April.
- Girton College may include work from the winning entry in its Annual Review and other college publications/media.

Entries will be submitted on-line as one PDF document here:

https://app.casc.cam.ac.uk/fas_live/jmp.aspx

**If there are any problems contact
poetryprize@girton.cam.ac.uk**



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