

MLA AWARDS SCAGLIONE PRIZE FOR STUDIES IN SLAVIC LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES TO LEONID LIVAK FOR *IN SEARCH OF RUSSIAN MODERNISM*; HONORABLE MENTION AWARDED TO ELEONORY GILBURD FOR *TO SEE PARIS AND DIE* AND TO ANDREW KAHN, MARK LIPOVETSKY, IRINA REYFMAN, AND STEPHANIE SANDLER FOR *A HISTORY OF RUSSIAN LITERATURE*

New York, NY – 4 December 2019 – The Modern Language Association of America today announced it is awarding its thirteenth Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Prize for Studies in Slavic Languages and Literatures to Leonid Livak, of the University of Toronto, for his book *In Search of Russian Modernism*, published by Johns Hopkins University Press. An honorable mention will be given to Eleonory Gilburd, of the University of Chicago, for *To See Paris and Die: The Soviet Lives of Western Culture*, published by Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, and to Andrew Kahn, of the University of Oxford; Mark Lipovetsky, of Columbia University; Irina Reyfman, of Columbia University; and Stephanie Sandler, of Harvard University, for their work, *A History of Russian Literature*, published by Oxford University Press. The prize is awarded biennially for an outstanding scholarly work on the linguistics or literatures of the Slavic languages, including Belarussian, Bulgarian, Croatian, Czech, Polish, Russian, Serbian, Slovak, Slovene, and Ukrainian.

The prize is one of eighteen awards that will be presented on 11 January 2020, during the association's annual convention, to be held in Seattle. The members of the selection committee were Robin Feuer Miller (Brandeis Univ.); Benjamin Paloff (Univ. of Michigan, Ann Arbor); and Lisa Ryoko Wakamiya (Florida State Univ.), chair. The committee's citation for Livak's book reads:

Leonid Livak's *In Search of Russian Modernism* is a bold undertaking. It confronts inherited assumptions about the field, including its canons and methodologies for critical analysis, and in their place proposes mapping coexisting transnational modernist cultural communities in which a multitude of artistic practices, ideas, and events evolve over time. One of the important consequences of Livak's book is to complement linear models of successive movements, great artists and minor ones, with the wide range of meanings generated by diverse participants in the Russian modernist cultural community. Another is the transformational impact it will have on transnational modernist studies, where its methodology will provide a model for comparative investigations. Livak's book is a model of exemplary scholarship at the same time it provides one.

Leonid Livak is professor of Slavic languages and literatures at the University of Toronto. He received his BA from the University of Michigan, an MA in French from Middlebury College, and an MA and PhD in Slavic from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Livak is the author of *The Jewish Persona in the European Imagination: A Case of Russian Literature, Russian*

Émigrés in the Intellectual and Literary Life of Interwar France, and *How It Was Done in Paris: Russian Émigré Literature and French Modernism*. His articles have appeared in journals such as *The Russian Review* and *Cahiers du monde russe* and as chapters in numerous books.

The committee's citation for Gilburd's book reads:

Eleonory Gilburd's treatment of how Soviet society reshaped the artifacts of Western European and American cultures, allowing itself to be reshaped by them in turn, adds a vital dimension to recent scholarship on the formation of literary and artistic publics in the Soviet Union after the Second World War. Thoroughly researched and compellingly told, *To See Paris and Die: The Soviet Lives of Western Culture* considers how Soviet audiences and organs of state understood and responded to the flood of new material. With attention to government policy, to the function of cultural institutions, and especially to extensive archives of letters from everyday consumers, Gilburd effectively unknots the contradictory paths by which an image of Western literature, film, music, and art took shape for a new, ostensibly inaccessible audience.

Eleonory Gilburd is assistant professor of history and the college at the University of Chicago, where she specializes in the history of modern Russia and the Soviet Union, with a particular interest in Soviet culture and society and their international context. She holds a PhD and MA from the University of California, Berkeley, and a BA from the University of Chicago. Gilburd is coeditor of *The Thaw: Soviet Society and Culture during the 1950s and 1960s*. Her research has been supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Kennan Institute, the American Philosophical Society, and the National Council for Eurasian and East European Research, among others. *To See Paris and Die* received the 2019 Wayne S. Vucinich Book Prize and the 2019 Marshall D. Shulman Book Prize, both from the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies and was short-listed for the 2019 Pushkin House Book Prize.

The committee's citation for *A History of Russian Literature* reads:

As scholars, even in collaborative projects, we usually work in isolation—assigning different sections to different writers. *A History of Russian Literature*, by Andrew Kahn, Mark Lipovetsky, Irina Reyfman, and Stephanie Sandler, is something else entirely: a genuine shared enterprise where chapters written by one are revised by the others. It is unique. Their *History* balances keen historical insight with finely observed close readings. Unlike many other such histories, this brims with life and questions; it is suggestive of varied generic and political controversies. Text and context, throughout the course of Russian literary history, have always been singularly connected; this volume spectacularly conveys the complexities of that connection. Open it to any page at random, and you will be rewarded.

Andrew Kahn is professor of Russian literature in the Faculty of Medieval and Modern Languages, a fellow and tutor at St. Edmund Hall, and a lecturer at Queen's College, University of Oxford. He received his MA and DPhil from the University of Oxford, an MA from Harvard University, and a BA from Amherst College. Among Kahn's many publications, he is the author of *Pushkin's Lyric Intelligence*, which received honorable mention in the 2007–08 Scaglione Prize for Studies in Slavic Languages and Literatures. He is coeditor and cotranslator of *Selected Letters of Catherine the Great*, and editor of the *Cambridge Companion to Pushkin*. His most recent book, entitled *Mandelstam's Worlds*, will be published by Oxford University Press in 2020. His articles, chapters, and reviews have appeared in numerous peer-reviewed publications. Kahn has been visiting professor at the University of California, Berkeley, at Columbia University, and at the École normale supérieure and is a recently elected Fellow of the British Academy.

Mark Lipovetsky is professor of Russian in the Department of Slavic Languages at Columbia University. Born and educated in the Soviet Union, he has worked in the United States since 1996. He is the author of ten books and more than a hundred articles published in the United States, Russia, and Europe and coeditor of a dozen volumes of articles on Russian literature and culture. Among his monographs are *Russian Postmodernist Fiction: Dialogue with Chaos*, *Paralogies: Transformation of (Post)modernist Discourse in Russian Culture of the 1920s–2000s*, *Performing Violence: Literary and Theatrical Experiments of New Russian Drama* (with Birgit Beumers), *Charms of Cynical Reason: The Transformations of the Trickster Trope in Soviet and Post-Soviet Culture*, and *Postmodern Crises: From Lolita to Pussy Riot*. Lipovetsky's works have been nominated for the Russian Little Booker Prize and short-listed for the Andrey Bely Prize. In 2014, Lipovetsky received an award from the American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages for outstanding contribution to scholarship.

Irina Reyfman is professor and chair of the Department of Slavic Languages at Columbia University. She received her PhD from Stanford University and a diploma in Russian language and literature from the University of Tartu, Estonia. Among Reyfman's publications are *Ritualized Violence Russian Style: The Duel in Russian Culture and Literature* and *How Russia Learned to Write: Literature and the Imperial Table of Ranks*. She has also coedited *Mapping the Feminine: Russian Women and Cultural Difference*. She is a recipient of an Award for Excellence in Teaching at the Post-secondary Level from the American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages and an Outstanding Achievement Award from the Association for Women in Slavic Studies. Reyfman is also a recipient of an NEH Fellowship for University Teachers and grants and fellowships from organizations such as IREX and the Harriman Institute at Columbia University.

Stephanie Sandler is Ernest E. Monrad Professor of Slavic Languages and Literatures and chair of the Slavic Department at Harvard University. She received her PhD and MA from Yale University and BA from Princeton University. Sandler is the author of *Commemorating Pushkin: Russia's Myth of a National Poet* and *Distant Pleasures: Alexander Pushkin and the Writing of Exile* and coeditor of *The Poetry and Poetics of Olga Sedakova: Origins, Philosophies, Points of Contention* and *Self and Story in Russian History*. Her translation, with Caroline Clark and Ksenia Golubovich, of Olga Sedakova's *In Praise of Poetry* received the Barbara Heldt Prize for Translation and was long-listed for the Three Percent Best Translation Book Award. Her translation, with Genya Turovskaya, of Elena Fanailova's *The Russian Version* received the Three Percent Best Translation Book Award.

A History of Russian Literature was a finalist in the literature category of the Association of American Publisher's PROSE Awards.

The Modern Language Association of America and its over 25,000 members in 100 countries work to strengthen the study and teaching of languages and literature. Founded in 1883, the MLA provides opportunities for its members to share their scholarly findings and teaching experiences with colleagues and to discuss trends in the academy. The MLA sustains one of the finest publication programs in the humanities, producing a variety of publications for language and literature professionals and for the general public. The association publishes the *MLA International Bibliography*, the only comprehensive bibliography in language and literature, available online. The MLA Annual Convention features meetings on a wide variety of subjects; the 2020 convention in Seattle is expected to draw over 5,000 attendees. More information on MLA programs is available at www.mla.org.

The Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Prize for Studies in Slavic Languages and Literatures, awarded under the auspices of the MLA's Committee on Honors and Awards, was presented for the first time in 1995. Recent winners of the award include Nancy Condee, Jonathan Bolton, Irina

Paperno, Alice Lovejoy, and Emily Van Buskirk. In recent years, honorable mentions were awarded to William Nickell, Alexander Etkind, and Liza Knapp.

Other awards sponsored by the committee are the William Riley Parker Prize; the James Russell Lowell Prize; the MLA Prize for a First Book; the Howard R. Marraro Prize; the Kenneth W. Mildener Prize; the Mina P. Shaughnessy Prize; the MLA Prize for Independent Scholars; the Katherine Singer Kovacs Prize; the Morton N. Cohen Award; the MLA Prizes for a Scholarly Edition and for Collaborative, Bibliographical, or Archival Scholarship; the Lois Roth Award; the William Sanders Scarborough Prize; the Fenia and Yaakov Leviant Memorial Prize in Yiddish Studies; the MLA Prize in United States Latina and Latino and Chicana and Chicano Literary and Cultural Studies; the MLA Prize for Studies in Native American Literatures, Cultures and Languages; the Matei Calinescu Prize; the MLA Prize for an Edited Collection; the Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Prizes for Comparative Literary Studies, for French and Francophone Studies, for Italian Studies, for Studies in Germanic Languages and Literatures, for a Translation of a Literary Work, for a Translation of a Scholarly Study of Literature; and the Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Publication Award for a Manuscript in Italian Literary Studies.

The Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Endowment Fund was established and donated by Aldo Scaglione to the Modern Language Association in 1987. The fund honors the memory of Scaglione's late wife, Jeanne Daman Scaglione. A Roman Catholic, Jeanne Daman was headmistress of a Jewish kindergarten in Brussels, Belgium. When arrests and deportations of Jews began in 1942, she worked with Belgian and Jewish resistance units, helping to find hiding places for two thousand children throughout Belgium. She also helped rescue many Jewish men about to be deported as slave laborers by obtaining false papers for them. Jeanne Scaglione's life and contributions to humanity are commemorated in the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC.

Aldo Scaglione, a member of the Modern Language Association from 1957 until his death in 2013, was Erich Maria Remarque Professor of Literature at New York University. A native of Torino, Italy, he received a doctorate in modern letters from the University of Torino. He taught at the University of Toulouse and the University of Chicago. From 1952 to 1968 he taught at the University of California, Berkeley, and from 1968 to 1987 he was W. R. Kenan Professor of Italian and Comparative Literature at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. In 1987 he came to New York University as professor of Italian and then chair of the Department of Italian. Scaglione was a Fulbright Fellow and a Guggenheim Fellow, held senior fellowships from the Newberry Library and the German Academic Exchange Service, and was a visiting professor at Yale University, the City University of New York, and the Humanities Research Institute of the University of Wisconsin, Madison. In 1975 he was named Cavaliere dell'Ordine al Merito della Repubblica Italiana. Scaglione was president of the American Boccaccio Association and was a member of the MLA Executive Council from 1981 to 1984. His published books include *Nature and Love in the Late Middle Ages* (1963); *Ars Grammatica* (1970); *The Classical Theory of Composition* (1972); *The Theory of German Word Order* (1981); *The Liberal Arts and the Jesuit College System* (1986); *Knights at Court: Courtliness, Chivalry, and Courtesy from Ottonian Germany to the Italian Renaissance* (1991); and *Essays on the Arts of Discourse: Linguistics, Rhetoric, Poetics* (1998).