

Press Release

German Book Prize 2018: Jury selects 20 novels for the longlist

199 titles were in the running / Shortlist to be announced on 11 September

The nominees for the German Book Prize 2018 have been selected. The jury has chosen 20 novels for the longlist. Since the call for submissions went out, the seven members of the jury have reviewed 199 titles published – or yet to be published – between October 2017 and 11 September 2018, when the shortlist will be announced.

Jury spokeswoman Christine Lötscher (independent critic) released the following statement: “The issue of the state of world affairs seems to be burning on the minds of many German-language authors: How did the world become what it is today? How is everything connected, and what stories can we tell about that? Their novels attempt to plumb the poetic depths of these questions by allowing the characters to explore their past and present as travellers, seekers or exiles. The jury was delighted by the wide variety of literary forms submitted, which included both major historical and playfully fantastical conceptions of the world, as well as texts that seek to radically reduce the viewpoint down to the root of storytelling. By virtue of its richness and the many surprising discoveries it contains, the longlist is also an invitation by the jury to explore this broad literary spectrum.”

The nominated novels (in alphabetical order) are:

- Carmen-Francesca Banciu, **Lebt wohl, Ihr Genossen und Geliebten!** (PalmArtPress, March 2018)
- María Cecilia Barbeta, **Nachtleuchten** (S. Fischer, August 2018)
- Maxim Biller, **Sechs Koffer** (Kiepenheuer & Witsch, September 2018)
- Susanne Fritz, **Wie kommt der Krieg ins Kind** (Wallstein, March 2018)
- Arno Geiger, **Unter der Drachenwand** (Carl Hanser, January 2018)
- Nino Haratischwili, **Die Katze und der General** (Frankfurter Verlagsanstalt, August 2018)
- Franziska Hauser, **Die Gewitterschwimmerin** (Eichborn, February 2018)
- Helene Hegemann, **Bungalow** (Hanser Berlin, August 2018)
- Anja Kampmann, **Wie hoch die Wasser steigen** (Carl Hanser, January 2018)
- Angelika Klüssendorf, **Jahre später** (Kiepenheuer & Witsch, January 2018)
- Gert Loschütz, **Ein schönes Paar** (Schöffling & Co., February 2018)
- Inger-Maria Mahlke, **Archipel** (Rowohlt, August 2018)
- Gianna Molinari, **Hier ist noch alles möglich** (Aufbau, July 2018)
- Adolf Muschg, **Heimkehr nach Fukushima** (C.H.Beck, July 2018)
- Eckhart Nickel, **Hysteria** (Piper, September 2018)
- Josef Oberhollenzer, **Sültzrather** (Folio, March 2018)

- Susanne Röckel, **Der Vogelgott** (Jung und Jung, February 2018)
- Matthias Senkel, **Dunkle Zahlen** (Matthes & Seitz Berlin, February 2018)
- Stephan Thome, **Gott der Barbaren** (Suhrkamp, September 2018)
- Christina Viragh, **Eine dieser Nächte** (Dörlemann, February 2018)

In addition to Christine Lötscher, the members of the jury for the German Book Prize 2018 include: Christoph Bartmann (Goethe-Institut Warsaw), Luzia Braun (ZDF), Tanja Graf (Literaturhaus Munich), Paul Jandl (independent critic), Uwe Kalkowski (literary blog “Kaffeehausitzer”) and Marianne Sax (Bücherstube Marianne Sax bookstore, Frauenfeld).

The next step will be for the jurors to select six titles from the longlist for inclusion on the shortlist, which will be announced on 11 September 2018. The six shortlisted authors will only find out which of them has won the German Book Prize on the evening of the award ceremony itself. The winner will receive 25,000 euros, the five finalists 2,500 euros each.

The German Book Prize is awarded by the Börsenverein des Deutschen Buchhandels Stiftung (Foundation of the German Publishers and Booksellers Association). It receives funding from the Deutsche Bank Foundation, and additional partners include the Frankfurter Buchmesse and city of Frankfurt am Main. The television network Deutsche Welle supports the German Book Prize in its media activities both at home and abroad.

The prize will be awarded on 8 October 2018 at the start of the Frankfurter Buchmesse in the Kaisersaal of the Frankfurt Römer.

Press photo of the jury for download: www.deutscher-buchpreis.de/downloads

From left to right: Christine Lötscher, Paul Jandl, Marianne Sax, Christoph Bartmann, Tanja Graf, Uwe Kalkowski, Luzia Braun

Information about the German Book Prize 2018 can be found at www.deutscher-buchpreis.de and www.facebook.com/DeutscherBuchpreis

The hashtag for the German Book Prize 2018 is **#dbp18**

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