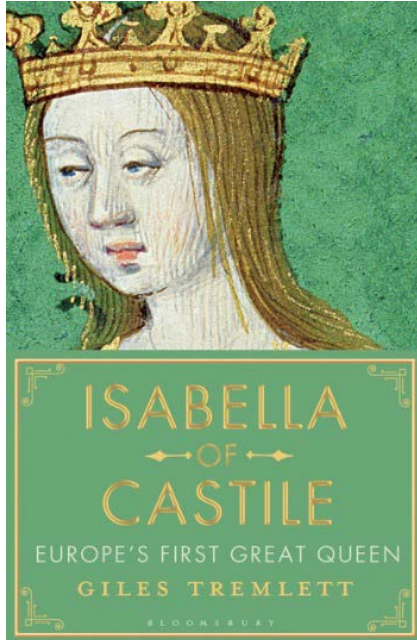


Giles Tremlett wins 2018 Elizabeth Longford Prize for Historical Biography



The Society of Authors is delighted to announce that the 2018 Elizabeth Longford Prize for Historical Biography has been awarded to **Giles Tremlett** for *Isabella of Castile: Europe's First Great Queen* (Bloomsbury).



The judges this year included Roy Foster (Chair), Richard Davenport-Hines, Antonia Fraser, Flora Fraser and Munro Price.

Roy Foster, Chair of the judges said:

The short-list for this year's Elizabeth Longford Prize for Historical Biography was both formidable and varied. However, the judges decided that Giles Tremlett's Isabella of Castile resoundingly struck all the notes which we look for in a historical biography. Tremlett creates a panoramic landscape of fifteenth-century Spain, on the brink of its Golden Age, and paints a memorable portrait of the powerful woman who helped bring it about. The stratagems of politics, marriage, war, dynastic calculation and religious oppression are carefully and deftly delineated, as is the tension between Isabella's private

and public lives.

Above all, the impressive combination of scholarly authority and vivid accessibility establishes this biography firmly in the tradition of this Prize which was founded to celebrate the best in current historical biography.

Giles Tremlett is Contributing Editor to the *Guardian* and Fellow of the Cañada Blanch Centre at the London School of Economics. He was Madrid correspondent for the *Economist* until 2016 and, before that, for the *Guardian*. He has lived in and written about Spain for the past twenty years, and is the author of *Catherine of Aragon: The Spanish Queen of Henry VIII* and *Ghosts of Spain: Travels through Spain and Its Silent Past*. He lives in Madrid with his wife and children. Tremlett will be presented with the £5,000 prize at the 2018 Authors' Awards on 19 July.

This year's shortlist included:

- *Be Like The Fox: Machiavelli's Lifelong Quest For Freedom* by Erica Benner (Allen Lane)
- *The Tartan Turban: In Search of Alexander Gardner* by John Keay (Kashi House)
- *Lenin the Dictator: An Intimate Portrait* by Victor Sebestyen (Weidenfeld and Nicolson)
- *Becoming Hitler: The Making of a Nazi* by Thomas Weber (Oxford University Press)

The Elizabeth Longford Prize for Historical Biography is generously sponsored by Flora Fraser and Peter Soros in memory of acclaimed biographer Elizabeth Longford. The winner of last year's prize was John Bew for *Citizen Clem: A Biography of Attlee* (riverrun/Quercus).

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For further information about the Elizabeth Longford Prize for Historical Biography please contact the Prizes department on:

Prizes@societyofauthors.org / 020 73737 6642

or visit: www.elhb.uk