



# THE JOHN D. CRITICOS INTERNATIONAL PRIZE

established in 1996

to promote Anglo-Hellenic friendship, culture and creative exchange

*The 2010 prize awarded to author*

**ZACHARY MASON**

*for his novel*

***The Lost Books of the Odyssey***

Administered by the  
LONDON HELLENIC SOCIETY



Sponsored by the  
CRITICOS - FOTINELLI  
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> November 2011 at 7:00 p.m.  
Great Hall, The Hellenic Centre, 16-18 Paddington Street, London W1U 5AS

# THE JOHN D. CRITICOS INTERNATIONAL PRIZE

*Sponsored by the Criticos-Fotinelli Charitable Foundation*

*Administered by the London Hellenic Society*

This prestigious prize was originally conceived by John D. Criticos, a ship-owner and businessman who was a respected and popular member of the London-Greek community since the 1950s. Inspired by the ideals of Hellenic culture and appreciative of the best commercial and cultural traditions of British society, he committed himself to charitable causes and to the promotion of Anglo-Hellenic understanding in a number of significant ways.

The Criticos Prize addresses itself to creative works of literature, history, classical studies, art, archaeology and philosophy written in the English language by prominent authors, irrespective of their nationality. The list of winners in this brochure exemplifies the wide range of imagination scholarship, subject-matter and original research recognised over the years by the Criticos Adjudicating Committee.

The Prize is annual and is open to works published in the English language within each calendar year. The Adjudicating Committee consists of authors, men of letters, artists, historians and scholars with special knowledge of each of the fields for which there are eligible candidates. The Committee's membership is flexible and reflects the subject matters of works submitted each year. Special attention is given to works of art and literature. Every effort is made to give ample and fair consideration to the finalists by having their works evaluated by leading experts and artists of recognised stature.

The deadline for submissions is invariably January 31<sup>st</sup>, and the winner is announced in June. The bursary of £10,000 (or equivalent in USD) is considered sufficient to cover publication and/or research costs.

The late John D. Criticos chose to entrust the administration of this Prize to the London Hellenic Society, a prestigious cultural society established in London in the 1960s by John A. Hadjipateras and other prominent members of the London Greek community, in which he himself played a leading part. After his death, his wife, Mrs. Elizabeth Criticos-Fotinelli, continued and enhanced his charitable projects, creating the Criticos-Fotinelli Charitable Foundation which serves as guardian and executor of John D. Criticos' significant endowments.

Members of the Hellenic diaspora have had a long and distinguished presence in England since the early 19th century and have made major contributions to the improvement of understanding between the peoples of Greece and England. The John D. Criticos Prize follows closely this wonderful tradition of Anglo-Hellenic cultural exchange and provides a building block for its future.

As we enter the era of an integrated European Community founded upon the ideals of ancient Athenian democracy, the realisation of John D. Criticos' cultural project strengthens the essential nature of education and communication between Europeans and increases understanding of our shared Hellenic heritage.

[www.criticosprize.org](http://www.criticosprize.org)

*All submissions and inquiries addressed to:*

*"The Criticos Prize", The Hellenic Centre, 16-18 Paddington Street, London W1U 5AS  
FAO Michael Moschos or Jason Leeds - fax +30 210 7298494 or [jasonleeds@criticosprize.org](mailto:jasonleeds@criticosprize.org)*

**THE JOHN D. CRITICOS INTERNATIONAL PRIZE**

8<sup>th</sup> November, 2011 - 7:00 pm

Great Hall, The Hellenic Centre, London

Welcome by **G.C. Rodopoulos**, President, The London Hellenic Society

The 2010 Criticos Prize - **Elizabeth Speller**

**Honorary Citation**

for lifetime achievement in poetry and literature to

**NIKOS FOKAS**

spoken by **Thanasis Valtinos** (novelist, member of the Academy of Athens)

Selected poems will be read by **Don Schofield**, translator.

Author and critic **Marina Warner** will introduce the winner

**ZACHARY MASON**

who will discuss his novel 'The Lost Books of the Odyssey'

The Criticos Award presented by **Mrs Elizabeth Criticos - Fotinelli**

\* Concluding remarks    \**Reception to follow*

***Adjudicating Committee for the 2010 Criticos Prize:***

**Elizabeth Speller**, author and poet - Chair \* **Robin Lane Fox**, classicist, historian, gardener, FT columnist - New College, University of Oxford \* **Dr Caroline Vout**, classicist, art historian - Christ's College, University of Cambridge \* **Dr N. J. Lowe**, classics and literature - University of London at Royal Holloway \* **Professor Stefanos Pesmatzoglou**, social sciences with reference to Modern Greece - Panteion University \* **Tom Holland**, historian, novelist \* **Dr Jennifer Wallace**, English Literature, Hellenism and its influences - Peterhouse, University of Cambridge \* **Felix Budelman**, classicist - Magdalen College, Oxford \* **Fani Papageorgiou**, poet and reviewer \* **Dionyssi Kapsalis**, poet and critic, Director of the National Bank of Greece Culture Foundation \* *Reader:* **Professor Liz James**, art historian, Byzantinist - University of Sussex

**Coordinator for the prize:** *Michael Moschos*

## Past Winners

- 1997 **Christian Habicht**, *Athens from Alexander to Antony* (Harvard University Press)
- 1998 **Michael Llewellyn Smith**, *Ionian Vision: Greece in Asia Minor 1919-1922* (Hurst & Co.)  
jointly with  
**Paul Cartledge**, *The Cambridge Illustrated History of Ancient Greece* (Cambridge Uni. Press)
- 1999 **Edmund Keeley**, *Inventing Paradise: The Greek Journey 1937-47* (Farrar Strauss & Giroux)
- 2000 **Eleni Bastea**, *The Creation of Modern Athens: Planning the Myth* (Cambridge Uni. Press)  
jointly with  
**Gonda Van Steen**, *Venom in Verse: Aristophanes in Modern Greece* (Princeton Uni. Press)
- 2001 **John Gould**, *Myth, Ritual, Memory and Exchange: Essays in Greek Literature and Culture* (Oxford University Press)
- 2002 **Graham Speake**, *Mount Athos: Renewal in Paradise* (Yale University Press)
- 2003 **Susan Woodford**, *Images of Myths in Classical Antiquity* (Cambridge University Press)
- 2004 **Mark Mazower**, *Salonica, City of Ghosts: Christians, Muslims & Jews 1430-1950* (Harper Collins/Knopf)
- 2005 **Robert Parker**, *Polytheism and Society at Athens* (Oxford University Press)
- 2006 **Averil Cameron**, *The Byzantines* (Blackwell)
- 2007 **Peter Parsons**, *City of the Sharp-Nosed Fish: Greek Lives in Roman Egypt* (Weidenfeld & Nicolson)
- 2008 **Stephen Halliwell**, *Greek Laughter: A Study of Cultural Psychology from Homer to Early Christianity* (Cambridge University Press)
- 2009 **David Malouf**, *Ransom* (Chatto & Windus)
- 2010 **Zachary Mason**, *The Lost Books of the Odyssey* (Jonathan Cape)

*Mrs Elizabeth Criticos-Fotinelli with the 2009 award winner novelist David Malouf at the Gennadius Library, Athens - October, 2010*

