



# THE JOHN D. CRITICOS INTERNATIONAL PRIZE

established in 1996

to promote Anglo-Hellenic friendship, culture and creative exchange

*The 2011 prize awarded to author*

***ANN WROE***

*for*

***Orpheus: The Song of Life***

Administered by the  
LONDON HELLENIC SOCIETY



Sponsored by the  
CRITICOS - FOTINELLI  
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> November 2012 at 7:30 p.m.  
The Garden Room, The Athenaeum, 107 Pall Mall, London SW1Y 5ER

# 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 and women 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 value of the prize is £10,000 (or equivalent in USD).

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 Leech - fax +30 210 7298494 or [jasonleech@criticosprize.org](mailto:jasonleech@criticosprize.org)*

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*Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> November 2012 at 7:30 p.m.*

*The Garden Room, The Athenaeum, London*

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

The 2011 Criticos Prize - **Caroline Vout**, Chair

**Robin Lane Fox** will introduce the winner

**ANN WROE**

**‘Orpheus: The Song of Life’**

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

Concluding remarks

***Adjudicating Committee for the 2011 Criticos Prize:***

**Aris Berlis**, translator and literary critic \* **Felix Budelman**, classicist, Magdalen College, University of Oxford  
\* **Dionysis Capsalis**, poet, translator, literary critic, National Bank of Greece Culture Foundation \*  
**Tom Holland**, historian and novelist \* **Liz James**, Byzantinist and art historian, University of Sussex \*  
**Robin Lane Fox**, historian, gardener, FT columnist - New College, University of Oxford \* **Nick Lowe**,  
classicist and literary critic, University of London at Royal Holloway \* **Fani Papageorgiou**, poet and  
reviewer \* **Stefanos Pesmatzoglou**, Dept. of Political Science and History, Panteion University, Athens \*  
**Elizabeth Speller**, writer and poet \* **Caroline Vout**, classicist and art historian - Christ's College & Faculty of  
Classics, University of Cambridge - Committee Chair \* **Jennifer Wallace**, English literature and literary  
criticism, special interest in Hellenism - Peterhouse, University of Cambridge \* *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 U. 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 U. 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 U. Press) jointly with Gonda Van Steen, *Venom in Verse: Aristophanes in Modern Greece* (Princeton U. Press)
- 2001 John Gould, *Myth, Ritual, Memory and Exchange: Essays in Greek Literature and Culture* (Oxford U. Press)
- 2002 Graham Speake, *Mount Athos: Renewal in Paradise* (Yale U. Press)
- 2003 Susan Woodford, *Images of Myths in Classical Antiquity* (Cambridge U. 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 U. 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 U. Press)
- 2009 David Malouf, *Ransom* (Chatto & Windus)
- 2010 Zachary Mason, *The Lost Books of the Odyssey* (Jonathan Cape)
- 2011 Ann Wroe, *Orpheus: The Song of Life* (Jonathan Cape)



Mrs Elizabeth Criticos-Fotinelli with the 2010 Criticos Prize winner novelist Zachary Mason at the Hellenic Centre, London - November, 2011