

The Association of Canadian and Quebec Literatures is pleased to announce that the winner of the 2016 Gabrielle Roy Prize (English section), which each year honours the best book of Canadian literary criticism written in English, is **Canadian Graphic: Picturing Life Narratives, edited by Candida Rifkind and Linda Warley (Wilfrid Laurier University Press)**. The winner was chosen by a jury composed of Misao Dean (University of Victoria), Shelley Hulan (University of Waterloo), and Christl Verduyn (Mount Allison University). The prize was awarded at a reception held by the Association of Canadian and Quebec Literatures, on the evening of May 27th in Toronto.

Jury's comments: "In *Canadian Graphic* editors Candida Rifkind and Linda Warley have assembled a ground-breaking collection of essays on graphic autobiographies by Canadian writers. The individual essays work to articulate the significance of the visual medium for the representation of the vulnerable self, and range in subject from Seth and Chester Brown, to Sara Leavitt's heartbreaking narrative about her mother's death, to Julie Doucet's early feminist autobiography, *My New York Diary*. The collection as a whole tells the story of how this important and comparatively new genre evolved in Canada, introducing historically important publications and publishing houses as well as individual cartoonists. The book design is attractive and spacious, and the accompanying illustrations beautifully produced. *Canadian Graphic* is both a stimulating read and an important scholarly achievement."

The jury would also like to congratulate the two other finalists in this year's competition: **Cara Fabre** for *Challenging Addiction in Canadian Literature and Classrooms* (University of Toronto Press), and **Smaro Kamboureli and Dean Irvine** for *Editing as Cultural Practice in Canada* (Wilfrid Laurier University Press).

"Historically, Canadian literature has been seen to depend upon a number of talented, strong-willed editors whose activities as anthologists and champions of Canadian writing established them as powerful arbiters of the national culture. The contributors to *Editing as Cultural Practice in Canada*, however, focus not only on the editor as cultural gatekeeper but more importantly on the many people and circumstances that shape every text before its publication. Editorial intervention emerges in its full complexity as an act of negotiation that involves collaborative networks of people who together express, preserve, and create Canada's literary identity. At a time when self-publishing has never been easier, questions about the need for editors and editing continuously arise. As the meticulous research and cumulative wealth of editorial experience in this collection shows, editing is not optional but inevitable, activated in the manifold conversations, disagreements, and reconsiderations that generate a "final" text. With this collection, editors Smaro Kamboureli and Dean Irvine make a substantive and fascinating addition to scholarship on editing in Canada."

"Cara Fabre's *Challenging Addiction in Canadian Literature and Classrooms* is a path-breaking study of addiction in contemporary Canadian literature and a concrete demonstration of how, with principles and practices of transformation pedagogy, literature really can be a means to social change and justice. Navigating a complex intersection of theories and insights from feminist and gender studies, poverty and addiction studies, and psychoanalytic and anti-racism studies, Fabre guides readers masterfully from dominant depictions and discourses of addiction toward understanding addiction as a form of social suffering stemming from systems of privilege

and oppression and normative ideologies of patriarchy and sexism, capitalism and consumerism, settler colonialism and racism. From Heather O'Neill's *Lullabies for Little Criminals* to Eden Robinson's *Monkey Beach*, Canadian literature, Fabre shows, can serve in real ways to dismantle myths of addiction and stereotypes of addicts such as the "Drunken Indian." A powerful and important study."

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