

ORION'S TRAPEZE ANNOUNCES LONGLIST FOR MO SIEWCHARRAN PRIZE 2025

Trapeze, an imprint of The Orion Publishing Group, is delighted to announce the longlist of ten writers in contention for the Mo Siewcharran Prize which this year is focused on non-fiction under the theme 'Reclaiming History.'

Now in its sixth year, the writing competition runs as part of Hachette UK's The Future Bookshelf and is named in memory of NielsenIQ BookData's former director of marketing and communications. The prize is sponsored by John Seaton, Mo Siewcharran's husband and co-founder of the Prize, and NielsenIQ BookData.

The prize aims to shine a light on Black, Asian, Mixed Heritage and Ethnically Diverse unpublished writers. This year, the prize is being hosted by Trapeze and is focused on non-fiction writing.

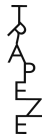
The longlist has been chosen by members of the Trapeze team and employees of other divisions within Hachette UK.

Katie Ogunsakin, Editorial Director at Trapeze, said the following: "We were blown away by the diversity and quality of entries submitted to the prize this year. The histories explored and documented in these submissions are insightful, bold and span a vast range of experiences, and were an absolute pleasure to read."

A shortlist of up to six writers will be chosen by a panel of judges, which includes: historian and author Olivette Otele; author and award-winning CEO and founder of Black British Book Festival, Selina Brown; historian and author, Paula Akpan; literary agent at the Madeleine Milburn Literary Agency, Emma Bal; and cultural historian, author, and founder of the Free Books Campaign, Sofia Akel. The winner and runners-up will be selected by the judges from the shortlisted entries.

The longlist (in alphabetical order by surname):

- *Echoes of Tradition* by Pamela Aculey
- *Filling in the Blanks* by Antonia Antrobus-Higgins
- *When Will We Talk About Islamophobia?* by Imran Awan
- *It's in Our Blood* by Sabrina Bowen
- *There's Blood in the Books* by Cherelle Findley
- *I Spit on Honour* by Sara Hussain
- *The Ties that Bind* by Yin F Lim
- *Sunana* by Zahrah Nesbitt-Ahmed
- *Of Monsoons and Migrations* by Rukiya Shanthi
- *Tokyo Boys* by Rajan Sharma



NEWS OF BOOKS AND AUTHORS

The shortlist announcement will take place on 4th September 2025, and the winner will be announced at the prize ceremony on 2nd October 2025.

The winner will receive £2,500 prize money, plus a follow-up online mentoring session with a Trapeze editor, an introductory meeting with a literary agent, and a hamper of Trapeze books. The winner's entry will also be taken forward to the acquisitions meeting and considered for publication.

One runner up will receive £1,500 prize money, plus a mentoring session with a Trapeze editor and a hamper of books. A second runner up will receive £750 prize money, as well as a hamper of books.

To find out more about The Future Bookshelf and their other initiatives, please follow this link: <https://www.thefuturebookshelf.co.uk/landing-page/the-future-bookshelf/the-future-bookshelf-opportunities/the-mo-siewcharran-prize/>

Notes to Editors

The Orion Publishing Group

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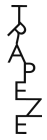
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Founded in 1991, the Orion Publishing Group today publishes under nine main imprints: **Gollancz**, the UK's No1 science fiction and fantasy imprint; **Laurence King Publishing**, one of the world's leading publishers of creative illustrated books, gifts and games; **Orion Fiction**, a heartland for brilliant commercial fiction; **Orion Ignite**, for books that expand your thinking and transform your life; **Orion Spring**, home of wellbeing and health titles written by passionate celebrities and world-renowned experts; **Seven Dials**, for the very best commercial non-fiction, beautifully designed and produced; **Trapeze** for commercial fiction and non-fiction books that start conversations; **Phoenix**, a bespoke imprint publishing fiction and memoir that combine literary merit and commercial potential; and **Weidenfeld & Nicolson**, one of the most prestigious and dynamic literary imprints in British and international publishing; and **White Rabbit**, dedicated to publishing the most innovative books and voices in music and literature

The Orion Publishing Group is part of Hachette UK which is a leading UK trade publishing group.

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Our mission at Hachette UK is to make it easy for everyone to discover new worlds of ideas, learning, entertainment and opportunity.



NEWS OF BOOKS AND AUTHORS

We are the UK's second largest publishing group with 10 autonomous divisions and over 50 imprints with a rich and diverse history. We are the market leader in e-books and publish a range of bestsellers in audio format, the fastest growing part of our business.

We publish thousands of new books across the group every year and our authors include Rebecca Yarros, Stephen King, Alice Oseman, John Grisham, Adam Kay, Val McDermid, David Nicholls, J.K. Rowling, Ian Rankin, and Malala Yousafzai.

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We have eight offices around the UK, including our headquarters in London and the Hely Hutchinson Centre (HHC) for distribution in Didcot. We have subsidiaries in several other regions, including Australia, India, Ireland, Jamaica and New Zealand.