

NONINO Prize

The jury presided by the Nobel Laureate Naipaul has chosen two intellectuals that support religious tolerance and free thinking.

By FABIANA DALLA VALLE

The Albanian poet Ismail Kadare, the philosopher Giorgio Agamben and the P(our) project are respectively the winners of the International Nonino Prize, the “Master of our time” and the “Nonino Risit d’Aur – Gold vine shoot” of the forty-third edition of the Nonino, born in 1975 to give value to the rural civilization. The jury presided by V.S. Naipaul, Nobel Laureate in Literature 2001, and composed by Adonis, John Banville, Ulderico Bernardi, Peter Brook, Luca Cendali, Antonio R. Damasio, Emmanuel Le Roy Ladurie, James Lovelock, Claudio Magris, Norman Manea, Edgar Morin and Ermanno Olmi, has awarded the prestigious acknowledgements of the 2018 edition.

Ismail Kadare, poet, novelist, essay writer and script writer born in Albania (he left his country as a protest against the communist regime which did not take any steps to allow the democratization of the country ndr.), for the prestigious jury of the Nonino is a «Bard fond and critical of his country, between historical realities and legends, which evoke grandeur and tragedies of the Balkan and Ottoman past and has created great narrations. An exile in Paris for more than twenty years “not to offer his services to tyranny”, he has refused the silence which is the evil’s half, often immersing his narration in imaginary worlds, becoming the witness of the horrors committed by totalitarianism and its inquisitors. He has made religious tolerance one of the foundations of his work».

Born in 1936 in Gjirokastër, after a debut in the field of poetry that won him wide acknowledgements, he gained international reputation with a narrative production in which, catching the deepest aspirations of his people, he elaborated historical and legendary motives of his country into broad representations. More than once a candidate for the Nobel Prize, in 2005 he was awarded the Man Booker International Prize for a “body of works written by a writer who has really had a global impact”. He also received the Prince of Asturias Prize in 2009, in Spain, and in 2015 he won the Jerusalem Prize for the Freedom of the Individuals in Society. He lives in Paris. The publishing company La Nave di Teseo, in an agreement with the agent Andrew Wylie, has purchased the rights for the translation of Ismail Kadare’s latest work, as well as of his catalogue, with the commitment of re-translating it starting from the writer’s original language, Albanian. His short story: “The provocation” will be published at the end of January.

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Giorgio Agamben, the author of **Stanzas: Word and Phantasm in Western Culture** (Einaudi 1977), appointed in 2003 *Distinguished professor* at the New York University; he left the position as a protest against the control devices imposed to foreign citizens by the American Government (finger prints; booking).

Translated in many countries, in 2012 he was awarded the Honorary Degree in theology at the university of Freiburg, where he delivered the speech “Mysterium iniquitatis” later published in a volume with the title “The mystery of evil” (Laterza 2013). The motivation of the prize quotes: “His inquiries, always in search of sources, range from language to metaphysics and from aesthetics to ethics. He defines himself as a follower, given his intense experiences with the flowering of free thinking; he builds on the example of Michel Foucault and of his ideas —he intuits a biopolitic and creates the concept of *Homo Sacer*, a human being whose life is sacred, meaning that it can be killed but not sacrificed; he traces an evolution, from an ancient man that “could” to a modern man that “wants”, and asserts himself above both human and divine laws, opening the way to an age of holocausts. To become visible, societies must struggle between two opposing principles: that of legal rights and that of anomie. Agamben often translates his philosophy into a pure poetry immersed in nature; listen to his own admirable description from his latest book, “Self-portrait in the studio”: “The grass is God. In the grass—in God—I can find all those whom I have loved. For the grass and in the grass and like the grass I have lived and will continue living”. The awarding ceremony will take place on Saturday 27th January at the Nonino distilleries in Ronchi di Percoto.

Above, Claudio Magris on the stage of the Nonino prize, while he is announcing the name of the winners on behalf of the jury presided by the Nobel Laureate Naipaul; here on the left Giorgio Agamben, the winner of the section “Master of our time” for the 2018 edition.

THE RISIT D’AUR TO P(OUR)

Seven young bartenders researching purity

The 7 bartenders of P(our). They have won the Risit

PERCOTO

The Risit d’Aur – Gold Vine Shoot acknowledges once more who looks at the land with respect and is determined, by means of innovation and research, to promote sustainability and growth, in order to hand them down to the new generations. P(our) is in fact an international charity project established in 2016 by Alex Kratena, Ryan Chetiyawardana, Jim Meehan, Simone Caporale, Monica Berg, Joerg Meyer and Xavier Padovani, seven young bartenders who have undertaken the difficult enterprise of relaunching the founding values of each society, the same that are at the basis of the Nonino prize. Their aim is creating a global community of bartenders, barmen, sommeliers, brewers, distillers and wine makers that can stimulate and reinvent through new ideas, knowledge, inspirations,

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experiences and values. The motivation of the prize quotes: “In the name, the union of OUR and PURE, there is the mission of the group, who researches the “purity” of the product, uncontaminated, and of “our” meant as a past shared in every corner of the world. Three are the indispensable paradigms of P(our): knowledge, sustainability and growth. Their most significant project is Pour Amazon meant to save the Aji Negro, a fermented sauce made with bitter manioc which is the result of a thousand year old culture and is prepared by the indigenous populations of the Amazonian rain forest. Explorers of the past, immersed in the present and projected into the future, every year they organize the *Symposium*, an international meeting where to face and study in depth the fundamental themes of the society, such as the matter of the Gender in the sector of the bartender community. With the project of the ajè sauce, P(our) means to guarantee the Bora community that lives in the village of Pucuarquillo (in the Loreto region of Peru) an economic support that can allow them to live better. The sale and trade of this sauce will give a strong support to the forty-four families of this village. The entire project is financed by P(our) and it is coordinated by “Dispensa Amazonica”, a local trusted benefit organization that will follow the various stages of the project and will supply formation support. (fa.da)

Kadare’s poetry against totalitarianisms, and Agamben’s ethics

The Albanian writer has fiercely opposed tyranny

The philosopher has theorized the sacredness of the contemporary man

Kadare’s poetry against totalitarianisms

The poet Ismail Kadare

The Albanian poet Ismail Kadare, the philosopher Giorgio Agamben and the P(our) project are the acknowledgements of the Nonino Prize 2018

The awarding ceremony on 27th in Percoto

The jury of the Nonino, presided by V.S. Naipaul, Nobel Laureate in Literature 2001, is composed by Adonis, John Banville, Ulderico Bernardi, Peter Brook, Luca Cendali, Antonio R. Damasio, Emmanuel Le Roy Ladurie, James Lovelock, Claudio Magris, Norman Manea, Edgar Morin and Ermanno Olmi.

The delivery of the prizes will take place at the Nonino Distilleries in Ronchi di Percoto, on Saturday 27th January 2018 at 11.00.

This is the program:

Meeting at the distillery and welcome Nonino aperitif. The family will distil for the guests Grappa Nonino Monovitigno “Ribolla Gialla” Cru Nonino Vineyard, Buttrio – Friuli.

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The awarding ceremony of the Nonino Prizes Forty-third edition will follow; the lunch in the distillery and the final toast.