

# National Book Critics Circle Awards

Every year, the National Book Critics Circle presents awards for the finest books published in English. Below are the past winners and finalists for all National Book Critics Circle annual awards, from 1975 to present.

## Fiction

2009 Hilary Mantel	<i>Wolf Hall</i>
2008 Roberto Bolaño	<i>2666</i>
2007 Junot Diaz	<i>The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao</i>
2006 Kiran Desai	<i>The Inheritance of Loss</i>
2005 E.L. Doctorow	<i>The March</i>
2004 Marilynne Robinson	<i>Gilead</i>
2003 Edward P. Jones	<i>The Known World</i>
2002 Ian McEwan	<i>Atonement</i>
2001 W.G. Sebald	<i>Austerlitz</i>
2000 Jim Crace	<i>Being Dead</i>
1999 Jonathan Lethem	<i>Motherless Brooklyn</i>
1998 Alice Munro	<i>The Love of a Good Woman</i>
1997 Penelope Fitzgerald	<i>The Blue Flower</i>
1996 Gina Berriault	<i>Women in Their Beds</i>
1995 Stanley Elkin	<i>Mrs. Ted Bliss</i>
1994 Carol Shields	<i>The Stone Diaries</i>
1993 Ernest J. Gaines	<i>A Lesson Before Dying</i>
1992 Cormac McCarthy	<i>All the Pretty Horses</i>
1991 Jane Smiley	<i>A Thousand Acres</i>
1990 John Updike	<i>Rabbit at Rest</i>
1989 E.L. Doctorow	<i>Billy Bathgate</i>
1988 Bharati Mukherjee	<i>The Middleman and Other Stories</i>
1987 Philip Roth	<i>The Counterlife</i>
1986 Reynolds Price	<i>Kate Vaiden</i>
1985 Anne Tyler	<i>The Accidental Tourist</i>
1984 Louise Erdrich	<i>Love Medicine</i>
1983 William Kennedy	<i>Ironweed</i>
1982 Stanley Elkin	<i>George Mills</i>
1981 John Updike	<i>Rabbit Is Rich</i>
1980 Shirley Hazzard	<i>The Transit of Venus</i>

1979 Thomas Flanagan *The Year of the French*  
 1978 John Cheever *The Stories of John Cheever*  
 1977 Toni Morrison *Song of Solomon*  
 1976 John Gardner *October Light*  
 1975 E.L. Doctorow *Ragtime*

## General nonfiction

2009 Richard Holmes *The Age of Wonder: How the Romantic Generation Discovered the Beauty and Terror of Science*  
 2008 Dexter Filkins *The Forever War*  
 2007 Harriet A. Washington *Medical Apartheid: The Dark History of Medical Experimentation on Black Americans From Colonial Times to the Present*  
 2006 Simon Schama *Rough Crossings: Britain, the Slaves and the American Revolution*  
 2005 Svetlana Alexievich *Voices from Chernobyl: The Oral History of a Nuclear Disaster*  
 2004 Diarmaid MacCulloch *The Reformation: A History*  
 2003 Paul Hendrickson *Sons of Mississippi*  
 2002 Samantha Power *A Problem from Hell: America and the Age of Genocide*  
 2001 Nicholson Baker *Double Fold: Libraries and the Assault on Paper*  
 2000 Ted Conover *Newjack: Guarding Sing Sing*  
 1999 Jonathan Weiner *Time, Love, Memory: A Great Biologist and His Quest for the Origins of Behavior*  
 1998 Philip Gourevitch *We Wish to Inform You That Tomorrow We Will Be Killed With Our Families*  
 1997 Anne Fadiman *The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down*  
 1996 Jonathan Raban *Bad Land: An American Romance*  
 1995 Jonathan Harr *A Civil Action*  
 1994 Lynn H. Nicholas *The Rape of Europa: The Fate of Europe's Treasures in the Third Reich and the Second World War*  
 1993 Alan Lomax *The Land Where the Blues Began*  
 1992 Norman Maclean *Young Men and Fire*  
 1991 Susan Faludi *Backlash: The Undeclared War Against American Women*  
 1990 Shelby Steele *The Content of Our Character: A New Vision of Race in America*  
 1989 Michael Dorris *The Broken Cord*  
 1988 Taylor Branch *Parting the Waters: America in the King Years, 1954–63,*  
 1987 Richard Rhodes *The Making of the Atomic Bomb*  
 1986 John W. Dower *War Without Mercy: Race and Power in the Pacific War*  
 1985 J. Anthony Lukas *Common Ground: A Turbulent Decade in the Lives of Three American*

### *Families*

- 1984 Freeman Dyson *Weapons and Hope*
- 1983 Seymour M. Hersh *The Price of Power: Kissinger in the Nixon White House*
- 1982 Robert Caro *The Path to Power: The Years of Lyndon Johnson*
- 1981 Stephen Jay Gould *The Mismeasure of Man*
- 1980 Ronald Steel *Walter Lippmann and the American Century*
- 1979 Telford Taylor *Munich: The Price of Peace*
- 1978 Maureen Howard *Facts of Life*
- 1977 Walter Jackson Bate *Samuel Johnson*
- 1976 Maxine Hong Kingston *The Woman Warrior: Memoirs of a Girlhood among Ghosts* (1976 Winner)
- 1976 Alex Haley *Roots* (1976 Finalist)
- 1975 R. W. B. Lewis *Edith Wharton: A Biography*

## Memoir/Autobiography

- 2009 Diana Athill *Somewhere Towards the End*
- 2008 Ariel Sabar *My Father's Paradise: A Son's Search for His Jewish Past in Kurdish Iraq*
- 2007 Edwidge Danticat *Brother, I'm Dying*
- 2006 Daniel Mendelsohn *The Lost: A Search for Six of Six Million*
- 2005 Francine du Plessix Gray *Them: A Memoir of Parents*

## Biography

- 2009 Blake Bailey *Cheever: A Life*
- 2008 Patrick French *The World is What it is: The Authorized Biography of V.S. Naipaul*
- 2007 Tim Jeal *Stanley: The Impossible Life of Africa's Greatest Explorer*
- 2006 Julie Phillips *James Tiptree, Jr.: The Double Life of Alice B. Sheldon*
- 2005 Kai Bird and Martin J. Sherwin *American Prometheus: The Triumph and Tragedy of J. Robert Oppenheimer*

## Biography/Autobiography (discontinued)

- 2004 Mark Stevens and Annalyn Swan *De Kooning: An American Master*
- 2003 William Taubman *Khrushchev: The Man and His Era*

2002 Janet Browne	<i>Charles Darwin: The Power of Place, Vol. II</i>
2001 Adam Sisman	<i>Boswell's Presumptuous Task: The Making of the Life of Dr. Johnson</i>
2000 Herbert P. Bix	<i>Hirohito and the Making of Modern Japan</i>
1999 Henry Wiencek	<i>The Hairstons: An American Family in Black and White</i>
1998 Sylvia Nasar	<i>A Beautiful Mind</i>
1997 James Tobin	<i>Ernie Pyle's War: America's Eyewitness to World War II</i>
1996 Frank McCourt	<i>Angela's Ashes</i>
1995 Robert Polito	<i>Savage Art: A Biography of Jim Thompson</i>
1994 Mikal Gilmore	<i>Shot in the Heart</i>
1993 Edmund White	<i>Genet</i>
1992 Carol Brightman	<i>Writing Dangerously: Mary McCarthy and Her World</i>
1991 Philip Roth	<i>Patrimony: A True Story</i>
1990 Robert A. Caro	<i>Means of Ascent: The Years of Lyndon Johnson, Vol. II</i>
1989 Geoffrey C. Ward	<i>A First-Class Temperament: The Emergence of Franklin Roosevelt</i>
1988 Richard Ellmann	<i>Oscar Wilde</i>
1987 Donald R. Howard	<i>Chaucer: His Life, His Works, His World</i>
1986 Theodore Rosengarten	<i>Tombee: Portrait of a Cotton Planter</i>
1985 Leon Edel	<i>Henry James: A Life</i>
1984 Joseph Frank	<i>Dostoevsky: The Years of Ordeal, 1850–1859</i>
1983 Joyce Johnson	<i>Minor Characters</i>