

COSTA BOOK AWARDS 2012 SHORTLISTS ANNOUNCED

- *For the first time, shortlists feature two graphic works: Joff Winterhart for Days of the Bagnold Summer in the Novel category and Mary and Bryan Talbot in the Biography category for the graphic memoir, Dotter of her Father's Eyes*
- *James Meek, Stephen May and Joff Winterhart pitted against 2012 Man Booker Prize winner Hilary Mantel in the Novel category*
- *Debut poet Sean Borodale shortlisted alongside award-winning poets Julia Copus, Selima Hill and Kathleen Jamie in the Poetry category*
- *First Novel category features author of the Good Zoo Guide and a former singer-songwriter*
- *Debut children's writer and illustrator Dave Shelton shortlisted alongside former Whitbread Children's Novel Award winner Diana Hendry, former set and costume designer and dyslexia campaigner Sally Gardner, and popular teen fiction writer, Hayley Long*

19.30pm, Tuesday 20th November, London: Costa today announces the shortlists for the **2012 Costa Book Awards**.

The Costa Book Awards recognise the most enjoyable books in five categories – First Novel, Novel, Biography, Poetry and Children's Book - published in the last year by writers based in the UK and Ireland.

Originally established in 1971 by Whitbread Plc, Costa announced its takeover of the sponsorship of the UK's most prestigious book prize in 2006. 2012 marks the 41st year of the Book Awards.

This year's Costa Book Awards attracted 550 entries. Judges on this year's panels (three per category) included author and comedian Mark Watson; authors Wendy Holden, Marcus Sedgwick and Matt Whyman; actress and broadcaster Janet Ellis; novelist and Editor-in-Chief of Red Magazine, Sam Baker; poet Daljit Nagra and novelist and biographer, DJ Taylor.

Winners in the five categories, who each receive £5,000, will be announced on Wednesday 2nd January 2013. The overall winner of the Costa Book of the Year 2012 will receive £30,000 and will be selected and announced at the Costa Book Awards ceremony in central London on Tuesday 29th January 2013.

The winner of the inaugural Costa Short Story Award, voted for by the public, will also be announced at the ceremony. The shortlisted six stories for the Costa Short Story Award will be revealed on the Costa Book Awards website, www.costabookawards.com, on Tuesday 27th November.

Since the introduction of the Book of the Year award in 1985, it has been won ten times by a novel, four times by a first novel, five times by a biography, seven times by a collection of poetry and once by a children's book. The 2011 Costa Book of the Year was *Pure* by novelist Andrew Miller.

To be eligible for the 2012 Costa Book Awards, books must have been first published in the UK or Ireland between 1 November 2011 and 31 October 2012.

Full details of the shortlists follow.

For additional information please visit www.costabookawards.com.

For further press information, to request an interview with an author or book jacket or author images, please contact:

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COSTA BOOK AWARDS 2012 SHORTLISTS

2012 Costa Novel Award shortlist

Hilary Mantel	Bring up the Bodies	Fourth Estate
Stephen May	Life! Death! Prizes!	Bloomsbury
James Meek	The Heart Broke In	Canongate
Joff Winterhart	Days of the Bagnold Summer	Jonathan Cape

2012 Costa First Novel Award shortlist

J W Ironmonger	The Notable Brain of Maximilian Ponder	Weidenfeld & Nicolson
Jess Richards	Snake Ropes	Sceptre
Francesca Segal	The Innocents	Chatto & Windus
Benjamin Wood	The Bellwether Revivals	Simon & Schuster

2012 Costa Biography Award shortlist

Artemis Cooper	Patrick Leigh-Fermor: An Adventure	John Murray
	The Crocodile by the Door: The Story of a House, a Penguin Ireland	
Selina Guinness	Farm and a Family	
Kate Hubbard	Serving Victoria: Life in the Royal Household	Chatto & Windus
Mary Talbot and Bryan Talbot	Dotter of Her Father's Eyes	Jonathan Cape

2012 Costa Poetry Award shortlist

Sean Borodale	Bee Journal	Jonathan Cape
Julia Copus	The World's Two Smallest Humans	Faber and Faber
Selima Hill	People Who Like Meatballs	Bloodaxe Books
Kathleen Jamie	The Overhaul	Picador

2012 Costa Children's Book Award shortlist

Sally Gardner	Maggot Moon	Hot Key Books
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Diana Hendry	The Seeing	The Bodley Head
Hayley Long	What's Up with Jody Barton?	Macmillan Children's Books
Dave Shelton	A Boy and a Bear in a Boat	David Fickling Books

Shortlist for the 2012 Costa Novel Award (159 entries)

Judges

Sam Baker	<i>Novelist and Editor-in-Chief, Red Magazine</i>
Toby Clements	<i>Book Reviewer and Author</i>
Wendy Holden	<i>Author</i>

Bring up the Bodies by Hilary Mantel (*Fourth Estate*)

The year is 1535 and Thomas Cromwell, Chief Minister to Henry VIII, must work both to please the king and keep the nation safe. Anne Boleyn, for whose sake Henry has broken with Rome and created his own church, has failed to do what she promised: bear a son to secure the Tudor line. As Henry develops a dangerous attraction to Wolf Hall's Jane Seymour, Thomas must negotiate a 'truth' that will satisfy Henry and secure his own career. But neither minister nor king will emerge undamaged from the bloody theatre of Anne's final days.

Hilary Mantel CBE was born in Derbyshire, England on 6 July 1952. She studied Law at the London School of Economics and Sheffield University. Her books include *A Place of Greater Safety* (1992), *Beyond Black* (2005), and *Wolf Hall* (2009), winner of the Man Booker Prize. *Bring up the Bodies* won the 2012 Man Booker Prize. In 2006 she was awarded a CBE.

Judges: "Enthralling, absorbing, powerful and brilliantly executed."

Life! Death! Prizes! by Stephen May (*Bloomsbury*)

Billy's Mum is dead. He knows – because he reads about them in magazines – that people die every day in ways that are more random and tragic and stupid than hers, but for nineteen-year-old Billy and his little brother, Oscar, their mother's death in a bungled street robbery is the most random and tragic and stupid thing that could possibly have happened to them. Now Billy must be both mother and father to Oscar, and despite what his well-meaning aunt, his brother's headmistress, the PTA mothers, the social services and Oscar's own prodigal father all think, he knows he is more than up to the job, thank you very much.

Stephen May's first novel *Tag* was published by a small Welsh press and won the Reader's Choice Award at the 2009 Welsh Book of the Year. Originally from Bedford, he now lives and works in West Yorkshire.

Judges: "A moving, darkly funny portrayal of two brothers' relationship – a very modern look at real life, death - and prizes."

The Heart Broke In by James Meek (*Canongate*)

Bec Shepherd is a malaria researcher struggling to lead a good life. Ritchie, her reprobate brother, is a rock-star-turned-TV-producer. When Bec refuses an offer of marriage from a powerful newspaper editor and Ritchie's indiscretions catch up with him, brother and sister are forced to choose between loyalty and betrayal.

James Meek was born in London in 1962 and grew up in Dundee. He is the author of two other novels and two collections of short stories; his novel *The People's Act of Love* (2005) won the Royal Society of Literature Ondaatje Prize and has been published in more than thirty countries. His journalism has won a number of British and international awards, including Foreign Correspondent of the Year at the British Press Awards. He lives in London.

Judges: "An engrossing novel structured around grand, eternal themes but pin-sharp and peopled with characters you wish you knew."

Days of the Bagnold Summer by Joff Winterhart (*Jonathan Cape*)

Joff Winterhart's *Days of the Bagnold Summer* perfectly captures the ennui, the tension, the pathos and the affection of this mother-son relationship. A sublimely funny and perceptive graphic novel, *Days of*

the Bagnold is about Sue, 52 who works in a library and her son Daniel, 15, still at school. This was the summer holidays Daniel was due to spend with his father and his father's pregnant new wife in Florida. When they cancel his trip, Sue and Daniel face six long weeks together.

Joff Winterhart is an illustrator, film-maker and plays drums in his band, Bucky. He lives in Bristol, where he walks his greyhound, Peep-Peep.

Judges: "Funny, sad, touching, original – everyone should read this book."

Shortlist for the 2012 Costa First Novel Award (88 entries)

Judges

Janet Ellis
Alison Flood
Mark Watson

Actress and Broadcaster
Books Journalist
Author and Comedian

The Notable Brain of Maximilian Ponder by JW Ironmonger (*Weidenfeld & Nicolson*)

Maximilian Ponder has shut himself away for thirty years in an attempt to record every memory he ever had. Now he lies dead, surrounded by his magnum opus - The Catalogue - an exhaustive set of notebooks and journals that he hopes will form the map of one human mind. But before his friend Adam Last can call the police and inform them of Max's death, one rather gruesome task remains in order for Max's project to be complete...

J W Ironmonger was born and grew up in East Africa. He has a doctorate in Zoology, and was once an expert on freshwater leeches. He is the author of *The Good Zoo Guide*, was part of a world record team for speed-reading Shakespeare, and once drove across the Sahara in a £100 banger. *The Notable Brain of Maximilian Ponder* was shortlisted for the *Guardian's* Not the Booker Prize. He lives in rural Shropshire with his wife, Sue, and has two grown-up children.

Judges: "Written with gusto - a daring, quirky tale."

Snake Ropes by Jess Richards (*Sceptre*)

On an island off the top of the map, boys are disappearing...When Mary's little brother Barney also vanishes, she blames the tall men who come from the mainland once a month to trade food for the elaborate embroideries the women make and the fish the men catch. Her desperate search for Barney leads her to uncover many truths about the island, her family and what happened in the year she's forgotten.

Jess Richards was born in Wales in 1972, and grew up too fast in south-west Scotland where she lived with her English parents and three brothers, watching the ferry boats going to and from Northern Ireland. She left home at 17, went to England, and lived for a year in Carlisle, before moving to Devon. She gained a first-class degree from Dartington College of Arts when she was 21, then after brief stints busking and carrying on in both Leeds and London, she moved to Brighton aged 23, where she has grown up a bit more slowly and has lived and worked ever since.

Judges: "Hypnotic, original and vivid."

The Innocents by Francesca Segal (*Chatto & Windus*)

Adam and Rachel, childhood sweethearts, are getting married at last. Rachel is everything Adam has ever imagined in a wife and her parents adore him. A life of easy contentment awaits, at the heart of the community. But then Rachel's reckless American cousin returns to the family fold. Ellie represents everything that Adam has striven to avoid – and everything that is missing from his world. As the long-awaited wedding approaches, Adam is torn between duty and temptation, security and freedom, and must make a choice that will break either one heart, or many.

The daughter of a novelist and an editor, **Francesca Segal** was born in London in 1980. Brought up in the UK and America, she studied at Oxford and Harvard universities before becoming a journalist and critic. Her work has appeared in *Granta*, the *Guardian* and *Daily Telegraph* amongst others. For three years she wrote the Debut Fiction column in the *Observer* and she has been a features writer for *Tatler*.

Judges: "Confident, warmly humorous and insightful."

The Bellwether Revivals by Benjamin Wood (*Simon & Schuster*)

Bright, bookish Oscar Lowe has escaped the urban estate where he was raised and made a new life for himself amid the colleges and spires of Cambridge. He has grown to love the quiet routine of his life as

a care assistant at a local nursing home, where he has forged a close friendship with the home's most ill-tempered resident, Dr. Paulsen. But when he meets and falls in love with Iris Bellwether, a beautiful and enigmatic medical student at King's College, Oscar is drawn into her world of scholarship and privilege, and soon becomes embroiled in the strange machinations of her brilliant but troubled brother, Eden, who believes he can adapt the theories of a forgotten Baroque composer to heal people with music.

Benjamin Wood was born in 1981 and grew up in his parents' residential care home in north-west England. He left sixth form college aged 17 to pursue a career in music as a singer-songwriter, and three years later attended the University of Central Lancashire achieving a first-class degree in screenwriting. In 2004, he was awarded a Commonwealth Scholarship to attend the MFA Creative Writing Programme at the University of British Columbia, Canada, where he was also Fiction Editor of the Canadian literary journal *PRISM International*. Benjamin is now a lecturer in Creative Writing at Birkbeck, University of London.

Judges: "Atmospheric, compelling and hard to put down."

Shortlist for the 2012 Costa Biography Award (101 entries)

Judges

Valerie Grove
Ron Johns
DJ Taylor

Journalist and Biographer
Managing Director, Mabecron Books
Novelist and Biographer

Patrick Leigh-Fermor: An Adventure by Artemis Cooper (John Murray)

Patrick Leigh-Fermor's enviably colourful life took off when, in 1934 at the age of eighteen, he decided to walk across Europe. In just over a year he had walked through nine countries, taught himself three languages, and his enthusiasm and curiosity for every kind of experience made him equally happy in caves or country houses, among shepherds or countesses. In his books, which took many years to write, he created a vision of a pre-war Europe which, in its beauty and abundance, has never been equalled.

Artemis Cooper is the author of *Cairo in the War, 1939-1945* and *Writing at the Kitchen Table*, the authorized biography of Elizabeth David. With her husband Antony Beevor she wrote *Paris After the Liberation, 1945-1949*. She has edited two collections of letters and *Words of Mercury*, a collection of pieces by Patrick Leigh-Fermor.

Judges: "A compelling and entertaining account of the life of one of the great writer-travellers of our age."

The Crocodile by the Door: The story of a house, a farm and a family by Selina Guinness (Penguin Ireland)

Tibradden is a farmhouse in the Dublin mountains, where the city meets the country - or, where housing estates and golf courses encroach on lands grazed by sheep and cattle. When Selina Guinness and her partner Colin, both young academics, moved in with Selina's elderly uncle, they had no idea what the coming years held for them: a crash course in farming, tense discussions with helicopter-borne property developers, human tragedy, and the challenge of dragging a quasi-feudal estate into the twenty-first century.

Selina Guinness lectures in Irish literature at Dun Laoghaire Institute of Art, Design and Technology and edited *The New Irish Poets*, an anthology. *The Crocodile by the Door* is her first book. She lives at Tibradden with her husband, their children, and a lot of sheep.

Judges: "A completely engaging story of a young woman whose life is turned upside down when she inherits a crumbling old house in Ireland."

Serving Victoria: Life in the Royal Household by Kate Hubbard (Chatto & Windus)

During the sixty-odd years of her reign Queen Victoria gathered around her a household dedicated to her service. For some, royal service was the defining experience of their lives, for others it came as an unwelcome duty, or a prelude to greater things. *Serving Victoria* follows the lives of six members of her household from the governess to the royal children, to her maid-of-honour, chaplain and personal physician.

After leaving Oxford University **Kate Hubbard** worked variously as a researcher, a teacher, a book reviewer and a publisher's reader. She currently works as a freelance editor. Her first book, *A Material Girl: Bess of Hardwick 1527-1608*, was published in 2001, and her most recent book, *Rubies in the Snow*, is the fictionalised diary of Anastasia Romanov, youngest daughter of Russia's last Tsar. Kate divides her time between London and Dorset.

Judges: "A sparkling new version of Queen Victoria through the perceptive eyes of the ladies and gentlemen who waited on her."

Dotter of her Father's Eyes by Mary M Talbot and Bryan Talbot (*Jonathan Cape*)

Part personal history, part biography, *Dotter of her Father's Eyes* contrasts two coming-of-age narratives: that of Lucia, the daughter of James Joyce, and that of author Mary Talbot, daughter of the eminent Joycean scholar James S. Atherton. Social expectations and gender politics, thwarted ambitions and personal tragedy are played out against two contrasting historical backgrounds, poignantly evoked by the atmospheric visual storytelling of award-winning comic artist and graphic-novel pioneer, Bryan Talbot.

Mary Talbot is an internationally-acclaimed scholar who has published widely on language, gender and power, though she continues to be best known for her critical investigation of the 'synthetic sisterhood' offered by teen magazines. Dr Talbot has worked in higher education for over twenty-five years and *Dotter of Her Father's Eyes* is the first work she has undertaken in the graphic novel format. She is currently scripting a historical graphic novel. **Bryan Talbot** has worked on underground comics, science fiction and superhero stories such as *Judge Dredd* and *Batman: Legends of the Dark Knight*, and has written and drawn several Eisner Award-winning graphic novels. In 2009 he was awarded a Doctorate in Arts. He is currently drawing *Grandville Bête Noire*, the third volume in his series of steampunk detective thrillers.

Judges: "A strikingly original graphic memoir which links two lives in a highly imaginative way."

Shortlist for the 2012 Costa Poetry Award (83 entries)

Judges

Ted Hodgkinson

Online Editor, Granta

Daljit Nagra

Poet

Susan Sinclair

Divisional Manager, Foyles

Bee Journal by Sean Borodale (*Jonathan Cape*)

A poem-journal of beekeeping, *Bee Journal* chronicles the life of the hive, from the collection of a small nucleus on the first day to the capture of a swarm two years later. It observes the living architecture of the comb, the range and locality of the colony; its flights, flowers, water sources, parasites, lives and deaths.

Sean Borodale works as a poet and artist, making scriptive and documentary poems written on location; this derives from his process of writing and walking for works such as *Notes for an Atlas* (Isinglass 2003) and *Walking to Paradise* (1999). *Bee Journal* is his first collection of poetry. He lives in Somerset.

Judges: "A gripping glimpse into a world of obsession."

The World's Two Smallest Humans by Julia Copus (*Faber and Faber*)

These finely-tuned poems are the fruit of Julia Copus' upbringing in a musical family, an affinity with the Classics, a fascination with the arc of time, and an unflinching scrutiny of love and personal relationships. Born out of a powerful sense of place, the poems navigate through a beguiling sequence of interior and exterior landscapes, whether revisiting Ovid, negotiating the perils of one composer's attempt to step into the shoes of another or describing a young girl's escape from suburban ennui. The book concludes with a moving arrangement of pieces that explore the author's experience of IVF: poems written with wry humour and with grace, which celebrate the mysteries of conception alongside the often surreal business of medical intervention.

Julia Copus was born in London and now lives in Somerset. Her two previous collections, *The Shattered Eye* and *In Defence of Adultery*, were both Poetry Book Society Recommendations. She has won First Prize in the National Poetry Competition and the Forward Prize for Best Single Poem (2010). She also writes for radio and, in 2011, her sequence of poems about IVF, *Ghost*, was adapted as a BBC Radio 3 play entitled *Ghost Lines*. She is a Lector for the Royal Literary Fund, and in 2008 was made an Honorary Fellow at the University of Exeter.

Judges: "A lyrical and majestic collection that tells a very personal story."

People Who Like Meatballs by Selima Hill (*Bloodaxe Books*)

People Who Like Meatballs brings together two contrasting poem sequences about rejection. The title-sequence in the collection is about a man's humiliation by a woman. *Into My Mother's Snow-Encrusted Lap* is about a dysfunctional mother-child relationship. Like all of Selima Hill's work, both sequences in *People Who Like Meatballs* chart 'extreme experience with a dazzling excess' (Deryn Rees-Jones), with startling humour and surprising combinations of homely and outlandish.

Selima Hill grew up in a family of painters on farms in England and Wales and has lived in Dorset for the past 30 years. She won first prize in the Arvon/Observer International Poetry Competition with part of *The Accumulation of Small Acts of Kindness* (1989), and her collection, *Violet*, was shortlisted for all three of the UK's major poetry prizes. As a tutor, Selima has worked in prisons, hospitals and monasteries and she has also worked on several collaborations with artists. Selima was given a Cholmondeley Award in 1996. *People Who Like Meatballs* is shortlisted for the 2012 Forward Poetry Prize.

Judges: "A wildly funny and irreverent take on modern life."

The Overhaul by Kathleen Jamie (*Picador*)

The Overhaul is Kathleen Jamie's first collection since the award-winning *The Tree House*, and it broadens her poetic range considerably. *The Overhaul* continues Jamie's lyric enquiry into the aspects of the world our rushing lives elide, and even threaten. Whether she is addressing birds or rivers, or the need to accept loss, or sometimes, the desire to escape our own lives, her work is earthy and rigorous, her language at once elemental and tender.

Kathleen Jamie was born in the west of Scotland in 1962. Her poetry collection *The Tree House* (*Picador* 2004), won both the Forward Prize and the Scottish Book of the Year Award. *Mr and Mrs Scotland are Dead* was shortlisted for the 2003 International Griffin Prize. Kathleen Jamie's non-fiction books include the highly regarded *Findings* and *Sightlines*. She teaches at Stirling University and lives with her family in Fife.

Judges: "We were beguiled by the wild musicality of this affecting collection."

Shortlist for the 2012 Costa Children's Book Award (119 entries)

Judges

Sarah Clarke

Range Manager, Waterstones

Marcus Sedgwick

Writer

Matt Whyman

Author

Maggot Moon by Sally Gardner (*Hot Key Books*)

Hector and Standish are friends. They live together in Zone Seven where the Motherland can keep them, and others like them, under surveillance. When the friends find out something about the Motherland's plans for a moon landing their lives take on ever more threatening levels of change. And soon Standish finds he really does have to make a stand.

Sally Gardner grew up amongst the drama of London's law courts, as both her parents were lawyers. Having been branded 'unteachable' by some and sent to various schools, she was eventually diagnosed at the age of twelve as being severely dyslexic and is now an avid spokesperson for dyslexia. Sally published her first book in 1993, thus beginning an illustrious career as a writer-illustrator. Her first full-length novel, *I, Coriander* won the Nestlé Children's Book Prize Gold Award in 2005. Sally lives in London.

Judges: "Impressive, skilful and imaginative."

The Seeing by Diana Hendry (*The Bodley Head*)

The setting for *The Seeing* is based on the seaside village where Diana Hendry grew up, and follows three children living in post-war Britain who are convinced the dangers of war are still hanging over them. Philip, the youngest of the three, has a special gift, a 'second-sight' which enables him to spot 'left-over Nazis' living in hiding in their quiet seaside town. Lizzie, egged on by Philip's wild older sister Natalie, gets caught up in what she thinks is an exciting game but soon finds herself feeling uncomfortable as locals are bullied and forced out of their homes. The consequences of Philip's gift lead to a dramatic and devastating climax.

Diana Hendry was born in the Wirral and grew up by the sea. She has published more than forty books for children and teenagers and won a Whitbread Award for *Harvey*. Diana has also written four poetry collections for adults and children. She regularly tutors a group of teenagers at the Arvon Foundation's centre in Moniac Mhor and lives in Edinburgh.

Judges: "We were drawn in by this unsettling and gripping novel."

What's up with Jody Barton? by Hayley Long (*Macmillan Children's Books*)

It's hard enough being one half of the world's least identical twins, without both of you falling for the same guy. Jolene's turned flirting into a fine art, but Jody? Not so much. And as if a twinny love triangle wasn't messy enough . . . there's something nobody knows about Jody Barton. Something BIG.

Hayley Long was born in Ipswich, grew up in the coastal town of Felixstowe and studied English at Aberystwyth University. She spent the next few years travelling and working around Europe then returned to Britain and became a teacher. In 2007, Hayley and her husband moved to Norwich – but before she went, she decided to write a novel for the pupils of Whitchurch High School in Cardiff, where she had been working for the past six years. This novel was *Lottie Biggs is (Not) Mad* and was followed by two more books starring the hilarious Lottie Biggs. *What's up with Jody Barton?* has been shortlisted for the Essex Book Award and Hayley was shortlisted this year for the biannual Queen of Teen awards.

Judges: "A clever book with hidden depths."

A Boy and a Bear in a Boat by Dave Shelton (*David Fickling Books*)

A boy and a bear go to sea, equipped with a suitcase, a comic book and a ukulele. They are only travelling a short distance and it really shouldn't take long. But then their boat encounters 'unforeseeable anomalies'... Faced with turbulent stormy seas, a terrifying sea monster and the rank remains of The Very Last Sandwich, the odds soon become pitted against our unlikely heroes.

Born and raised in Leicester, **Dave Shelton** studied illustration at Cambridge and, later, at Brighton, where he attained his MA in Sequential Illustration. He worked for some years as a jobbing illustrator before creating the comic strip *Good Dog, Bad Dog*, a slapstick comedy canine noir detective series, published in *The DFC*, *The Guardian* and *The Phoenix*. The first book collection of *Good Dog, Bad Dog*, was the winner of the inaugural Leeds Graphic Novel Award in 2010. *A Boy and a Bear in a Boat*, his debut children's novel (which he also illustrated), was longlisted for the 2012 Guardian Children's Fiction Award. Dave lives in Cambridge with Pam, Mila, a badly-named cat and a badly-behaved dog.

Judges: "This enchanting story has the feel of a classic children's tale."

-ENDS-

Notes for Editors:

About the Costa Book Awards:

- The Costa Book Awards, formerly the Whitbread Book Awards, were established in 1971 to encourage, promote and celebrate the best contemporary British writing.
- The total prize fund for the Costa Book Awards stands at £55,000.
- The award winners from the five categories - Novel, First Novel, Biography, Poetry and Children's Book - each receive £5,000.
- The overall Costa Book of the Year is selected from the five category Award winners with the winner receiving a further £30,000.
- The winner will be announced at an awards ceremony in central London on 29th January, 2013.
- To be eligible for the 2012 awards, books must have been first published in the UK or Ireland between 1 November 2011 and 31 October 2012.
- The 2011 Costa Book of the Year was *Pure* by Andrew Miller (Sceptre).

About Costa:

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Costa is the UK's favourite coffee shop having been awarded "**Best Branded Coffee Shop Chain in the UK and Ireland**" by Allegra Strategies for two years running (November 2010 & November 2011).

Winner of "Best Branded Coffee Chain in Europe" Allegra Strategies November 2011

Costa was founded by Italian brothers Sergio and Bruno Costa in 1971.

Costa is the nation's favourite coffee shop brand and has grown to become the sector leader within the UK and the second largest international coffee shop operator. At present the company has more than 2,300 stores across the UK, EMEI and Asia.

Just 1% of the world's production of coffee is good enough for us to choose from. Only the very best 100% RFA certified coffee available can go into creating the unique taste and aroma of our Mocha Italia blend.

Costa is committed to looking after our coffee-growers. That's why we've established The Costa Foundation, a registered charity. The Foundation's aims are to relieve poverty, advance education and

the health and environment of coffee-growing communities around the world. So far, we have funded the building of 22 schools and improved the social and economic welfare of coffee-growing communities in countries such as Colombia, Costa Rica, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Uganda and Vietnam – making a very real difference to thousands of children.