2019 Book Award Submissions

Six titles have been selected as finalists for the 2019 American Library in Paris Book Award:


Diderot and the Art of Thinking Freely. By Andrew S. Curran. Other Press.


Little. By Edward Carey. Riverhead Books (US) / Gallic Books (UK)


The Library’s annual Book Award recognizes the most distinguished book of the year, written and published in English, about France or the French. Eighty-two titles were submitted for consideration by authors, publishers, and others across the English-speaking world. All the submissions for the 2019 Book Award are listed in these pages and are in the Library’s circulating collection, available for checkout by members.

The winning title will be selected by an independent jury, this year consisting of Alice Kaplan, Pamela Druckerman, and Thomas Chatterton Williams and will be announced at an invitation-only ceremony in Paris on Thursday 7 November 2019.

The Book Award is supported by generous funding from the Florence Gould Foundation.

Tania Bayard. In the Shadow of the Enemy (Severn House)

Emilia Bernhard. Death in Paris (Thistle Publishing)


Mark Braude. The Invisible Emperor: Napoleon on Elba from Exile to Escape (Penguin Press)


Simon Burrows. The French Book Trade in Enlightenment Europe II: Enlightenment Bestsellers (Bloomsbury Academic)

Peter Caddick-Adams. Sand and Steel: The D-day Invasion and the Liberation of France (Oxford University Press)

Edward Carey. Little (Riverhead Books (US) / Gallic Books (UK))

Jean-Luc E. Cartron. So Close to Freedom: A World War II Story of Peril and Betrayal in the Pyrenees (Potomac Books)
Rupert Christiansen. City of Light: The Making of Modern Paris (Basic Books)
Tim Clayton. This Dark Business: The Secret War Against Napoleon (Little, Brown)
Andrew S. Curran. Diderot and the Art of Thinking Freely (Other Press)
Mark Curran. The French Book Trade in Enlightenment Europe I: Selling Enlightenment (Bloomsbury Academic)
Tatiana de Rosnay. The Rain Watcher (St. Martin’s Press)
Abigail Dewitt. News of Our Loved Ones (Harper)
Patrick Dewitt. French Exit: A Tragedy of Manners (Bloomsbury Publishing)
Catherine Dossin. France and the Visual Arts Since 1945: Remapping European Postwar and Contemporary Art (Bloomsbury Visual Arts)
David Elliott. Voices: The Final Hours of Joan of Arc (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)
Blake Ellis and Melanie Hicken. A Deal With the Devil: The Dark and Twisted True Story of One of the Biggest Cons in History (Atria Books)
Soledad Fox Maura. Exile, Writer, Soldier, Spy: Jorge Semprun (Arcade Publishing)
Jane S. Gabin. The Paris Photo (Wisdom House Books)
Rozsa Gaston. Anne and Louis: Passion and Politics in Early Renaissance France (Renaissance Editions)
Philip Greene. A Drinkable Feast: A Cocktail Companion to 1920s Paris (TarcherPerigee)
Lisa Greenwald. Daughters of 1968: Redefining French Feminism and the Women’s Liberation Movement (University of Nebraska Press)
Martha Hall Kelly. Lost Roses (Ballantine Books)
Megan Hess. Claris Fashion Show Fiasco: The Chicest Mouse in Paris (Hardie Grant Egmont)
Deborah Hopkinson. **D-Day: The World War II Invasion That Changed History** (Scholastic Focus)


Katie Jarvis. **Politics in the Marketplace: Work, Gender, and Citizenship in Revolutionary France** (Oxford University Press)

Colin Jones. **Versailles** (Basic Books)

Eva Jorgensen. **Paris by Design: An Inspired Guide to the City’s Creative Side** (Abrams)

Suzanne Kamata. **Squeaky Wheels: Travels with My Daughter by Train, Plane, Metro, Tuk-tuk and Wheelchair** (Wyatt-MacKenzie Publishing)


Sarah Lees. **Innovative Impressions: Prints by Cassatt, Degas, and Pissarro** (Hirmer Publishers)

Jillian Lerner. **Graphic Culture: Illustration and Artistic Enterprise in Paris, 1830-1848** (McGill-Queen’s University Press)

Suzannah Lipscomb. **The Voices of Nîmes: Women, Sex, and Marriage in Reformation Languedoc** (Oxford University Press)

Larry Loftis. **Code Name: Lise: The True Story of the Woman Who Became WWII’s Most Highly Decorated Spy** (Gallery Books)

Irena Makaryk. **April in Paris: Theatricality, Modernism, and Politics at the 1925 Art Deco Expo** (University of Toronto Press)

Heidi Mastrogiovanni. **Lala Pettibone: Standing Room Only** (Amberjack Publishing)

Mardi Michels. **In the French Kitchen With Kids: Easy, Everyday Dishes for the Whole Family to Make and Enjoy** (Appetite)

Ariane Mildenberg. **Understanding Merleau-Ponty, Understanding Modernism** (Bloomsbury Academic)

Christopher L. Miller. **Impostors: Literary Hoaxes and Cultural Authenticity** (University of Chicago Press)

Per-Erik Nilsson. **French Populism and Discourses on Secularism** (Bloomsbury Academic)

Lynne Olson. **Madame Fourcade’s Secret War: The Daring Young Woman Who Led France’s Largest Spy Network Against Hitler** (Random House)

Julie Orringer. **The Flight Portfolio: A Novel** (Knopf)

Chris Pavone. **The Paris Diversion** (Crown)

Michael Peppiatt. **The Existential Englishman: Paris Among the Artists** (Bloomsbury Publishing)


Sonia Purnell. **A Woman of No Importance: The Untold Story of the American Spy Who Helped Win World War II** (Virago Press)
Nichole Robertson. **Literary Paris: A Photographic Tour** (Chronicle Books)

Sarah Rose. **D-Day Girls: The Spies Who Armed the Resistance, Sabotaged the Nazis, and Helped Win World War II** (Crown)

Thierry Sagnier. **L’Amérique: A Novel** (Apprentice House Press)

Aysegül Savas. **Walking on the Ceiling** (Riverhead Books)

Diana Scarisbrick. **Margaret De Flahaut 1788-1867: A Scotswoman at the French Court** (John Adamson)

Whitney Scharer. **The Age of Light** (Little, Brown & Co)

B. A. Shapiro. **The Collector’s Apprentice** (Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill)

A. K. Small. **Bright Burning Stars** (Algonquin Young Readers)

Stephanie Kate Strohm. **Love a la Mode** (Disney-Hyperion)


Kurtis Sunday. **An Atheists’ Bible** (Cambria Books)

Christopher Tilghman. **Thomas and Beal in the Midi** (Farrar, Straus & Giroux)

Dermot Turing. **X, Y & Z: The Real Story of How Enigma was Broken** (The History Press)

Steven Ungar. **Critical Mass: Social Documentary in France from the Silent Era to the New Wave** (University of Minnesota Press)

Marc Weitzmann. **Hate: The Rising Tide of Anti-Semitism in France—and What it Means for Us** (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)

Liza Wieland. **Paris, 7 A.M.** (Simon & Schuster)

Josephine Wilkinson. **Louis XIV: The Power and the Glory** (Pegasus Books)

Maud Williams and Bernard Wilkin. **French Soldiers’ Morale in the Phoney War, 1939-1940** (Routledge)

Kirby Williams. **The Long Road from Paris** (Pushcart Press)

Chris Womersley. **City of Crows** (Europa Editions)

Adam Zamoyski. **Napoleon: A Life** (Basic Books)

Robert Zaretsky. **Catherine & Diderot: The Empress, The Philosopher, and The Fate of the Enlightenment** (Harvard University Press)