

Yelena Moskvich writes intriguingly, sometimes scrappily, but in a way that's constantly inventive, surprising and addictive." Moskvich's debut novel *The Natashas* was published by Serpent's Tail last year, and she is currently working on her second novel.

The short-story award is open to both published and unpublished writers and offers a prize of £1,000 or 12 months of editorial guidance on a writing project. Moskvich opted for the money, stating: "I already have support and guidance for my current writing:

I'm really grateful to my agent, Jane Finigan at Lutyens & Rubinstein, and to have worked with Hannah Westland [publisher] and Nick Sheerin [editor] at Serpent's Tail. That said, I really admire Galley Beggar Press, its motto, its relationship with text and its author list. It would be a

pleasure to work with Galley Beggar in some way in the future."

Last year's inaugural prize was won by Rona Judge McCormack for "Backburn". She has since signed with the Eve White Literary Agency and is currently finishing her first novel.

"Marlena or Number 16" is available to read on the Galley Beggar website priced £1.

The prize effect

Eloise Millar, co-director of Galley Beggar Press, said of the prize: "The prize is among the best things that Galley Beggar has done. As a publisher, it introduces us to many wonderful writers who we might not otherwise come across. The longlists and shortlists are also a small, but hopefully significant way to give writers a platform and showcase their work to both readers and the wider publishing community. We can't publish 13 books a year—the number of authors on our longlist this year—but we can publish 13 stories and make a good noise about the 13 authors behind them.

"We've been delighted to see so many of the longlisted and shortlisted authors from last year's inaugural prize go on to sign publishing deals. We're actually bringing out [2015/16 longlistee] Gonzalo C Garcia's debut, *We are the End*, later this year—it's superb. In the same way, we hope to continue working with many of the authors on this year's longlist and shortlist well into the future. They represent some of the best and most ambitious writers out there."

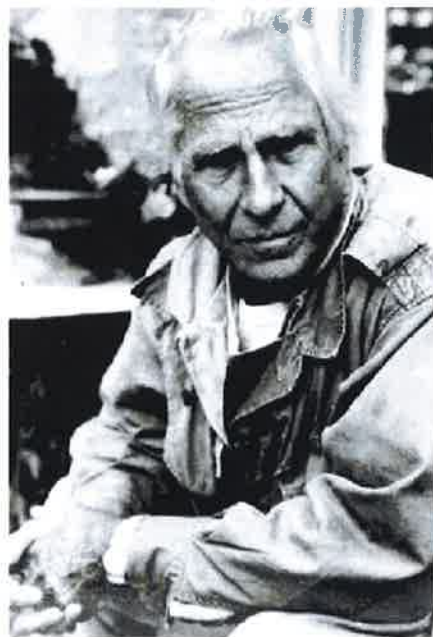
Little Island Press expands into fiction with 'adventurous' Lish title

Fine editions publisher Little Island Press is to launch its 2017 list with fiction from Gordon Lish pictured, touted as "one of America's greatest men of letters" by Little Island founder and m.d. Andrew Latimer. Lish has a reputation as the captain of experimental fiction in the US: the author of more than a dozen novels and "infamous" editor to Raymond Carver, Anne Carson and Don DeLillo, among others. His new novel, *White Plains*, will be published in June 2017.

White Plains interweaves the actual past and the remembered past in a series of "exquisitely crafted", interlinked fictions on themes of life, love and literature. It is the lead title in an "unashamedly adventurous" 2017 list.

July will see the publication of *Extravagant Stranger*, a memoir in prose and poetry by former diplomat, actor and theatre director Daniel Roy Connelly, described by author and poet Luke Kennard as a collection of "glowing, moving prose poems of hallucinatory intensity".

Russell Person's debut, *The Way of Florida* (August), retells the story of the failed 16th century Narváez expedition to the Gulf of Mexico, and it has advance praise from Lish himself. In October Little Island will reissue Jason Schwartz's debut *A German Picturesque*, a collection of 21 stories that are



press only last year, we're honoured to be opening our 2017 list with this big-hitter of American fiction: *White Plains* is packed full of Lish's characteristic humour, hubris and indefatigable humanity. It sets a pretty high bar, but the other, younger writers on the



an "exhilarating" experiment in language and form. The title was originally published in 1998 by Alfred A Knopf.

The press has also signed a short-story collection from David Hayden, Reaktion Books m.d. and former publishing director at The Folio Society. *Darker with the Lights On: Stories* will be published in September.

Each title will be published as a "handsome hardback", Latimer said. "After launching the

list—some of whom have studied with Lish—will not disappoint."

Established in June 2016, the press started out publishing poetry and this list will mark its first foray into fiction. Latimer said: "With the addition of fiction to our portfolio, this year looks to be a very exciting one for Little Island Press, but we remain true to our founding commitment, that of publishing innovative writing in elegant editions."