AFRICAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION 2019 PRIZE Awardees and Finalists
Nine Prizes to be Awarded at the Annual Meeting

[Piscataway, New Jersey. November 1] The African Studies Association (ASA) awards a number of prizes at the Annual Meeting to work that exemplifies the best in the field of that year. During the 2019 ASA Annual Meeting in Boston, the ASA will award the ASA Book Prize (Herskovitz), Ogot Prize, Paul Hair Prize, Distinguished Africanist Award, ASA Service Award, Graduate Student Paper Prize, ASA Film Prize, ASA Cover Art Prize, and the Gretchen Walsh Book Donation Award for a total of nine prizes. As is tradition, the ASA will not reveal the winners of the ASA Book Prize (Herskovitz), Ogot Prize, and Paul Hair Prize until the ASA Award Ceremony and Closing Reception. The ceremony will be held on Saturday, November 23, from 7:30-10:00pm at the Marriott Copley Place Hotel in Salon E/F to be followed by a celebration with lively entertainment and dancing.

The African Studies Association would like to extend a sincere congratulations to all the finalists and awardees this year and acknowledge the excellence that their work exemplifies. The following prizes were awarded prior to the Annual Meeting:

The **Distinguished Africanist Award**, which was established to recognize and honor individuals who have contributed a lifetime record of outstanding scholarship in their respective field of African studies and service to the Africanist community.

**2019 Awardee:** Pearl Robinson (Tufts University)

The **ASA Service Award**, which has been designed to recognize individuals or organizations that have distinguished themselves through outstanding dedication to the ASA’s mission of encouraging production and dissemination of knowledge about Africa.

**2019 Awardees:** *History in Africa* editors Michel Doortmont (University of Groningen), John Hanson (Indiana University), Jan Jansen (Universiteit Leiden), and Dmitri van den Bersselaar (Universität Leipzig, Germany).

The **Gretchen Walsh Book Donation Award** to assist book donation projects with shipping costs to send books to African libraries and schools.

**2019 Awardee:** The University of Makeni library in Makeni, Sierra Leone.

The **Graduate Student Paper Prize**, which was instituted in 2001, to recognize the best paper presented by a graduate student during an Annual Meeting.

**2019 Awardee:** Victoria Mary Gorham, "Displaying the Nation: Museums and Nation-Building in Tanzania and Kenya"

**Honorable Mentions:**
Brendan Kibbee, "Music as Socially Reproductive Labor: Murid Creative Practice in Dakar's Médina"
Safia Farole, "Voters, Party Credibility and Opposition Voting in South Africa"
The new **ASA Film Prize**, recognizing an outstanding contribution to the field of film.

**2019 Awardee:** *Whispering Truth to Power*, dir. Shameela Seedat

The **ASA Cover Art Prize** awarded to a living artist whose work directly addresses the theme of the Annual Meeting.

**2019 Awardee:** Diana Adesola Mafe (Denison University) for her painting “Iya ni Wura”

ASA has announced the following finalists in three prize categories, to be awarded at the 2019 Annual Meeting Award Ceremony and Closing Reception in Boston, November 23:

The **Paul Hair Prize** is presented in odd-numbered years to recognize the best critical edition or translation into English of primary source materials on Africa published during the preceding two years.

**Finalists for the 2019 Paul Hair Prize are:**

- **Emma Christopher**, *Freedom in White and Black. A Lost Story of the Illegal Slave Trade and its Global Legacy* (University of Wisconsin Press)
- **Abdulbasit Kassim and Michael Nwankpa**, eds, *The Boko Haram Reader. From Nigerian Preachers to the Islamic State* (Hurst)
- **Cornelia Giesing and Denis Creissels**, eds and trnsl. (with Isuffi Sessé, Abú Mané and Ousmane Fany), *Les Mémoires de Maalan Galîsa sur le Royaume Confédéré du Kaabu. Un Récit en Langue Mandinka de la Guinée-Bissau* (Brill)
- **Abdulaye Sako** (Stephen P. D. Bulman and Valentin F. Vydrine, eds), *The Epic of Sumanguru Kante* (Brill)

The **Ogot Prize** is presented by the ASA to the author of the most important scholarly work in East African studies in the preceding year. This annual award is named in honor of Prof. Bethwell A. Ogot, a leading Kenyan historian, public servant and public intellectual, through a bequest from the estate of Prof. Kennell Jackson, Jr., of Stanford University.

**Finalists for the 2019 Ogot Prize are:**

- **Laura Fair**, *Reel Pleasures: Cinema Audiences and Entrepreneurs in Twentieth-Century Urban Tanzania* (Ohio)
- **Damascus Kafumbe**, *Tuning the Kingdom: Kawungulu Musical Performance, Politics, and Storytelling in Buganda* (University of Rochester Press)
Thomas McDow, *Buying Time: Debt and Mobility in the Western Indian Ocean* (Ohio).

The [ASA Book Prize (Herskovits Prize)](https://www.asanet.org/asa-prizes), which is awarded to the author of an outstanding original scholarly work published on Africa in the previous year.

**Finalists For the 2019 ASA Book Prize (Herskovits) are:**


- **Kristin Phillips**, *An Ethnography of Hunger: Politics, Subsistence and the Unpredictable Grace of the Sun* (Indiana University Press)

- **John Thabiti Willis**, *Masquerading Politics: Kinship, Gender, and Ethnicity in a Yoruba Town* (Indiana University Press)


Join the ASA this November at the 2019 Annual Meeting in Boston to celebrate the incredible accomplishments of these awardees and find out who will win the Paul Hair, Ogot Prize, and Book Prize for 2019.