Baltic Assembly Prizes for Literature, the Arts and Science

Baltic Innovation Prize

Baltic Assembly Medals

6 November 2020
This year the Baltic Assembly, as any other organisation, has been significantly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite the difficulties and restrictions to meet in person, the traditions of our organisation continue but in slightly different format this year.

We award the Baltic Assembly Prizes to outstanding people, who have demonstrated excellence in literature, the arts, science and innovation. This year’s winners of the Baltic Assembly Prizes have used their talent and knowledge to encourage thinking, remind about the historical milestones of the Baltic states and make our countries visible in the international arena. Awards have been won in strong competition, as the decision was made by competent international jury. My special thanks go to this year’s jury for their excellent work.

Unity and cooperation of the Baltic states are extremely important for us. We are thankful to all people who feel the same way and act in order to bring the countries closer together. The awarding of the Baltic Assembly Prizes and Medals in Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia is our way of saying that even though times are tough people are those who hold our nations together and we are grateful for that. We are also very proud about their achievements.

On behalf of the Baltic Assembly, I congratulate all who have been awarded the Prizes and Medals of the Baltic Assembly.

Aadu Must
President of the Baltic Assembly
The Baltic Assembly Prize for Literature 2020 is awarded to Birutė Jonuškaitė from Lithuania for her novel cycle “Maranta” and “Maestro”, which belong with the long, branched-out texts that weave numerous storylines and created detailed characters, which possess the versatility and depth of the classic canon, and which raise the language to the appropriate heights also for the hefty book of conversations “Laikas ir likimai” (“Time and Destiny”).

Birutė Jonuškaitė is a prose writer, an excellent translator, essayist, publicist, journalist and poet. She was born on 5 October in 1959 in Poland but lives in Lithuania form 1985. She has written short stories, novels, poems, essays and interviews. Birutė Jonuskaite’s short stories and poetry have been translated into English, French, Belarusian, German, Russian, Ukrainian, Polish, Georgian, Croatian, Slovenian, Slovak, Czech and Spanish.

The first part of the dilogy “Maranta”, constructed from real characters and historical events, highlights the fates of three generations of women, whose stories are told by the young artist Rasa. The second part “Maestro” is a novel about the talented painter Viktor and his artistic creation peculiarities. Birutė Jonuškaitė cares how from a poor childhood it is possible to become a famous creator of works of art. The book of conversations “Time and Destiny”, however, is about the meetings with Lithuanian and Polish Authors.
The Baltic Assembly Prize for the Arts
2020 is awarded to Kristīne Briede from Latvia and Audrius Stonys from Lithuania for meditative documentary essay “Bridges of Time” (2018), which was co-produced by Lithuanian, Latvian and Estonian studios and portrays the less-remembered generation of cinema poets of the Baltic New Wave.

Kristine Briede is a Latvian film maker of cultural and social issues who has received numerous recognitions for her projects in the fields of art, cinema and society integration. Audrius Stonys on the other hand is a globally acclaimed Lithuanian documentary film maker. These authors directed together the Latvian, Lithuanian and Estonian awarded documentary film “Bridges of Time”.

“Bridges of Time” is a wonderful film that observes the works of the film directors of so-called Baltic New Way which is certain original style in documentary film making in 1960s of three Baltic States. In 1960s, the Baltic states were very known for their documentary films. In particular they were known for their special style - poetic documentary. Its main practitioners are Herz Frank, Ulvis Brauns, Ivars Seleks, Mark Soosaar, Andres Sööt, Robertas Sverba and others. They push the boundaries of what was accepted in the Soviet times. As there were obstacles that did not allowed them to explore the horizon they went up to the vertical. Instead they spoke about the timeless things that matter always independently of what regime is ruling or which year is in the calendar. Thus, the Baltic poetic documentary cinema created an independent world free from ideology, lies and propaganda. It was a declaration of inner freedom. In their film the authors managed to go far beyond the limits of common historiographic investigation. The authors managed to highlight the poetic aspect of the film. The result is truly cinematic poem about cinema poets.
Winner of the Baltic Assembly Prize for Science

The Baltic Assembly Prize for Science 2020 is awarded to Roberts Eglītis for work cycle: “Theoretical predictions of new materials for energy storage and harvesting”.

Roberts Eglītis was born in Riga in 1966. He finished Latvian State University and then spent a lot of time working in excellent scientific centres all around the globe - in Europe, Asia and the US. When he collected a lot of experience, he came back to Riga and now works in the Solid-State Physics Institute in Riga. The Institute is known around the globe for different solutions and inventions in the field of solid matter. Roberts Eglītis Hirsch index is 33 and it is still growing.

He has around 366 publications and is still very active in his field.

In the beginning of 21st century, Roberts Eglītis with his co-authors was the first in the world who theoretically proved possibility to reach 5-volts battery that means longer performance time of the devices which are on batteries. All batteries currently around the world are 4-volts batteries. The research of Roberts Eglītis is important as scientists all over the world are searching the way to improve the batteries. Research of Roberts Eglītis is very important for the human kind as lives will improve when 5-volts batteries will reach the market.
Nominees for the Baltic Innovation Prize 2020

Baltic Innovation Prize is being awarded for outstanding achievement in innovation and new technologies, as well as for the strengthening of cooperation of the Baltic states in innovation and technological development.

- **KAPPAZETA OÜ (Estonia) – winner**
  A science-driven radar remote sensing company and its goal is to make space a valuable asset for everyone. The key area the company focuses on is agriculture. With the growing global population there is increasing pressure to produce more food every year, but land suitable for agriculture is at the same time decreasing. They believe that with timely information extracted from satellite data, farmers can make better decisions, earn more profit and ultimately grow better food.

- **PERUZA SIA (Latvia)**
  A process engineering and equipment manufacturing company. Their products let the clients produce more quality product at less cost. The company creates and produces production equipment mainly for the food processing industry, especially for fish processing.

- **LEMONA UAB (Lithuania)**
  A global leader in the Baltic region whose main field of activity is wholesale and retail trade in various electronic components, tools, materials, as well as smart home and business solutions. A successful company activity in Lithuania has created favourable conditions for its expansion abroad.
# Winners of the Baltic Assembly Prizes 1994 – 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Literature</th>
<th>Science</th>
<th>The Arts</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>Emil Tode</td>
<td>Andris Caune</td>
<td>Eimuntas Nekrošius</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Estonia:</em> for his novel <em>The Border Land</em></td>
<td><em>Latvia:</em> for his research series of the history of Riga</td>
<td><em>Lithuania:</em> for his stage productions (in particular plays by Chekhov, Shakespeare, Pushkin, Gogol)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Uldis Bērziņš</td>
<td>Juhan Maiste</td>
<td>Pēteris Vasks</td>
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<td></td>
<td><em>Latvia:</em> for his poetry collections <em>Stepsounds of Insects, Time and Poetry</em></td>
<td><em>Estonia:</em> for his research series the classical tradition in the Estonian art: 1530-1830</td>
<td><em>Lithuania:</em> for his Concerto for Cello and Orchestra, Quasi una Sonata, String Quartet No.3 and much, String Quartet No.3 and music for three poems of Czesław Miłosz</td>
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<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>Judita Vaičiūnaitė</td>
<td>Juhan Maiste</td>
<td>Sigitas Geda</td>
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<td></td>
<td><em>Lithuania:</em> for her poetry collection <em>Wreaths of Zemyna</em></td>
<td><em>Estonia:</em> for his essays and poetry</td>
<td><em>Lithuania:</em> for his poetical metamorphoses</td>
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<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>Jaan Kaplinski</td>
<td>Jānis Krastinš</td>
<td>Erkki-Sven Tüür</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Estonia:</em> for his novels and poems</td>
<td><em>Latvia:</em> for his achievements in researching Art Nouveau architecture in Riga</td>
<td><em>Estonia:</em> for his musical creativity</td>
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<td>1998</td>
<td>Rimutė Rimantienė</td>
<td>Jānis Krastinš</td>
<td>Mindaugas Baužys</td>
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<td></td>
<td><em>Lithuania:</em> for her archaeological investigations on the history and arts of the Baltic States</td>
<td><em>Latvia:</em> for his research series the classical tradition in the Estonian art: 1530-1830</td>
<td><em>Lithuania:</em> for the roles he has played revealing himself as an artist-creator</td>
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<td>1999</td>
<td>Jaan Kross</td>
<td>Mindaugas Baužys</td>
<td>Janina Kursite</td>
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<td></td>
<td><em>Estonia:</em> for his novel <em>Standstill Flight</em></td>
<td><em>Lithuania:</em> for the roles he has played revealing himself as an artist-creator</td>
<td><em>Latvia:</em> for her publications and a monograph about the mythical elements in Baltic folklore, literature and art</td>
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<td>Imārs Blumbergs</td>
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<td>Raimo Pullat</td>
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<td>Biruta Baumanė</td>
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<td>Algirdas Gaižutis</td>
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<td>Jaan Toomik</td>
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<td>2003</td>
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<td>Latvia</td>
<td>Elita Grosmane</td>
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<td>2004</td>
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<td>Latvia</td>
<td>Pēteris Brūveris</td>
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<td>The Arts</td>
<td>Estonia</td>
<td>Mindaugas Navakas</td>
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<td>2004</td>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Latvia</td>
<td>Ēvalds Mugurēvičs</td>
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<td>2005</td>
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<td>Estonia</td>
<td>Hasso Krull</td>
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<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>The Arts</td>
<td>Lithuania</td>
<td>Vilnius String Quartet</td>
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<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Latvia</td>
<td>Ārdo Krikmann</td>
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2006

**Literature**

**Nora Ikstena**  
Latvia: for her book *the Undefined One*, for unique collaboration with the Latvian poet Imants Ziedonis and her significant work in the field of culture

**The Arts**

**Andres Tali**  
Estonia: for his works that touch on existential problems of human life and addresses the most fundamental questions of humanity

**Science**

**Gediminas Valkiūnas**  
Lithuania: for the monograph *Avian Malaria Parasites and Other Haemosporidia* and his contribution to strengthening links between parasitologists of the Baltic and Nordic countries

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2008

**Literature**

**Knuts Skujenieks**  
Latvia: for his eight volumes of poetry  
Works written in prison and in a camp for political prisoners in Mordovia

**The Arts**

**Petras Vyšniauskas**  
Lithuania: for promoting Baltic Jazz in the world, for fruitful and intensive activity comprising concert tours, teaching, recording and the launching of various projects

**Science**

**Dr. Lembit Vaba**  
Estonia: for compiling the English-Estonian-Latvian-Lithuanian-Russian Dictionary, for mapping the Estonian-Latvian language border and for rediscovering Estonian language enclaves in southern regions of Latvia

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2010

**Literature**

**Ene Mihkelson**  
Estonia: for her poetry collection *Tower*

**The Arts**

**Antanas Žukauskas**  
Lithuania: for professionally communicating traditional values in the fine arts, for striking the right balance between the modern and the traditional, and for promoting the Baltic identity in the world

**Science**

**Jānis Stradinš**  
Latvia: for his book *the Beginnings of Science and Higher Education in Latvia*

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2007

**Literature**

**Marcelijus Martinaitis**  
Lithuania: for his books  
*K.B. Suspected* and *Silent*

**The Arts**

**Silvija Radzobe**  
Latvia: for her contribution on preparing the book *Theatre Production in the Baltic States*

**Science**

**Tarmo Soomere**  
Estonia: for his research series on ship waves in the Baltic Sea as a source of threat to the coastal environment

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2009

**Literature**

**Inga Ābele**  
Latvia: for her novel *Tide*

**The Arts**

**Marko Mäetamm**  
Estonia: for his professional and successful exhibitions and achievements on the Baltic and international scene

**Science**

**Leonardas Sauka**  
Lithuania: for his book *Eglė, Queen of Adders*, for a fundamental study on the folklore heritage of Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia and other countries

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2011

**Literature**

**Arvydas Juozaitis**  
Lithuania: for his book *Riga – No One’s Civilization*

**The Arts**

**Andris Nelsons**  
Latvia: for his outstanding achievement in promoting the performing arts and creating a positive image of Latvia and the Baltic States in the world

**Science**

**Andres Ilmar Kasekamp**  
Estonia: for his book *History of the Baltic States*
Literature
Aivars Kļavis
Latvia: for his tetralogy
On the Other Side of the Gate

The Arts
Visible Solutions LLC
Estonia: for artistic achievements in integrating Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian art scenes into one arena of discussion

Science
Algis Petras Piskarskas
Lithuania: for his pioneering research in laser physics and nonlinear optics, for developing innovative laser instruments and for fruitful international collaboration in Europe and world

Literature
Peeter Sauter
Estonia: for his novel Do not Leave Me Alone

The Arts
Alvis Hermanis
Latvia: for his creative directorial achievements in conducting numerous theatre plays and particularly Oblomow

Science
Vidas Gražulevičius
Lithuania: for his achievements in materials chemistry and engineering, for active collaboration with researchers from other Baltic States

2013

Literature
Donaldas Kajokas
Lithuania: for his poetry collection To the Deaf Little Donkey and the novel the Lake and its Escorting Persons

The Arts
Peeter Vähi
Estonia: for his oratorio Maria Magdalena, which is based on gospel texts in the original Coptic language

Science
Renāte Blumberga
Latvia: for her research on the history and cultural history of the Liv people, the second titular national of Latvia

Literature
Modestas Pitrėnas
Lithuania: for his creative endeavours to advance the idea of interaction amongst the cultures of all three Baltic States and to further their cultural promotion on the European and global scale by conducting numerous plays and concerts in performance venues and theatres in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania

The Arts
Kristijonas Vildžiūnas
Estonia: for his film Seneca’s Day which is the first Estonian – Latvian – Lithuanian co-production project

Science
Dr.pharm Maija Dambrova
Latvia: for her scientific work on energy metabolism and her contribution to research of the mechanisms of action of the metabolic drug meldonium

2014

Literature
Peeter Sauter
Estonia: for his novel Do not Leave Me Alone

The Arts
Alvis Hermanis
Latvia: for his creative directorial achievements in conducting numerous theatre plays and particularly Oblomow

Science
Vidas Gražulevičius
Lithuania: for his achievements in materials chemistry and engineering, for active collaboration with researchers from other Baltic States

2015

Literature
Māris Bērziņš
Latvia: for his novel the Taste of Lead

The Arts
Modestas Pitrėnas
Lithuania: for his creative endeavours to advance the idea of interaction amongst the cultures of all three Baltic States and to further their cultural promotion on the European and global scale by conducting numerous plays and concerts in performance venues and theatres in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania

Science
Eva-Clarita Pettai and Vello Pettai
Estonia: for their monograph Transitional and Retrospective Justice in the Baltic States

2016

Literature
Sigitas Parulskis
Lithuania: for his literature critic, playwright, essayist and translator, for his creative work, broad and sharp worldview and ability to grasp fundamental issues, for his contemporary poetics (My Fang Conviction, Without the Ring to Return, The City of Concealed Lilies)

The Arts
Kristijonas Vildžiūnas
Estonia: for his film Seneca’s Day which is the first Estonian – Latvian – Lithuanian co-production project

Science
Dr.pharm Maija Dambrova
Latvia: for her scientific work on energy metabolism and her contribution to research of the mechanisms of action of the metabolic drug meldonium

2017

Literature
Vladas Braziūnas
Lithuania: for his poetic discoveries made while delving into the Baltic worldview and the linguistic heritage of the Lithuanian, Latvian and other languages and as well as for his translations from Latvian and other languages and outstanding international projects on modern poetry

The Arts
Laima Slava
Latvia: for the excellent professional contribution to the theory development of the art science, as well as for the outstanding achievement in the book publishing sector, especially in publishing of art books, which significantly have enriched the current cultural landscape and furthermore foster the international recognition of Latvian culture

Science
Prof Andres Metspalu
Estonia: for his innovative, diverse and lasting contribution to gene technology and molecular diagnostic
Winners of the Baltic Innovation Prize
2011 – 2019

2011
Winner: Cybernetica Ltd (Estonia)
Diplomas: Autonams (Latvia)
Energetikos Projektai (Lithuania)

2012
Winner: Aconitum UAB, (Lithuania)
Diplomas: Defendec Ltd (Estonia)
Dendrolight Latvija Ltd (Latvia)

2013
Winner: ELMi Ltd., (Latvia)
Diplomas: GoSwift PLC (Estonia)
Uniplicity (Latvia)

2014
Winner: TransferWise Eesti filiaal (Estonia)
Diplomas: Silvanols (Latvia)
Rubedo Sistemos (Lithuania)

2015
Winner: Elinta, JSC (Latvia)
Diplomas: BIKE-ID (Estonia)
DPA (Latvia)

2016
Winner: Baltic Scientific Instruments (Latvia)
Diplomas: Fortumo (Estonia)
Sofneta (Lithuania)

2017
Winner: EstHus OÜ (Estonia)
Diplomas: Biotehniskais centrs JSC (Latvia)
UAB Singletonas (Lithuania)

2018
Winner: UAB Mokslinė-gamybinė firma “Šviesos konversija” / scientific-industrial firm Light Conversion Ltd. (Lithuania)
Diplomas: “ZTF Lāsma” LTD (Latvia)
AS Ridango (Estonia)

2019
Winner: UAVFACTORY SIA (Latvia)
Diplomas: HEPTA GROUP AIRBORNE OÜ (Estonia)
AXIOMA METERING UAB (Lithuania)

2011
Winner: Leelo Tungal
Estonia: for her autobiographic trilogy “Comrade Kid” (Tänapäev, 2018), with a special emphasis on the last book of the series “A Woman’s Touch” (Tänapäev, 2018), where Stalin’s era is depicted through the eyes of a child

2013
Winner: Normunds Šnē
Latvia: for the performance at the concert in honour of 100-year anniversary of the Baltic states in the prominent Baltic Sea Festival in Stockholm’s Berwaldhallen on August 28, 2018, with Sinfonietta Rīga and Tallinn Chamber Orchestra

2015
Winner: Jūras Banys
Lithuania: nominated for his outstanding contribution to research and innovations in ferroelectricity and phase transition as well as his devout leadership and professional scientific achievements