

Rules

- All poems are judged anonymously and the name of the poet must not appear on the manuscript.
- Each poem must be typed on a separate sheet of paper and clearly state which part(s) of the competition it is entered for (Main Prize, Gaelic or Scots).
- The same poem can be entered for more than one part of the competition but it must be typed up separately for each part and counted as a separate entry.
- For postal entries please include two copies of each poem submitted.
- Poems must not exceed 40 lines (not including title).
- All entrants must be 16 years of age or over.
- Entries may be in English, Scots, Scots/Irish Gaelic.
- The competition is open to anyone throughout and outside the United Kingdom.
- Poems must not be previously published, accepted for publication or currently entered into another competition.
- There is no restriction on the number of poems submitted by each applicant to each category of the competition, provided the appropriate entry fee is included.
- Competition entries cannot be returned.
- Alterations cannot be made to poems once they have been submitted.
- All poems will be read initially by a team at the Scottish Poetry Library prior to the final judging.
- Closing date for entries is Friday 31st May 2013. No entries will be accepted after this date.
- Winners will be notified by Friday 9th August 2013. Winners will be listed on the Wigtown Book Festival website from Friday 20th September 2012. The judges' decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.
- No employee or board member of Wigtown Festival Company, the Gaelic Books Council or Scottish Poetry Library may enter the competition.
- The copyright of each poem remains with the author. The authors of the winning poems grant Wigtown Festival Company the right to use the poems in publicity material for one year from 20th September 2013.



Fee Structure

The first poem submitted costs £7.00

Multiple entries: the first three poems cost a total of £19.00.

Each subsequent entry after the first three costs £5 or a total of £14 for every additional block of 3, ie:

1 poem **£7**; 2 poems **£14**; 3 poems **£19**; 4 poems **£24**; 5 poems **£29**; 6 poems **£33**;
7 poems **£38**; 8 poems **£43**; 9 poems **£47**; 10 poems **£52**; 11 poems **£57**; 12 poems **£61** etc.

WIGTOWN BOOK FESTIVAL PRESENTS

Wigtown Poetry Competition

2013

In association with the Scottish Poetry Library

Main Prize £2000

Runner-up £400

Eight additional prizes of £25 each

Judge: Robin Robertson

Gaelic Prize £250

Judge: Meg Bateman

Scots Prize £250

Judge: Liz Niven

For more information or to enter online visit:
www.wigtownbookfestival.com/poetrycomp or telephone 01988 402036

Scotland's International Poetry Prize, Open to All

Wigtown became Scotland's National Book Town in 1997, a mecca for booklovers drawn to this beautiful part of southwest Scotland by its secondhand bookshops. In January 2012, it was also designated Scotland's most creative small town in the inaugural Creative Place Awards.

www.wigtown-booktown.co.uk

Now in its 15th year, Wigtown Book Festival takes place from 27th September to 6th October 2013
www.wigtownbookfestival.com



THE JUDGES

Main Category: **Robin Robertson**



Robin Robertson is from the north-east coast of Scotland, but lives and works in London. His poetry appears mostly in the London Review of Books, the New York Review of Books and the New Yorker. In 2003, he edited a collection of essays, *Mortification: Writers' Stories of Their Public Shame*. He has also translated two plays of Euripides, *Medea* and *The Bacchae*, and in 2006 published a selection of English versions of poems by the Nobel laureate Tomas Tranströmer, entitled *The Deleted World*. Robertson has received a number of accolades, including the EM Forster Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, the Cholmondeley Award and all three Forward Prizes. His fifth collection of poetry, published in February 2013, is *Hill of Doors*. A *Selected Poems* will be published – in Britain, America and Germany – in 2014.

Gaelic Category: **Meg Bateman**



Meg Bateman was born in Edinburgh in 1959 and learnt Gaelic in South Uist and at university. She has lectured in the Celtic Department at Aberdeen University and now teaches at Scotland's only Gaelic college, Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, in Skye. Bateman's academic publications and research include translations of early Gaelic poetry and studies into Gaelic belief systems and the visual in the Gaelic imagination. She has published three collections of her own poetry, two of which, *Aotromachd/Lightness* and *Soirbheas/Fair Wind*, were shortlisted for the Scottish Book of the Year. Her work appears in many anthologies, including *The Penguin Book of Scottish Verse* and *The Penguin Book of Poetry from Britain and Ireland* since 1945. Her subject matter has moved away in recent years from the personal to the more philosophical, but is still marked by intense feeling and a restrained classical control. A fourth collection, *Transparencies*, is due from Birlinn in 2013.

Scots Category: **Liz Niven**



Liz Niven is a widely published Scottish poet. Often written in Scots, her work explores issues of language and identity. Niven's poetry collections include *Stravaigin*, *Burning Whins*, *The Shard Box* and *Anything You Say*, the latter in collaboration with Fiona Lee. Her work has been represented in stone and wood through public art installations and she has worked with numerous visual artists. Niven has held writing residencies across the country for the Scottish Poetry Library, the National Galleries and the Poetry Society of London. Her interest in writing that crosses national borders has led to collaborations in Scandinavia, the Far East, and Eastern Europe, while her poetry has been translated into Lithuanian, Slovakian and Romanian. Her work also features in an ITV documentary, *Poet on a Plane*. Awards include the McCash/Herald, Scottish Arts Council, TESS/Saltire and the Year of the Artist.

Wigtown Poetry Competition

2013 Entry Form

Name: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Post Code: _____

Telephone (Daytime): _____ Mobile: _____

Title(s) of Poem(s)	Category (please tick)		
	Main	Gaelic	Scots

Total number of poems entered:

Total Payment:

Please make cheques payable to **Wigtown Festival Company** (see overleaf for fee structure)

To pay by credit or debit card:

Visa / Mastercard / Delta / Maestro (please delete as appropriate)

Name on Card: _____

Card Number: _____

Valid from: _____ / _____ Expiry: _____ / _____

Issue Number (Maestro): _____ Three Digit Security Code: _____

Please send to:

**Wigtown Poetry Competition, Wigtown Festival Company,
County Buildings, Wigtown, DG8 9JH.**

If you would prefer your details not to be added to the Wigtown Festival Company database to receive future information about the poetry competition and festival activities, please tick here ☐
Wigtown Festival Company, County Buildings, Wigtown DG8 9JH Email: mail@wigtownbookfestival.com

Company Number: SC317495 Scottish Charity Number: SCO37984