

Winner

Hilah Kohen (Washington University in St. Louis)

Title

“The ‘Russian Craze’ and the Silver Age: Missed Connections in the Anglophone Canon of Russian Literature.”

Citation

The committee writes: This thesis offers an eloquent examination of “missed connections” in Russian and British modernisms that raise crucial issues of canon formation and the cultural politics of translation in world literature. Kohen’s brilliant close readings and feminist analysis—especially of Marina Tsvetaeva and Virginia Woolf—benefit from archival research in Russia and Britain. Zooming in on national and foreign (or minor) literary scenarios, Kohen considers ways in which certain types of Russophone literature have failed to register in the Anglophone world. Original and interdisciplinary as well as comparative, Kohen's thesis is a work as much concerned with the politics and process of translation as it is a keen set of arguments about field formations of global literature across national contexts.