GRAND PRIZE
Phyllis and Don Munday Award | $4,000
Sponsored by the Alpine Club of Canada

ON THE TRAIL OF GENGHIS KHAN: AN EPIC JOURNEY THROUGH THE LAND OF THE NOMADS

Tim Cope
Bloomsbury (USA, 2013)

Inspired by a desire to understand the nomadic way of life, Australian adventurer and author Tim Cope embarked on a remarkable journey: 6,000 miles on horseback across the Eurasian steppe from Mongolia to Hungary, retracing the trail of Genghis Khan. From novice rider to travelling three years in the saddle, accompanied by his dog, Tigon, Tim overcame great challenges, and bore witness to a haunting land where nomadic culture hangs precariously in the balance in the modern post-Soviet world.

In Tim Cope’s Grand Prize-winning book On The Trail of Genghis Khan: An Epic Journey Through the Land of the Nomads, he recounts his awe-inspiring journey on horseback from Mongolia to Hungary. In it, he becomes a nomad himself in order to understand those who came before him, and those who still remain. A novice rider at the start of the journey, Cope spent three years in the saddle, and no small amount of adventure met with him. From the extreme weather conditions and landscape, to holing up in a gold-mining town for more than three months, countering with the seemingly limitless hospitality of the tribes of the Eurasian steppe, Cope relays both the history and current state of this vast and changing area, as well as his experiences and how they altered him, in a way that’s impactful and original. Most would say this was the journey of a lifetime, but it appears that writer and adventure traveller Tim Cope has at least nine lives, and we look forward to reading about each and every one of them.

2013 Jury Member Anik See
MOUNTAIN AND WILDERNESS LITERATURE, NON-FICTION

The Jon Whyte Award | $2,000
Sponsored by The Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies

EVEREST: THE FIRST ASCENT – HOW A CHAMPION OF SCIENCE HELPED TO CONQUER THE MOUNTAIN

Harriet Tuckey
Lyons Press (USA, 2013)

This book is both the history of what went into the first successful ascent of Mt. Everest and a biography of the author's father, Dr. Griffith Pugh, the expedition's physiological consultant, who designed almost every aspect of the survival strategy for the expedition. Without him and his work, the ascent of Everest would have been impossible.

While attending the 40-year celebration of the 1953 Everest climb, Tuckey, alienated daughter of physiologist Griffith Pugh, catches hint of her father's enormous (and entirely unrecognized) contribution to the expedition. Not until a decade after Pugh's passing did she commit herself to uncovering the truth. The result is this unexpected, ground-breaking and entirely brave book, which challenges both lionized figures and events previously regarded as set in stone. Meticulously researched, honest, and fair, Tuckey's book reveals not only her father's enormous contributions to the 1953 Everest ascent, but also towards modern practices of acclimatization, hydration and nutrition. In doing so, she fills an important historical gap.

2013 Jury Member Bruce Kirkby
ADVENTURE TRAVEL AWARD

$2,000
Sponsored by The Juniper Hotel & The Wild Flour Bakery & Café

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2013 Jury Member Anik See
MOUNTAIN IMAGE AWARD

$2,000
Sponsored by Helly Hansen

**PAMIR: FORGOTTEN ON THE ROOF OF THE WORLD**

Matthieu Paley and Mareile Paley
Editions de la Martinière (France, 2012)

At the extreme end of the Wakhan Corridor, in Afghanistan, is an isolated and arid land from which the highest mountain ranges in the world radiate: the Pamir Plateau. Above 13,000 feet, some 1,150 Afghan Kyrgyz nomads live out of time, trapped by the vicissitudes of history. For over 10 years, photographer Matthieu Paley has been documenting their lives.

Matthieu and Mareile Paley have spent more than a decade exploring Afghanistan’s remote Wakhan Valley. Now, their luxuriously-produced book offers a rare glimpse of this windblown land and its enigmatic inhabitants, the Kyrgyz. Captured on a variety of 35mm film, digital, panoramic and medium-format cameras, Matthieu’s images are inventive, varied, and deeply-felt. From decisive moments of action to textured close-ups and sweeping landscapes, the remarkable collection offers a powerful and enduring sense of place.

2013 Jury Member Bruce Kirkby
MOUNTAIN GUIDEBOOK AWARD

$2,000
Sponsored by the American Alpine Club

PATAGONIA VERTICAL: CHALTÉN MASSIF

Rolando Garibotti and Dörte Pietron
Sidarta (Slovenia, 2012)

This comprehensive guidebook covers the striking jagged granite spires of the Cerro Torre and Cerro Fitz Roy Massif in Patagonia, Argentina. It describes every peak and climb, and includes detailed history. With over 360 photos and 100 topos, this is the first complete guidebook of this area, one of the great ranges of the world, a destination for alpinists from all over.

Historically, climbing information on major world mountain destinations like the Himalaya, Karakoram, or Patagonia was contained in miscellaneous alpine journals, magazine articles, and word of mouth. Climbers had to do extensive research to determine what had been climbed, by what routes, and the degree of difficulty. In Patagonia Vertical, Garibotti and Pietron have consolidated all this information into a single guidebook at considerable effort, which also reflects the authors’ considerable personal experience in the range. Much of this climbing information was included on their popular website for several years which facilitated input from other experts on the range, and helped to create an accurate final product for this large and complex mountain region.

2013 Jury Member Steve Swenson
In the title story, two drug addicted friends return to the farm where they worked as boys to steal their boss's unusual but valuable war trophies. In The Trusty, Ron Rash's first story to appear in the New Yorker, a prisoner sent to fetch water for the chain gang tries to sweet talk a farmer's young wife into helping him escape, only to find she is as trapped as he is. In Something Rich and Strange, a diver is called upon to pull a drowned girl's body free from under a falls, but finds her eerily at peace below the surface. The violence of Rash's characters and their raw settings are matched only by their unexpected tenderness and stark beauty, a masterful combination that has earned Rash an avalanche of praise.

Ron Rash's Nothing Gold Can Stay is one of those books that won't let you go. Rash's eye is sharp when it comes to character and circumstance, and his pen even sharper. Suspenseful, yet alluring, the stories in Nothing Gold Can Stay are rooted in Appalachia, and while its link with mountain culture may not be one of stunning vistas or bagging peaks, he paints a picture of our contemporary connectedness to landscape (or lack thereof) that is difficult to deny.

Adeptly written, and filled with characters you either hope to save or never to meet, this book will challenge your assumptions, and then some.

2013 Jury Member Anik See
MOUNTAINEERING HISTORY

The James Monroe Thorington Award | $1,000

Sponsored by the UIAA

THE CONQUEST OF EVEREST

George Lowe and Huw Lewis-Jones
Thames & Hudson (UK, 2013)

Published to mark the 60th anniversary of the conquest of Mount Everest, this visually spectacular book features a trove of original photographs and other rare materials from the George Lowe collection, many unpublished, complemented by classic images from the final ascent. Stunning landscapes, candid portraits, and action shots describe the day-by-day moments of the historic expedition as never before. The extraordinary journey is retold from Lowe’s point of view, capturing the drama of the expedition and the personal stories of those involved.

Many people, even non-climbers, are aware that Sir Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay made the first ascent of Mount Everest. In 1953, Himalayan expeditions were large affairs that included the work of many whose efforts would never be recognized like those who made the summit. George Lowe was one of those expedition members who made a significant contribution towards their ultimate success but would never become a household name. Lowe was the last surviving member of the expedition and fortunately was able to complete this book before his death in March of this year. He and Huw Lewis-Jones have left us with a beautiful coffee table book full of original photographs from the George Lowe collection. It documents the longtime partnership between Hillary and Lowe and it was no accident that George walked 500 feet above the South Col and was the first person that Hillary and Tenzing met their way down from the summit. It was at this moment that Ed mentioned in a matter of fact way to his friend, “Well, George, we knocked the bastard off”

2013 Jury Member Steve Swenson
On January 17, 1913, alone and near starvation, Douglas Mawson, leader of the Australasian Antarctic Expedition, was hauling a sledge to get back to base camp. The dogs were gone. Then Mawson plunged through a snow bridge, dangling over an abyss by the sledge harness. A line of poetry gave him the will to haul himself back to the surface. Mawson was sometimes reduced to crawling and one night he discovered that the soles of his feet had detached from the flesh beneath. On February 8, he staggered back to base — his features unrecognizably skeletal. Illustrated by a trove of Frank Hurley’s Antarctic photographs, this thrilling, almost unbelievable account establishes Mawson in his rightful place as one of the greatest polar explorers and expedition leaders.

If you’ve never heard of Douglas Mawson, after you read this book, you’ll wonder why. Mawson, who accompanied Shackleton on his 1908 expedition to the Antarctic, returned with his own expedition in 1912. David Roberts’ account of what happened reads not like a dry regurgitation of facts, but rather a suspenseful novel of the highest quality. In his book Robert sheds light on an overlooked but important explorer and deftly conveys the astonishing conditions and unlikely survival of Mawson’s team. Just when you think things can’t get worse, they do — more than once — and Roberts serves this incredible story well by weaving in and out of time with a rare adroitness, and an absolute clarity. He gives nuance to the characters in this epic survival story; Alone on the Ice deserves a spot in the canon of Antarctica literature.

2013 Jury Member Anik See