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International Prize Contest

ETTRE International, Berlin and Weimar 1999 - European City of Culture GmbH in cooperation with Goethe Institute are soliciting responses from a global public in essay form to the underlisted Prize Question. The prize is open to all persons, anywhere in the world. They are invited to respond to the Prize Question in a creative way and from whatever happens to be their own cultural perspective and background. Essayists are expected to provide the most convincing and conclusive solution possible in a spirit of open competition. On the threshold of a new millennium, this international competition of minds hopes to become a symbols of a creative and cooperative global society for the 21st century.

The Prize Question:
Liberating the Future from the past?
Liberating the past from the Future?

Prizes

Authors of essays rated first, second and third will be awarded prizes of DM50,000, DM30,000 and DM20,000 respectively. In addition, these authors will be invited to the official award presentation at Weimar, scheduled to take place late in 1999.

Prize-winners, as well as authors of other outstanding contributions, will receive a grant or stipend covering several months of study in Germany. Award-winning essays, along with a choice of entries pre-selected for the final Jury, will be published in the different national editions of Lettre International and in other literary magazines.

A book containing a selection of those essays presented to the Final Jury will also be published in German and other languages.

Conditions of Participation

Anyone may participate, except for Contest jurors and staff of Lettre International and Weimar 1999 - European City of Culture GmbH. Essays may be submitted in any of the six official UN languages, i.e. Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish, as well as in German, the Contest organisers host language. Essays may not be submitted which, prior to the official presentation of awards, have been either previously published or offered to third parties for publication, or which have been entered in any other competition. Essays should be sent to the International Essay Prize Contest's Secretariat in two typescript copies or via e-mail no later than November 30, 1998. Date as postmark or e-mail protocol. Manuscripts cannot be returned. Authors of award-winning essays confer the unrestricted right of reproduction - also transferable to third parties - to the Contest organisers. This includes the right of translation and dissemination of essays in any way or form, either in part or in full, and in all language. Authors whose essays have been presented to the Final Jury, but have not been awarded a prize, likewise confer the right of