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What the jurors said about **THE GOLDEN MEAN**

The Giller Prize Jury: Russell Banks, Victoria Glendenning, Alistair MacLeod

“*The Golden Mean* is, ostensibly, the story of the philosopher, Aristotle, and his pupil, Alexander. Aristotle has yet to become the director of the Lyceum, and his pupil has yet to become Alexander the Great, the conqueror of the Known world. In succinct and detailed prose, Annabel Lyon not only illuminates an historical period but explores issues that are achingly contemporary: the purpose (s) of education, the destinies (and responsibilities) of the gifted, the influence of parents, the jealousies of scholars, the complications of tribalism, the tensions between belief and science, and the relative merits of the life of the body versus that of the mind. The characters, some historical and some fictional, are, in their multitude, kind and noble and petty and vicious; they are recognizable to us all. This is a wise and thoughtful book.”

The Governor General’s Award Jury: Judy Fong Bates, Wayne Johnston, Shaena Lambert

“Annabel Lyon’s *The Golden Mean* is a wise and subtle journey into the Court of Philip of Macedon, the mind of Aristotle and his complex relationship with his pupil, Alexander the Great. In this glorious balancing act of a book, Aristotle emerges as a man both brilliant and blind, immersed in life but terrified of living.”

The Rogers Writers Trust Fiction Award Jury: Marina Endicott, Miriam Toews, and R.M. Vaughan – no citations