



**FI GLOVER TO CHAIR  
ORANGE PRIZE FOR FICTION PANEL IN 2009:  
BIDISHA  
SARAH CHURCHWELL  
KIRA COCHRANE  
MARTHA LANE FOX**

**Longlist Announcement: 18 March 2009**

**Shortlist Announcement: 21 April 2009**

**Awards Ceremony: 3 June 2009**

**London, 17 December 2008:** Now in its fourteenth year, the Orange Prize for Fiction is the UK's most prestigious annual book award for fiction written by a woman, celebrating excellence, innovation and accessibility and the best of outstanding international fiction in women's writing.

The judges for the Orange Prize for Fiction in 2009 have been confirmed as:

**Fi Glover (Chair)**, Broadcaster

**Bidisha**, Writer and Novelist

**Sarah Churchwell**, Journalist and Academic

**Kira Cochrane**, Journalist

**Martha Lane Fox**, Entrepreneur

Fi Glover, commented: "I am delighted to be asked to chair this year's Orange Prize. I can't think of a better way to combat the vagaries and uncertainties of the world around us, than to lose myself in the wisdom and wonder of women's fiction."

The Orange Prize for Fiction was set up in 1996 to celebrate and promote international fiction by women throughout the world to the widest range of readers possible and is awarded for the best novel of the year written by a woman. Any woman writing in English – whatever her nationality, country of residence, age or subject matter – is eligible.

The winner will receive a cheque for £30,000 and a limited edition bronze figurine known as a 'Bessie', created and donated by the artist Grizel Niven. Both are anonymously endowed.

Ian Smith, Head of Entertainment & Brand Marketing at Orange, commented: "The Orange Prize consistently attracts a fantastic range of judges and this year is no exception. We look forward to following their journey from selecting the longlist to announcing the Orange Prize 2009 winner with great anticipation."

Previous winners of the Orange Prize for Fiction are Helen Dunmore for *A Spell of Winter* (1996), Anne Michaels for *Fugitive Pieces* (1997), Carol Shields for *Larry's Party* (1998), Suzanne Berne for *A Crime in the Neighbourhood* (1999), Linda Grant for *When I Lived in Modern Times* (2000), Kate Grenville for *The Idea of Perfection* (2001), Ann Patchett for *Bel Canto* (2002) Valerie Martin for *Property* (2003), Andrea Levy for *Small Island* (2004), Lionel Shriver for *We Need to Talk about Kevin* (2005), Zadie Smith for *On Beauty* (2006), Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie for *Half of a Yellow Sun* (2007) and Rose Tremain for *The Road Home* (2008).

For the 2009 Orange Prize, novels must be published in the UK between 1<sup>st</sup> April 2008 and 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009. The prize is administered by Booktrust, the UK charity for books and reading. Orange has sponsored the prize since its inaugural year, 1996. For more information, please visit [www.orangeprize.co.uk](http://www.orangeprize.co.uk)

For further information, please contact:

Naomi Li at M&C Saatchi:

Tel: 0207 544 3687

Email: [naomi.li@mcsaatchi.com](mailto:naomi.li@mcsaatchi.com)

-ENDS-

### **About Orange**

Orange is a key brand of the France Telecom Group, providing mobile, broadband, fixed, business and entertainment services across Europe. It is one of the world's leading telecommunications operators with more than 170 million customers on five continents.

In June, 2006, Orange became the single brand for mobile, broadband and multi-play offers. In addition, Orange Business Services became the new banner for business communications solutions. Orange Business Services is present in 166 countries with network reach in 220.

In the UK, Orange provides high quality GSM coverage to 99% of the UK population. At the end of June 2008, Orange had almost 16.8 million customers in the UK – 15.8 million active mobile customers and over one million broadband customers.

Orange and any other Orange product or service names included in this material are trade marks of Orange Personal Communications Services Limited.

Further information about Orange can be found on the Orange website at [www.orange.co.uk](http://www.orange.co.uk) or the France Telecom group international website at [www.orange.com](http://www.orange.com) and [www.francetelecom.com](http://www.francetelecom.com)

For further information, call the Orange press office on 0870 373 1500 or email: [Orangepr@golinharris.com](mailto:Orangepr@golinharris.com).