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10th ANNIVERSARY SHORTLIST FOR COMMENT AWARDS 2018

Shortlist Announced, plus the publication of 'Commentland'



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The shortlist for the Editorial Intelligence UK Comment Awards 2018 has been revealed. The awards are celebrating their tenth anniversary. Judges deliberated at The Ivy Club in London before casting their votes using a ranked voting ballot system.

The annual awards recognise and celebrate the UK's best print and online commentators, and their editors. There are sixteen categories this year, including the new category of 'Brexit Commentator of the Year'.

A seventeenth and new category for 2018, 'Chair's Choice: Commentator of the Decade' will be announced at the breakfast awards ceremony on November 16th in London at Edwardian Hotels' The May Fair Hotel.

This year's judges, chaired by **Julia Hobsbawm**, founder of Editorial Intelligence, hail from an eclectic range of industries and backgrounds and include:

Becky Barrow, News Editor, The Sunday Times; **Helen Belcher**, Director, Trans Media Watch; **Ann Francke**, CEO, Chartered Management Institute; **David Goodhart**, Head of Integration Hub & Demography Unit, Policy Exchange; **Will Gore**, Executive Editor, The Independent; **Stephen Hargrave**, Chairman, Reform; **Dr. Margaret Heffernan**, Entrepreneur, CEO & Writer, **Emma Gilpin-Jacobs**, Senior Director Director, UK & Europe, The Pew Charitable Research Trusts; **Dylan Jones**, Editor, GQ; **Simon Minty**, Founder, Abnormally Funny People and Disability consultant; **Max Pemberton**, Doctor and Columnist, Daily Mail and Reader's Digest; **Robert Peston**, author and broadcaster, ITV's "Peston"; **Jennie Price**, Chief Executive, Sport England; **James Rawlings**, Perrier Award winning comedian and writer, founder of Hoot Comedy; creative director and founder of new comedy content company, Gaggle; **Liz Rideal**, Professor of Fine Art at The Slade School of Fine Art, University College London. **Ed Vaizey MP**. For the full list of judges, please visit www.commentawards.com

Announcing the shortlist, as well as the forthcoming publication in February of a one-off special Editorial Intelligence report, **Commentland: A Decade of UK Comment & Opinion**, Julia Hobsbawm, Chair of Judges for 2018 said:

"This will be the tenth time we have awarded editorial honours to the most distinguished and distinctive voices in UK Comment & Opinion. On the eve of Brexit, Britain is full of comment as never before. This year's 10th anniversary shortlist is full of surprise and competition, and is likely to generate comment as it does every year. Britain is a nation of great commentators."



The Comment Awards 2018 shortlist

Lead Partners: *Edwardian Hotels* and *Virgin Media*; Associate Partner: *The Ivy Club*; Media Partner: *The Media Society*

Brexit Commentator of the Year

- Daniel Finkelstein, *The Times*
- Marina Hyde, *The Guardian*
- Philip Stephens, *Financial Times*
- Gary Younge, *The Guardian*

Business Commentator of the Year

- Ben Chu, *The Independent*
- Rana Foroohar, *Financial Times*
- Sarah O'Connor, *Financial Times*

Comment Piece of the Year

- Marina Hyde, *The Guardian*
- India Knight, *The Sunday Times Magazine*
- Hannah Jane Parkinson, *The Guardian*

Commentator of the Year

- Marina Hyde, *The Guardian*
- Janice Turner, *The Times*
- Gary Younge, *The Guardian*

Commentator's Commentator

- Marina Hyde, *The Guardian*
- Caitlin Moran, *The Times*
- Matthew Parris, *The Times*

Culture, Diary and Social Commentator of the Year

- Hadley Freeman, *The Guardian*
- Miranda Green, *Financial Times*
- Marina Hyde, *The Guardian*

Fresh New Voice Commentator of the Year

- Micha Frazer-Carroll, Freelance, writing for *The Guardian*
- Henry Mance, *Financial Times*
- Oliver Moody, *The Times*

Health, Wellbeing and Medicine Commentator of the Year

- George Monbiot, *The Guardian*
- Hannah Jane Parkinson, *The Guardian*
- Hugo Rifkind, *The Times*

Magazine Commentator of the Year

- Stephen Bush, *New Statesman*
- Hadley Freeman, *The Guardian Weekend*
- Michael Wolff, *GQ*

Political Commentator of the Year

- Rafael Behr, *The Guardian*
- Stephen Bush, *i*
- Philip Stephens, *Financial Times*

Popular Columnist of the Year

- Marina Hyde, *The Guardian*
- Sam Leith, *Evening Standard*
- Tony Parsons, *GQ*

Science & Data Commentator of the Year

- Anjana Ahuja, *Financial Times*
- Tim Harford, *Financial Times*
- George Monbiot, *The Guardian*
- Oliver Moody, *The Times*

Society and Diversity Commentator of the Year

- Nesrine Malik, The Guardian
- Melanie Phillips, The Times
- Jenni Russell, The Times
- Sathnam Sanghera, The Times
- Gary Younge, The Guardian

Sport Commentator of the Year

- Oliver Brown, The Daily Telegraph
- Marina Hyde, The Guardian
- Jonathan Liew, The Independent
- Martin Samuel, GQ

UK Comment Pages of the Year

- Financial Times
- The Guardian
- The Sunday Times

Wit & Humour Commentator of the Year

- Michael Deacon, The Daily Telegraph
- Caitlin Moran, The Times
- Hugo Rifkind, The Times

The awards ceremony takes place on November 16 in London at Edwardian Hotel's May Fair Hotel.

ENDS

www.commentawards.com

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Notes to editors

Contact

Charlie Burgess

charlie@charlieburgess.co.uk

07941 371440

About The Comment Awards

Established in 2009, the Comment Awards celebrate the achievements of the UK's finest and most influential print and online commentators and their editors. Run by Editorial Intelligence, the Comment Awards are the only awards of their kind in the UK: an opportunity for the industry to commend and support the best of UK comment journalism. Winners will be announced at a special ceremony in London on 16 November.

About Editorial Intelligence

Editorial Intelligence is a Content & Connection business, working with clients to help polish and produce fine editorial work and build and develop premium networks. Editorial Intelligence has a social mobility scheme, the eiKhadija Saye Scholarships.

