

EMBARGOED until 00.01 BST 1st April 2022

Hiroshi Hayakawa receives The London Book Fair Lifetime Achievement Award 2022

London, 1st April 2022. The London Book Fair has today announced **Hiroshi Hayakawa**, President of Japanese publisher Hayakawa Publishing, as the recipient of the LBF Lifetime Achievement Award 2022.



Hiroshi Hayakawa is a leading light of Japanese publishing, having worked at independent family publisher Hayakawa Publishing Japan since 1965. Early in his career, as Vice President of the company, he managed foreign rights, acquiring a number of modern classics, including *The Godfather*, *Jaws*, *Flowers for Algernon* and *Early Autumn*. Upon becoming President, he brought a number of seminal titles to the Japanese market, including *A Brief History of Time*, *Jurassic Park*, *Thinking Fast and Slow* and *The Remains of the Day*. Over his thirty years as President, he has maintained Hayakawa Publishing's prestigious literary fiction lists, while also being a vocal advocate for science fiction, mysteries and non-fiction titles, with his dedication to crime fiction earning him the Mystery Writers of America's Ellery Queen Award in 1998.

Hiroshi Hayakawa, President of Hayakawa Publishing Japan said: "*I was most surprised and deeply honoured by the London Book Fair's consideration. My selection for such a prestigious award is very humbling, especially when I look at the All Star list of prior recipients. This honour is not mine alone, it belongs to all the members of Hayakawa Publishing who have supported me all these years. I do look forward to being able to visit London before too long.*"

Andy Ventris, Director at The London Book Fair said: "*We are delighted to name Hiroshi Hayakawa as the recipient of this year's London Book Fair Lifetime Achievement Award, joining the illustrious alumni who have won this award since its inception nearly twenty years ago. For decades, Hiroshi has been a cornerstone of international publishing, bringing stories and voices from around the world to Japanese readers. His passion for the written word, and his championing of genre titles in particular, has changed the literary landscape of Japan and helped build the prestige of many of the most celebrated authors of our day.*"

David Roche, Non-Executive Chairman, The London Book Fair commented: "*The London Book Fair International Lifetime Achievement Award recognises an individual who has made a truly significant mark in the sphere of global publishing and has been awarded to a stellar list of winners since its inception. I am proud to chair the 2022 judging panel who have selected Hiroshi Hayakawa to be its*



latest recipient. Hiroshi stands proudly as a conductor, masterfully directing access to the complex Japanese market for the greatest international authors. He has facilitated stories from around the world in his 57 years at Hayakawa Publishing and 30 years as its president, and we are delighted to honour him in 2022."

The Lifetime Achievement Award committee selected Hiroshi Hayakawa from a shortlist of leading international publishing figures.

The Lifetime Achievement Award recognises an individual who has made a truly significant mark in the sphere of global publishing. It is open to publishers, agents, editors, scouts and anyone else involved in international publishing from any country in the world.

PREVIOUS LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNERS:

- 2021** – Margaret Busby, *Allison & Busby*, UK
- 2020** – Nigel Newton, *Bloomsbury Publishing*, UK
- 2019** - Dorotea Bromberg, *Brombergs Bokförlag*, Sweden
- 2018** - Sara Miller McCune, *Sage Publishing*, US
- 2017** - Luiz Schwarcz, *Companhia das Letras*, Brazil
- 2016** - Gail, Baroness Rebuck DBE, *Penguin Random House*, UK
- 2015** - Peter Usborne, *Usborne*, UK
- 2014** - Deborah Rogers, *Rogers, Coleridge & White*, UK
- 2013** - Michael Krüger, *Hanser Verlag*, Germany
- 2012** - Jorge Herralde, *Editions Anagrama*, Spain
- 2011** - Sonny Mehta, *Alfred A. Knopf, Inc.*, US
- 2010** - Antoine Gallimard, *Éditions Gallimard*, France
- 2009** - Drenka Willen, *Harcourt*, USA
- 2008** - Peter Mayer, *Overlook Press and Duckworth*, UK & USA
- 2007** - Lord Weidenfeld, *Weidenfeld & Nicolson*, UK
- 2006** - Christopher MacLehose, *MacLehose Press*, UK
- 2005** - Lynette Owen, *Pearson Education*, UK
- 2004** - John Lyons, *Little, Brown*, UK & USA

The London Book Fair (LBF) is the largest spring book trade and publishing event in the world, and will take place in person for the first time in two years at Olympia London, 5-7th April 2022. Visitor registration is now open, at: <https://lbf-2022.reg.buzz/>

To apply for a press pass for The London Book Fair, please visit:
www.londonbookfair.co.uk/pressreg

www.londonbookfair.co.uk

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**Notes to editors:****More praise for Hiroshi Hayakawa:**

Koukla Maclehone, Partner at London Literary Scouting said: “*I have known Hiroshi Hayakawa since my days of selling rights for Flammarion in the 1980s. In 1983 I visited the company he founded in Tokyo. He was always interested in publishing authors from all over the world and was amazingly successful selling them. He managed to remain independent into the XXIst century and convinced his son to follow him in his footsteps. There is no more worthy recipient of the London Bookfair Lifetime Achievement Award to recompense a life dedicated to bringing authors of all horizons and languages to Japanese readers.”*

Peter Strauss, Managing Director at RCW Literary Agency said: “*At his independent family-owned company Hiroshi Hayakawa has played a supremely important role in introducing Japanese readers to a whole range of translated fiction and non-fiction for half a century. Over that time he has built up an extraordinary catalogue of extremely wide-ranging and brilliant writing. He publishes with great care and attention and has created many bestsellers. He thoroughly deserves this award.*”

Sam Edenborough, Director at Greyhound Literary commented: “*I am so happy to see Hiroshi Hayakawa's immense achievements recognised in this way. His career is an inspiring one and I am sure that his many publishing friends and admirers around the world will be as delighted by him winning this award as I am.*”

Isobel Dixon, Managing Director and Head of Books at Blake Friedmann Literary Agency said: “*It's a pleasure to see the LBF Lifetime Achievement Award go to Hiroshi Hayakawa this year, celebrating his pivotal role in bringing a great breadth of important translated fiction and non-fiction to Japanese readers over many decades. An independent publisher of long standing, willing to take risks with new voices from around the world, across a wide range of genres, his commitment to excellent writing, and to publishing with excellence, is admirable. His advocacy for the sheer pleasure of reading and enthusiasm for making great stories more widely accessible – from crime and science fiction through to literary prize winners and non-fiction – is inspiring. I'm glad to see London Book Fair celebrating that dedication to cultural exchange through consistent, quality publishing with the Lifetime Achievement Award now.*”

THE LONDON BOOK FAIR (LBF)

The London Book Fair (LBF) is the global marketplace for rights negotiation and the sale and distribution of content across print, audio, TV, film and digital channels. The London Book Fair is a unique opportunity to explore, understand and capitalise on the innovations shaping the publishing world of the future. LBF brings you direct access to customers, content and emerging markets. The London Book Fair 2022 will take place 5 – 7 April 2022 at Olympia London – find out more at www.londonbookfair.co.uk.

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*Note: Current market capitalisation can be found at <http://www.relx.com/investors>