

STEPHEN LEACOCK ASSOCIATES

Awarding the Leacock Medal for the best in Canadian Literary Humour

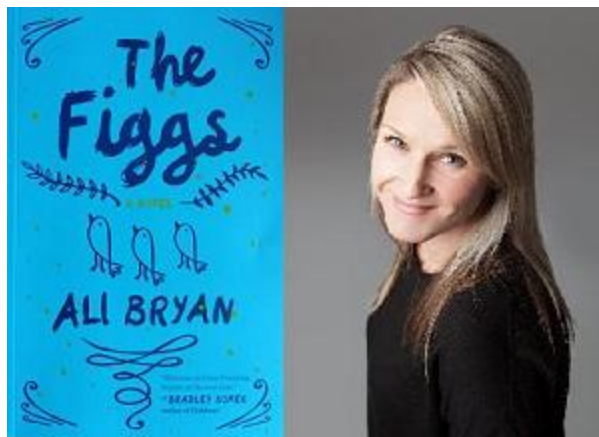


Bryan, Critch and Kelly make Leacock Medal shortlist

ORILLIA, Ont. — The Stephen Leacock Associates board of directors is pleased to announce the shortlist for this year's Stephen Leacock Memorial Medal for Humour.

In the running for the medal and \$15,000 prize are, in alphabetical order by author surname:

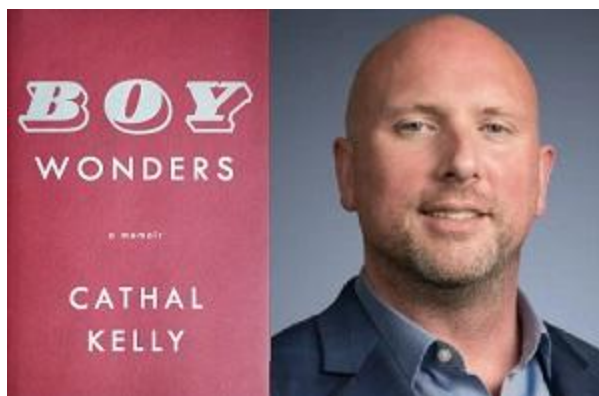
- **Ali Bryan, *The Figgs*** (Freehand Books)
Ali has had her non-fiction shortlisted for the Jon Whyte Memorial Essay and long listed for the CBC Creative Non-Fiction Prize. Her first novel, ROOST, won the Georges Bugnet Award for Fiction and was the official selection of One Book Nova Scotia in 2013. She lives with her family in Calgary.



- **Mark Critch, *Son of a Critch: A Childish Newfoundland Memoir*** (Penguin Random House Canada/Viking Canada)
Mark has won multiple awards for both writing and performance. He is one of the most recognizable faces in Canadian comedy. For fourteen years he has starred on CBC's THIS HOUR HAS 22 MINUTES. He is the host of CBC's Halifax Comedy Festival and has written for and appeared in CBC's world-renowned JUST FOR LAUGHS series.



- **Cathal Kelly, *Boy Wonders*** (Doubleday Canada).
Cathal is a national sports columnist at The Globe and Mail. He lives in Toronto.



The winner will be announced during a gala dinner on Saturday, June 8, 2019, at the Best Western Mariposa Inn and Conference Centre in Orillia.

“As always, our panel of judges from across Canada and our committee of local readers had the difficult task of choosing from many submissions — 68 books this year,” said Leacock Associates president Nathan Taylor. “Once again, they have not disappointed, choosing three worthy contenders for this year’s medal. We thank them for their invaluable time and effort.”

Tickets are on sale for the June 8 gala dinner. They cost \$75 each. The event will start at 5 p.m.

We are pleased to welcome back Ian Ferguson, winner of the medal in 2004, as our master of ceremonies for the evening.

We are also excited to welcome award-winning author and playwright Drew Hayden Taylor, who will succeed former Mayor of Mariposa Dan Needles. To honour his Indigenous roots, Hayden Taylor will hold the title of Grand Chief of Mariposa.

As a precursor to the gala dinner, you are also invited to attend a “Meet the Authors” evening on Friday, June 7, 2019, at 7 p.m., also at the Mariposa Inn. The cost is \$20 and includes appetizers.

Tickets for both of these events are available at the Leacock Museum in Orillia. Call 705-329-1908 or email jmartynyshyn@orillia.ca to make reservations. All tickets must be paid for in advance by cash or cheque only. Physical tickets are available for pickup at the museum, or can be picked up at each of the events if ordered and paid for in advance.

For more information, please see the Stephen Leacock Associates website at www.leacock.ca.