

Johanna Sinisalo is one of the few science and fantasy fiction novelists to win the prestigious Finlandia Prize, which was awarded to her first novel, along with the James Tiptree Jr. Memorial Award. Sinisalo has also been nominated for the Nebula Award and has won the Atorox award for the best Finnish-language SF short story seven times. Her eco-disaster novel *Enkelten verta* (Blood of Angels) was published in English in 2014, and the rights to the English version of her latest novel *Auringon Ydin* (Core of the Sun) – a dystopia with gastronomical undertones – have also been sold.

Nalo Hopkinson, a Jamaican novelist and academic currently based at the University of California Riverside, has won a World Fantasy Award for her work, among other honors, including Canada's Sunburst award (twice), as well as the John W. Campbell award. Her work has also been nominated for the James R. Tiptree Memorial and Philip K. Dick awards, as well as the Hugo and Nebula awards. Hopkinson's work explores race, class and gender issues, as well as cultural differences in fantasy and science fiction settings.

John-Henri Holmberg, a prolific editor, critic, publisher, and translator, co-authored *The Tattooed Girl*, an Edgar-nominated analytical biography exploring the work of his friend and colleague Stieg Larsson. He published his first fanzine at 13, in late 1962, and was for a long period Sweden's most prolific fan editor and writer. John-Henri is an award-winning critic and essayist and he was presented with the Big Heart Award at the 2005 Worldcon.

Claire Wendling is known widely for her work in comics and game art and was nominated for the Angoulême Grand Prix 2016. She was awarded the prestigious "Alph-Art avenir" ("future"/young talent) prize at the Angoulême International Comics Festival while still in her third year of art school and in 1991 was additionally awarded the festival's critics' prize (the "Bloody Mary"). Her body of work ranges in genre from sword and sorcery to jungle animals and sexy pin-ups and includes sketch books, illustrative works, and designs for Warner's *The Quest for Camelot* and the video game *Alone in the Dark IV*.

Walter Jon Williams, who lives in New Mexico, is an award-winning American author, with strong ties to Finland (all his grandparents were born there). He has worked closely with *Game of Thrones* author George R.R. Martin, and written more than 30 works, including cyberpunk (*Hardwired*, *Voice of the Whirlwind*, *Angel Station*), near-future thrillers (*This Is Not a Game*, *The Rift*), classic space opera (*Dread Empire's Fall*), "new" space opera (*Aristoi*) and post-cyberpunk new weird epic fantasy (*Metropolitan* and *City on Fire*).