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[caption id="attachment_8612" align="alignright" width="300" caption="The Red Tree - Shaun Tan"] [/caption]

The <u>Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award 2011</u> - the world's largest children's literature award - goes to Shaun Tan, author and illustrator from Australia.

The Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award (ALMA) is the world's largest prize for children's and young adult literature. The award, which amounts to SEK 5 million, is awarded annually to a single recipient or to several. Authors, illustrators, oral storytellers and those active in reading promotion may be rewarded.

The award is designed to promote interest in children's and young adult literature, and in children's rights, globally. An expert jury selects the winners from candidates nominated by institutions and organisations worldwide. The Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award is administered by the **Swedish Arts Council.**

<u>Shaun Tan</u> has illustrated more than 20 books, notable among them The Rabbits (1998), The Lost Thing (2000), The Red Tree (2001), The Arrival (2006) and Tales from Outer Suburbia (2008).

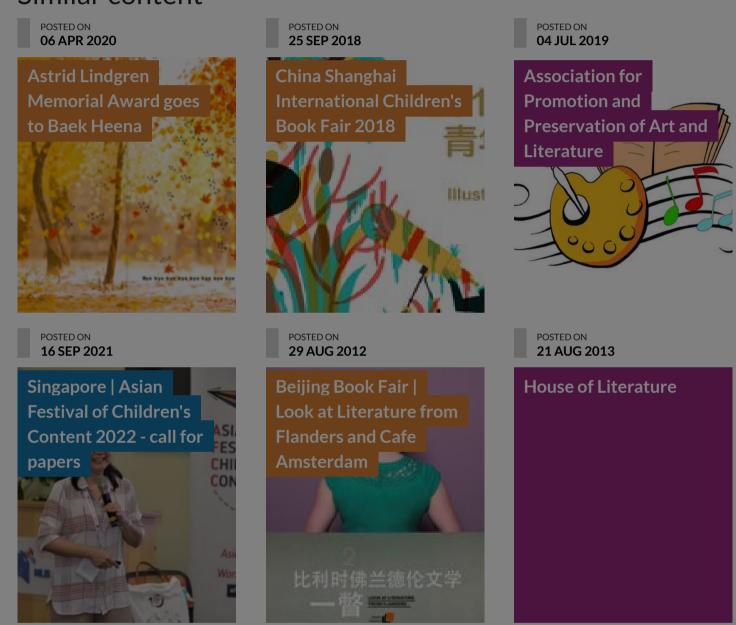
Shaun Tan has reinvented the picture book by creating visually spectacular pictorial narratives with a constant human presence. He uses a variety of means of artistic expression: lead pencil, Indian ink, coloured pencil, painting and various print techniques. Shaun Tan sees every book as an experiment in visual and verbal storytelling.

Shaun Tan also collaborates on animated film, musical and theatrical adaptations of his works, as well as producing fine art and murals.

His works have been translated into more than 10 languages, including German, Swedish, Spanish and Chinese.

The ALMA Award was announced in March at the Bologna Children's Book Fair

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