

JUAN MANUEL DE PRADA

Writer



Stakeholder at the table ronde (15h00 to 16h00)

Surrogate motherhood, eugenics, sale of women's gametes: transhumanism underw

CAREER PATH

Juan Manuel de Prada (Barakaldo, 1970) obtained a law degree in Salamanca.

In addition to his literary works, Juan Manuel de Prada has always had a fruitful relationship with the written press, especially the ABC newspaper and XLSemanal magazine. Having worked for the ABC Cultural supplement as a reviewer of contemporary North American fiction for several years, he now contributes to the film section. His journalistic work has been recognised with some of Spain's foremost awards, including the Julio Camba prize (1997), the César González-Ruano prize (2000), the Mariano de Cavia prize (2006) and the Joaquín Romero Murube prize (2008)

PUBLICATIONS

His first books – collections of short stories – were met with critical acclaim. After bursting onto the scene with his first novel, *Las máscaras del héroe* (1996) – which was awarded the Ojo Crítico Award for Fiction by Radio Nacional de España – he went on to win the Planeta Prize for *The Tempest (La tempestad)* the following year. The novel was translated into more than 20 languages and resulted in him being named one of the six most promising authors in Europe by The New Yorker magazine.

The aforementioned works were later followed by *The Corners of the Air (Las esquinas del aire)* and *Desgarrados y excéntricos*. His novel *The Invisible Life (La vida invisible)* won the Primavera Prize in 2003 before receiving the Nacional de Narrativa Prize for fiction in 2004. His next book, *The Seventh Veil (El séptimo velo)*, was awarded the Biblioteca Breve Prize in 2007, as well as the Castile and León Premio de la Crítica prize.

The Seventh Veil was followed up by *Me hallará la muerte*, published by Destino in 2012.

One of his most recently published novels is entitled *Morir bajo tu cielo (Espasa)*. The author borrowed the title from a verse by the poet José Rizal and used it to pen a literary reconstruction and reinterpretation of the story surrounding the so-called “last days of the Philippines”. Critics were unanimous in their opinion that *Morir bajo tu cielo* was the author's best work to date: “The book he always dreamed of... a perfect novel!” (Babelia, El País); “It has it all: a story, intrigue, love.. it's an epic. It's Juan Manuel de Prada's best novel – his great novel” (ABC Cultural).

His latest novel is *El Castillo de diamante* (Espasa, 2015). It tells the story of the relationship between Saint Teresa of Ávila and Ana de Mendoza, Princess of Eboli.