

Columnist of the year

consumer magazines

stateswoman

Mirza awarded

top prize

"intelligent, funny,
original"



Shazia Mirza

New Statesman

New Statesman

Mirza's fortnightly column for the *New Statesman* gives an insight into a whole culture that does not have a voice in the British media. It is unique; provocative, edgy, relevant and hilariously funny. She writes as a feisty young Muslim woman with a self deprecating and needle sharp humour, prepared to break taboos and make us think about the most controversial issues of our time, from suicide bombers to virginity. For example: 'With the IRA it used to be basic bombing, but the Muslims thought, "Anything you can do, I can do better", so we threw in suicide and the game was up for the IRA.'

Although she has only been writing for the title for 10 months, she has already established herself as a firm favourite, with readers describing her as 'a breath of fresh air', opening their eyes to a world that simply does not get reflected in the mainstream media. The judges agreed describing her as "intelligent, funny, original" and someone "who actually talks to their readers."

Shortlist

Martin Buckley - *Classic & Sports Car* - Haymarket Media Group
Matthew D'Ancona - *GQ* - The Condé Nast Publications
Michael Hodges - *Time Out* - Time Out Group
Christina Robert - *Easy Living* - The Condé Nast Publications
Grub Smith - *FHM* - Bauer London Lifestyle
Sandi Toksvig - *Good Housekeeping* - The National Magazine Company
Danny Wallace - *Shortlist* - Shortlist Media

Highly commended: Danny Wallace - *Shortlist* - Shortlist Media

The Sponsor

MMC

MMC congratulates the winner of this year's Columnist of the year – consumer magazines. MMC remains the UK's largest independent newstrade distributor representing over 100 clients and 250 magazines and collectables. We offer 'big title' circulation solutions for specialist magazines and have better information systems to help you find more sales both in the UK and overseas. Find out more by contacting James Stringer on 01483 211222 or www.mmcltd.co.uk

