

NOBEL GENIUS

Prizes, Prestige and Scientific Practice

Edited by

Nils Hansson & Ad Maas

LEIDEN UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cover design: Andre Klijsen

Cover illustration: Engraving in memorial of Alfred Nobel. Located in the City Hall of Stockholm.

© Kristoffer Pettersson.

Lay-out: Crius Group

Every effort has been made to obtain permission to use all copyrighted illustrations reproduced in this book. Nonetheless, whosoever believes to have rights to this material is advised to contact the publisher.

ISBN 9789087284138

e-ISBN 9789400604582 (e-PDF)

<https://doi.org/10.24415/9789087284138>

NUR 740

© Nils Hansson & Ad Maas / Leiden University Press, 2024

All rights reserved. Without limiting the rights under copyright reserved above, no part of this book may be reproduced, stored in or introduced into a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means (electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise) without the written permission of both the publisher and the editors of the book.

Table of Contents

Prizes? What prizes? <i>Preface by Klaas Landsman</i>	7
Chapter One. Introducing Prize Studies: Perspectives on Reward Mechanisms in Science <i>Nils Hansson & Ad Maas</i>	9
Chapter Two. Everybody's Searching for a Hero: Controversial Nobel Laureates and the Status of the Nobel Prize <i>Gustav Källstrand</i>	19
Chapter Three. Nobel Artefacts: Material Heritage of Nobel Prize Laureates in the Netherlands <i>Ad Maas & Louise Lagarde</i>	39
Chapter Four. What Heroes does Literature Need? Insight into the Nobel Prize as a Literary Motif <i>Daniela Link</i>	65
Chapter Five. The Post-Heroic Nobel Laureate Having Fun: A New Scientific Ideal in Post-War America <i>Annelie Drakman</i>	81
Chapter Six. Demythologizing Science: Reijer Hooykaas on Hero Worship as "Undesirable" and "Disdaining" <i>Jelmer Heeren</i>	115
Chapter Seven. Honours Without Impact: Emil von Behring's Inconsequential Nobel Prize <i>Christiaan Engberts</i>	141
Chapter Eight. A Hotly Contested Nobel: Christiaan Eijkman, Gerrit Grijs and the Discovery of Vitamin B1 <i>Rob van den Berg</i>	159

Chapter Nine. Konrad Lorenz, Nicolaas Tinbergen, and Karl von Frisch: the Scientific Network and the Controversy over the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 1973 <i>Daniela Angetter-Pfeiffer</i>	181
Chapter Ten. What Does it Take for an Anatomist to Get a Nobel Prize? An Analysis of the Nobel Prize Nominations for Wolfgang Bargmann, Albert von Kölliker and Hans Spemann <i>Nils Hansson, Giacomo Padrini, Andreas Winkelmann, Mathias Schütz</i>	203
Chapter Eleven. Physicians as Candidates for the Nobel Peace Prize <i>Leander Scheel & Nils Hansson</i>	217
About the Authors	227
Index of Names	229