



Ashurst Emerging Artist Prize 2019 - shortlist announced

International law firm Ashurst and Oaktree & Tiger are pleased to announce the 30 artists shortlisted for the Ashurst Emerging Artist Prize 2019.

Chosen out of more than 4,450 artworks entered by over 1,900 artists, the shortlist includes artists from Israel, China, France, Pakistan, Ireland, Ukraine, America, Canada and the UK working across a number of mediums including sculpture, painting, photography and for the first time new media.

The 30 shortlisted artists' artworks, chosen by a panel of renowned experts, which includes guest judges Genesis Imaging creative director Mark Foxwell and independent art advisor Averil Curci, will be exhibited at Ashurst's London offices from May to August 2019. Josh McNorton, Head of Programmes for Rich Mix, also joined the guest panel to lead on the judging of the inaugural new media award for artists who employ digital techniques to produce their work. The new media shortlist will be exhibited online from June to September.

This year the overall winner, along with the winners of the sculpture and choice awards will receive £3,500, £1,750 and £1,250, respectively, along with solo-exhibitions in the Ashurst Emerging Artist Gallery and Cass Art vouchers. For the third year the Prize partners with East London arts organisation Rich Mix, this time to launch the new media prize which will award one artist £1,000 and a solo exhibition at Rich Mix. The winner of the new photography award, supported by Genesis Imaging and Fujifilm, will receive £500 and £1,000 worth of production services and a professional mentorship with Genesis Imaging.

The Prize continues to build its focus on supporting and leading diversity in the visual arts. Prevalent themes in this year's shortlisted artists are representative of the wider idea's entrants were exploring through their submissions around the current age of the Anthropocene and the manmade and natural worlds, to the exploration of the body, identity and how this is affected by the current cultural climate. Within the 2019 shortlist itself work explores sense of self within a personal and universal context, questions diversity and stereotyped representation of minorities and looks at people's relationship to both domestic and commercial settings.

The Prize continues to be complemented with a series of professionally led talks providing practical guidance for artists, an extensive social media presence promoting all entrants and the option for early entrants to request feedback from the art experts. The aim of this is to support Emerging Artists working autonomously to build their profiles and careers without dependency on representation by a gallery or agent.

For further details of the Prize, to be invited to the private view event or to arrange a viewing, please visit www.artprize.co.uk.

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For further media information/interview opportunities please contact:

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Media Resources available at <http://www.artprize.co.uk/media-room.html>

Notes to editors:

Artist list on following page.

