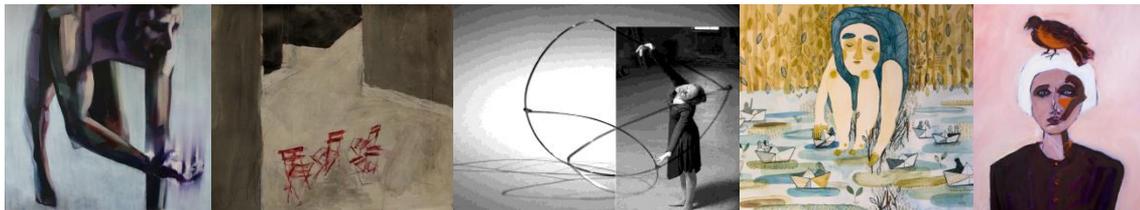




14 April 2016

Ashurst Emerging Artist Prize 2016 - shortlist announced



International law firm Ashurst and Oaktree & Tiger Gallery are pleased to announce the 25 artists shortlisted for the Ashurst Emerging Artist Prize 2016.

Chosen out of more than 1,890 artworks entered by over 740 artists, the shortlist includes artists from Europe, Iran, China, India, South Africa, North, Central and South America who are working across sculpture, digital, painting, photography and other art forms. The prizes will be awarded to three of these artists in the final stage of the competition.

This year the prizes of £3,000 and £1,500, with solo exhibitions in the Ashurst Emerging Artists Gallery, were expanded with a new Sculpture prize of £1,000 and support from Cass Art with £1,000 of additional prizes. The Prize continues to be complemented with talks providing practical guidance for artists, and an extensive social media presence promoting all entrants, in order to benefit as many participating artists as possible.

The winners will be announced in June 2016, with events and online support continuing while the social media campaign promoting all entrants continues until the launch of the Art Prize 2017.

Commenting on the Art Prize, Ashurst's Chief Marketing Officer, Lisa Worley, said:

"Once again the Ashurst Emerging Artist Prize has been hugely successful, not just in the number of entrants but also in terms of the quality and variety of the works. We are delighted that the prize continues to attract some of the world's most exciting emerging artists and congratulate all of the shortlisted artists. We look forward to enjoying the exhibition of their works at Ashurst's offices in London."

Conrad Carvalho, Panel Chairman and Gallery Director at Oaktree & Tiger, added:

"We are excited that the prize is three times bigger. Plus it is reaching a much larger audience, which is successfully putting participating artists in front of art professionals who are looking for the best artists for their projects. The high quality and quantity of the entries has made the process much harder as every artwork must be looked at by each judge, but we now have an excellent shortlist of artists and they will be exhibited until July."

Rosa Sepple RI, Director at the Royal Institute of Painters in Watercolours and member of the judging panel, said:

"It was an honour to be invited to help judge the hugely successful Ashurst Emerging Artist Prize. I regularly sit on selection panels and this Prize is particularly interesting. Looking closely at every entry we meet to discuss the works to choose those who we think show the most potential. The presentation to us is exceptional and we get to see so many fabulous works of art. This competition, I am sure, will be the stepping stone into the often difficult, art world."

Judge Dr David Bellingham, MA Art Business Programme Director at Sotheby's Institute, added:

"The Ashurst Emerging Artist Prize is in its second year and the entries continue to astound me with the amount of unexposed creative and technical talent out there. The Prize succeeds in bringing the best of these into the public gaze."

The Prize builds on the success of the Ashurst Emerging Artists initiative, launched in November 2013 to support and mentor up and coming artists and provide them with a platform to showcase their work. Since the launch, the Prize has seen a variety of artists working across different mediums successfully exhibit in the Emerging Artists Gallery at the firm's London office, gaining exposure to a wide and varying audience which, in some cases, has led to the artist securing the next important step in their career.

For further details of the Prize, please visit www.artprize.co.uk. The Prize will also be supported through the Ashurst website and social media, including its Facebook page and Twitter account (links available at www.artprize.co.uk).

...ENDS...

For further media information/interview opportunities please contact:

Ashurst, Leticia Correa: +44(0) 207 859 2433 / leticia.correa@ashurst.com

Oaktree & Tiger, Conrad Carvalho: +44 (0) 7803 244159 / conrad@oaktreeandtiger.com

Notes to editors:

The shortlisted artists comprise: Jane Duff, Rudolf Humm, Hermès Lucas, Barbara Kroll, Brad Kenny, Joonhong Min, Mirjam Siim, Ana Maria Martinez, Beatrice Haines, Jamie Andrews, John MacAulay, Philippa Paterson, Charlie Schaffer, Emma Copley, Kiran Tasneem, Stathis Dimitriadis, Katherine Russell, Dominic Keshavarz, Joaquin Coca, Eirik Broll Stalheim, Alexandre Oliveira, Kyveli Anastasiadi, Maureen Jordan, Maryam Deyhim, Emily Marbach.