



**29 March 2017**

## **Ashurst Emerging Artist Prize 2017 – shortlist announced**

International law firm Ashurst and Oaktree & Tiger are pleased to announce the 25 artists shortlisted for the Ashurst Emerging Artist Prize 2017.

Chosen out of more than 3,743 artworks entered by over 1,516 artists, the shortlist includes artists from Brazil, China, India, Iran, Korea, Russia, Spain, Turkey, and the UK working across a number of mediums including sculpture, digital, painting, and photography. The winners will be announced in June 2017.

The 25 Shortlisted Artists' artworks, chosen by a newly expanded panel of renowned experts, will be exhibited at Ashurst's London offices from 3 April to 30 June 2017.

This year the prizes of £3,000, £1,500 and £1,000, with solo exhibitions in the London-based Ashurst Emerging Artist Gallery, were expanded with a new prize for East London artists or themed art in collaboration with [Rich Mix](#) - an independent arts venue in East London. The new award includes a solo exhibition this June 2017 in the Mezzanine Gallery at Rich Mix and a £500 cash prize.

The Prize continues to be complemented with a series of ongoing talks providing practical marketing guidance for all artists, a constantly updated social media presence offering advice tips and promoting all entrants and the option for early entrants to request feedback from our art experts.

### **Commenting on the Art Prize, Ashurst's chairman, Ben Tidswell said:**

*"It has been wonderful to see the continued success of the Ashurst Emerging Artist Prize, not just in the quality of the work but also in terms of the number of entrants. This prize reflects our commitment to the promotion of the arts and artists of the future. This is an important initiative, not only for Ashurst but for all the artists taking part. 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."*

### **Conrad Cavalho, Prize Director and Gallery Director at Oaktree & Tiger, said:**

*"The Ashurst Emerging Artist Prize has rapidly become a highly regarded prize which celebrates up and coming artists across the globe. We are delighted by the overwhelming response we continue to receive year on year from artists of all ages and disciplines. The high quality of the entries has made the judging process very tough, but we now have a fascinating shortlist of artists to work with and help. We look forward to not only choosing the winners but continuing to offer support and practical guidance to all entries via free informative talks, networking events and social media exposure to our network of art professionals and clients."*

### **Last year's Ashurst Emerging Artist Prize winner, Mirjam Siim said:**

*"For me winning the Ashurst Emerging Artist Prize came as a big surprise and at the same time as a proof that hard work will (almost) always pay off in one way or another. I could not be happier for the result and besides giving me a lot of extra motivation to continue with what I am doing, it might also open some new doors for me in the future."*

The Prize builds again 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.

The prize is also supported by the UK's leading independent art supplies retailer, Cass Art, who are giving a £500 gift voucher to the winner of the Ashurst Emerging Artist Prize to spend on art supplies, and £250 gift voucher for both the Sculpture Prize and Employee Choice Award.

Shortlisted Artists: Sol Bailey Barker, Ilsa Brittain, Chris Burke, Rebecca Chitticks , John Clark, Jaana Fowler, Nathaniel Hornsby, Martin Hyde, Gillian Hyland, Jorg Karg, Sung-Kook Kim, Eleanor Langton, Tom Levy, John Martin, Gerard McGregor, Marta Metko-Skoczylas, Claudine O'Sullivan, Helena Perez Garcia, Alexandra Pullen, Katy Sayers Green, Sarah Shaw, Katy Shorttle, James Trundle, Yuting Wang, Martha Zmpounou.

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](http://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>