

Ashurst Emerging Artist Prize 2018 open for submissions

International law firm Ashurst and Oaktree & Tiger announce the launch of the fourth annual Ashurst Emerging Artist Prize, a major global prize for emerging artists.

The winner, selected by a judging panel of eminent art experts, collectors and artists, will receive a £3,000 cash prize and a solo exhibition in the Ashurst Emerging Artists Gallery in London, with the winner of the sculpture prize receiving a £1,000 cash award and a solo exhibition of their work. There is also the Employee Choice Award of £1,500, chosen by Ashurst employees and clients internationally, and the Rich Mix East London Prize of £500 with a solo exhibition at Rich Mix London's Gallery.

This year also sees renowned corporate art expert and writer **Anthony Fawcett** join the judging panel. Anthony is well known for creating the limited edition Beck's Artist's Bottles commissioning artists Gilbert & George, Damien Hirst, Jeff Koons, and Tracey Emin as well as inventing the Becks Art Sponsorship Programme and was responsible for Beck's Futures – the UK's largest artists prize in 2000-2006. Anthony will be joined by returning judges: artist and first female President of the Royal Institute of Painters in Water Colours **Rosa Sepple**, senior lecturer at Sotheby's Institute of Art **David Bellingham**, Director of the Schorr Collection **Howard Lewis**, art critic and writer **Aindrea Emelife**, and sculptor and Council Member of the Royal British Society of Sculptors **Briony Marshall**. Further judges will be announced soon.

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 a £250 gift voucher for both the Sculpture Prize and Employee Choice Award.

The Prize is complemented by professionally led 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 globally.

Last year, the Prize received over 3,740 entries from more than 1,510 artists from as far as Turkey, Spain, Brazil, Russia, Iran, India, Greece, Korea and China. The shortlisted and winning artists showed key themes that prevailed across entries of gender and sexuality, peoples relationship with technology, and the fragility of the human condition, giving a snapshot of what is inspiring emerging artists at present.

Open to artists anywhere in the world, entries are accepted in a wide range of media. The deadline for entries is **14 January 2018**, with the shortlist to be announced in March 2018 and final winners announced in June 2018. All artists who enter before the **26 November** will be eligible for practical and individual feedback on their application to help support them in self representing their practice.

Commenting on the Art Prize, Ashurst's Chairman, Ben Tidswell, said:

"We are extremely proud of the success the Ashurst Emerging Artist Prize has achieved so far, and we are delighted to be launching the Prize for 2018. Since we first launched in 2014, we have seen a tremendous increase, not just in the number of entrants, but also in terms of the quality and variety of the works. It is our hope that this competition will continue to help raise awareness of the exceptional calibre of work from emerging artists around the world."

Conrad Carvalho, Panel Chairman and Art Advisor at Oaktree & Tiger, said:

"The prize audience grew significantly on an international level last year with entries from the widest variety of countries we've seen, and we are continuing to focus on supporting each individual member of our Artist Community equally as they work to develop their profile and practice. This year we're pursuing new ways to deliver our career development talks worldwide as well as offering new benefits, opportunities and collaborations

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via our platform.”

Full information about how to enter, including entry forms and rules, can be found online at www.artprize.co.uk.

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For further media information/interview opportunities please contact:

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