

X March 2014

Ashurst Emerging Artist Prize 2015 - shortlist announced



International law firm Ashurst and Oaktree & Tiger Gallery are pleased to announce the 25 artists short listed for the Ashurst Emerging Artist Prize 2015.

Out of more than 600 artworks entered by over 270 artists, the short list includes artists from Europe, South America, Iran, China, South Africa, North and Central America who are working across sculpture, digital, painting, photography and many more styles.

The prizes of £3,000 and £1,500, with solo exhibitions in the Ashurst Emerging Artist Gallery, are complemented with a series of ongoing talks providing practical marketing guidance for artists, a constantly updated social media presence offering advice tips and promoting all early entrants and the option for every entrant to request feedback.

The winners will be announced in June 2015, with events and online support continuing while individual feedback is sent to the 200+ artists that requested it.

Commenting on the Art Prize, Ashurst corporate partner and founder of the Emerging Artist initiative Anthony Clare said:

"The prize has so far exceeded expectations, not just in the quality of the work but also in terms of number of entrants, in part driven by the support we have offered to every artist through the application process. This prize is the flagship of our arts programme and 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 have high hopes for the outcome of this new important prize and congratulate all of the short listed artists."

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

"We are delighted by the overwhelming response from artists around the globe and across all ages and disciplines. The high quality of the entries has made the judging process very tough, but we now have a varied shortlist of artworks and regret that we couldn't make this list much bigger. We look forward to choosing the winners and continuing to help artists in their careers with the talk events, the blog and the Ashurst Emerging Artist Initiative."

The prize builds on the success of the Ashurst Emerging Artist initiative, launched in November 2013 to support and mentor up and coming artists and provide them with a platform to showcase their work. The last 12 months have seen a variety of artists working across different mediums successfully exhibit in the Emerging Artist 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).

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For further media information/interview opportunities please contact:

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Notes to editors:

The shortlisted artists comprise: Matt Ray, John Walker, Caitriona Dunnett, Benjamin Parker, Amy Rogers, Maryam Deyhim, Jessica Wetherly, Carol Tarn, Junko O'Neill, Grant Legassick, Bob Aldous, Sarah Nabarro, Cara Campbell, Brendon Murless, Jessica Debba, Gina Soden, Lindsey Lavender, O. Yemi Tubi, Enrique Pitarch, Barbara Nati, Pascal Ungerer, Sarah Sharpe, Carlos Abarca, Jane Tudge and Lilian Villa.