

FUTURE GREATS: AESTHETICA ART PRIZE 2019



Image Credits: Alec Von Bargaen, *Under the Blue Skies of Agok* (2017); Teppei Yamada, *Apart and/or Together* (2017); May Parlar, *Collective Solitude* (2018).

The Aesthetica Art Prize returns with 18 shortlisted artists whose works explore themes of disconnection in today's world, inviting audiences to discover and engage with new ideas.

The Aesthetica Art Prize covers a range of themes from technology, urbanisation and digitisation to population growth and ecological destruction and climate change. The artworks presented in the 2019 edition (**8 March – 14 July, York Art Gallery**) draw on both personal and universal narratives. In the age of globalisation, culture is becoming homogenised and identity is fluid. What does this mean for the individual?

The shortlisted artists include: Alec Von Bargaen (New York); Nicolas Bernier (Canada); Ludivine Large-Bessette (France); Mark Bloomfield (UK); Sebastian Kite (UK); Yunhan Liu (China); Daniel Mullen (UK); Jenn Nkiru (UK); May Parlar (USA); María Molina Peiró (Netherlands); Rebecca Reeve (USA); Giulio Di Sturco (UK); Noriyuki Suzuki (Germany); Maryam Tafakory (UK); Jane & Louise Wilson (UK); Teppei Yamada (Japan); Sim Chi Yin (Singapore); Christiane Zschlommer (UK).

Highlights from the show include:

- **Teppei Yamada's installation *Apart and/or Together*** comprises 10 different heartbeats, which are reminders of the real human lives rendered invisible in discussions around citizenship and migration.
- **Giulio Di Sturco's photographic series *Aerotropolis, The Way We Will Live Next*** considers how landscapes centred around airports shape urban development in the 21st century as much as highways did in the 20th century, railroads in the 19th century and seaports in the 18th century.
- **Christiane Zschlommer's *Beyond Orwell Series*** focuses on familial experiences under totalitarianism in East Germany, photographing objects using found secret government statistics and discussing surveillance culture.
- **Turner-Prize nominees Jane & Louise Wilson** depict the relationship between the Houses of Parliament, Trinity House in Newcastle, and the abandoned coastal fortifications on Governors Island, Manhattan with *Suspended Island*. The artists' film discusses the perception of an island at this time, during Brexit negotiations.
- **Noriyuki Suzuki's installation *Oh My ()*** is one of the pieces expanding upon changing modes of communication. The work monitors the Twitter feed in real time, sounding out the phrase "oh my (god)" in one of 48 languages every time the word "god" is tweeted. The artwork considers the complexities and intangibility of religion in the digitised world.

Running concurrently is the **Future Now Symposium (7-8 March, York St John University)**, a two-day event bringing together key institutions, galleries and publications for discussion surrounding today's most pressing issues including *The Politics of Representation; How Are Exhibitions Programmed?; The Business of Art; and Arts Journalism in the Digital Age*. The 2019 edition also introduces headline speakers **Alex Majoli (Magnum Photos)** and **Shawn Waldron (Curator, Getty Images Gallery)**. A range of delegates from leading arts organisations are in attendance including **Foam Amsterdam, V&A, Royal Academy, RIBA, London Art Fair, The Design Museum, Michael Hoppen and Huxley-Parlour**.

Cherie Federico, Director, notes: "There have been considerable shifts in civilisation in the Information Age – resulting in a change in the way we communicate, engage with and interact with each other. The shortlisted works investigate this concept through a wide range of styles and techniques. Similarly, the Future Now Symposium looks at how the creative industries are changing, asking vital questions about current trends and developments across art, design and technology."

Notes for Editors:

For **PRESS** information and images please contact:

Hannah Skidmore, Marketing Coordinator

hannah@aestheticamagazine.com | (0044) (0)1904 629 137

- **Request a Symposium Pass by emailing:** hannah@aestheticamagazine.com
- **The Aesthetica Art Prize Exhibition runs 8 March – 14 July at York Art Gallery.** It is a celebration of emerging and established artists from across the world, inviting audiences to be inspired by a wealth of ideas and perspectives. **Entries are open for the 2020 edition until 31 August.** <http://www.aestheticamagazine.com/exhibition-2019/>
- **The Aesthetica Future Now Symposium runs Thursday 7 March and Friday 8 March at York St John University.** Attendees can either purchase a One Day or Two Day Pass. A One-Day pass entitles visitors to attend three sessions on either the Thursday or the Friday, whilst a Two-Day Pass permits access to three sessions each day. A complimentary lunch is included with all passes. Thursday or Two Day passes also include a free ticket to the Aesthetica Art Prize Private View. <http://www.aestheticamagazine.com/future-now-symposium-2019/>
- **The 2018 Aesthetica Art Prize Judging Panel includes:** Cherie Federico, Co-Founder and Managing Director of Aesthetica; Alessandro Vincentelli, Curator of Exhibitions & Research at BALTIC; Dr. Beatrice Bertram, Senior Curator at York Art Gallery; En Liang Khong, News and Comment Editor, *Frieze Magazine*; Dr. Itandehui Jansen, Filmmaker & Research, Edinburgh College of Art; Mariana Pestana, Curator, V&A; Michelle Williams Gamaker, Fine Art Lecturer, Goldsmiths University; Mike Stubbs, Creative Producer Doncaster 20-22; Dr. Samantha Broadhead, Head of Research, Leeds Arts University; Thomas Dukes, Curator, Open Eye Gallery; Edmund Clark; David Birkin.
- **The 2019 Shortlisted Artists include:** Alec Von Bargaen (Italy); Nicolas Bernier (Canada); Ludivine Large-Besette (France); Mark Bloomfield (UK); Sebastian Kite (UK); Yunhan Liu (China); Daniel Mullen (UK); Jenn Nkiru (UK); May Parlar (USA); María Molina Peiró (Netherlands); Rebecca Reeve (USA); Giulio Di Sturco (UK); Noriyuki Suzuki (Germany); Maryam Tafakory (UK); Jane and Louise Wilson (UK); Teppei Yamada (Japan); Sim Chi Yin (Singapore); Christiane Zschlommer (UK).
- **Press images** can be [downloaded here](#).
- **Art Prize and Future Now are hosted by Aesthetica Magazine:** www.aestheticamagazine.com

