

NEWS

Keeping you up-to-date with developments in the visual arts environment including funding, government and European policy; changes in law and taxation; artist-led organisation and workplace developments; new awards, residencies, commissions; prize winners and bursary recipients and more.

Winner takes all

Prizes and awards taking place over the summer months

The first major project concentrating on printmaking in the UK for over twenty years, Northern Print Biennale 2009 launches in July. Through an extensive programme of events across Newcastle upon Tyne, the Biennale aims to reward and promote the very best in British and international printmaking. The 2009 Print Awards, the centrepiece of the Biennale, includes ninety artists shortlisted from an open submission earlier this year. Selected artists include Sian Bowen, Alex Charrington, Ian Davenport, Rachel Gross, Barton Hargreaves, Richard Woods and Wenhsi Zhang, with exhibitions taking place at the following spaces: Hatton Gallery, 26 June – 15 August; Laing Art Gallery, 4 July – 4 October; and Northern Print, 26 June – 4 October. The satellite programme 'Print City' features projects at galleries around Newcastle, Gateshead including Baltic, Designed and Made, Mushroom Works and Vane. Northern Print Biennale 2009 is initiated by Northern Print.

www.northernprint.org.uk



The Jameel Prize is a £25,000 international prize for contemporary artists and designers inspired by Islamic traditions of craft and design. Over 100 nominations were received, from which the judging panel shortlisted nine contenders. The first winner of the prize will be announced at an awards ceremony at the V&A on 7 July. Work by the winner and by the other eight shortlisted artists and designers will be exhibited at the V&A 8 July

– 13 September. Nominated artist Hamra Abbas will show a new work entitled *Please Do Not Step 3* which takes the form of a floor covering composed of an intricate and delicate pattern drawn from Islamic sources and makes reference to the role of Islam in today's world.

www.vam.ac.uk



AIR member Matt Smith is recipient of the arc award from Aspex artists' resource centre. The award provides Smith with twelve months' mentoring by the art team, a cash prize and an exhibition at Aspex Gallery, Portsmouth in 2010. Smith, who uses ceramics to explore social and political subjects, says: "This is a very exciting opportunity to gain the backing of a publicly funded gallery and be mentored over the next twelve months. Having a guaranteed exhibition at the end of the project encourages you to take greater risks and I am delighted to be working with the team at arc."

www.mattsmith.com
www.aspex.org.uk/arc.htm

From a shortlist that also included Adam Dant and Bedwyr Williams, the winner of the Daiwa Foundation Art Prize is Marcus Costes. The prize offers artists a unique opportunity to gain an insight into Japan's visual art sector. Works by all three artists is exhibited at the Daiwa Foundation, Japan House Gallery, London until 17 July. As well as being awarded a £5,000 participation fee, the winning artist will be given the opportunity for a solo exhibition at the Torino Koyama Gallery, Tokyo.

www.dajf.org.uk

NOAC

This year sees the staging of the 13th National Open Art Competition in Chichester Open to artists of any age from around the UK; professional or amateur, working in painting, print or drawing, the judging panel for 2009 is chaired by artist Gavin Turk, assisted by Catherine Lampert, former Director of the Whitechapel Art Gallery in London, James Stewart, director of Zimmer Stewart gallery in Arundel, and David Barne, a director of RK Harrison Insurance Brokers Ltd.

A total prize fund of £40,000 will be awarded to winning artists. The finalists work will be exhibited in the Minerva building of the Chichester Festival Theatre (7-21 November), with the prize winners and highly commended works subsequently shown at Pallant House Gallery in Chichester (24-30 November). Online applications can be submitted until 24 July.

www.thenationalepenartcompetition.com



1 Ian Davenport, *Fetched Lines Thirty Four*, 69.5x53cm. See Northern Print Biennale 2009

2 Matt Smith, *Nostalgia*, white earthenware, underglaze colours and decals, 31cm high.

3 Meachan Hyckie, *London Girl*. Hyckie was awarded second prize in the 'young artist' category of the 2008 National Open Art Competition.