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Gavin Turk, National Open Art Competition, David Hockney, YBA



## Gavin Turk Announced As President Of National Open Art Competition

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Gavin Turk ups his commitment to NOAC – fast becoming the UK's most important open art competition

The National Open Art Competition has revealed key YBA Gavin Turk as their new Artist's president. Formerly the Chairman of the Judges from 2009-2011, Turk has now increased his commitment to the competition, now in its 15th year. This year, the prize is for £40,000, and attracts both emerging and established artists, makers, and photographers, who recognise the competition as an invaluable opportunity.

There will be two new categories this year – Street Art and Computer Generated Art – opening the competition up to a wider genre of artists. These new accepted mediums will broaden the opportunities for UK emerging artists and makers, and reflect the drift toward this new creative discipline, following the landmark exhibition at the Royal Academy showcasing David Hockney's compelling iPad drawings.

Here is the new line up for the NOAC judging panel for 2012:

**Lisa Wright** senior lecturer at the University College Falmouth and winner of Hunting Prize 2003, Artist in Residence at the Royal Shakespeare Company, winner of the NOAC 2009, and artist represented by Beardsmore Gallery in London.

**Francis Hodgson** photographic art critic for The Financial Times, former head of photographs at Sotheby's, and one of the founders of the Prix Pictet.

**Andrew Stahl** Director of Undergraduate Studies and Head of Undergraduate Painting at UCL Slade School of Fine Art, and an international acclaimed artist.

**Gus Casely-Hayford** works in the media, an art historian, former director of Arts Strategy, Arts Council England, and ex director of the Institute of International Visual Arts, he is best known for his series Lost Kingdom of Africa.

**Cedar Lewisohn** is an artist and curator; he famously curated the exhibition Street Art at Tate Modern. His most recent book Abstract Graffiti is an authority overview of this global street trend.

The winners and selected artists the unique opportunity of showcasing their work at 4 venues: Minerva Theatre, Chichester Festival Theatre; The Foundation Gallery, Hoxton London; Pallant House Gallery, Chichester; Watercolour + Works on Paper Art Fair, Science Museum London.

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