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National acclaim for talented young artist

YOUNG artist Matthew King is through to the final of the National Open Art Competition.

Matthew, who is from Lancing, was selected from more than 1,000 artists to be in the 117 chosen for the showcase at the Minerva, Chichester Festival Theatre.

Matthew's piece is a drawing called *Found*, which explores the fine line between isolation and solitude.

"It feels really good to reach this stage," said 23-year-old Matthew of Adur Close, Lancing.

"I'm really excited about what could happen and the opportunity for so many people to come and see my work."

Matthew went to King's Manor Community College, and recently completed a degree in Fine Art at Northbrook College.

First prize in the competition is £10,000 and second prize is £5,000.

There is also a young artist fund available of up to £5,000, a visitors' choice prize and five regional prizes.

If Matthew wins any of these prizes his work will also be displayed in the Arts Club, Dover Street, London, before being returned to Chichester and exhibited at the Pallant House Gallery for another week.

The exhibition at the Minerva is open until Saturday, November 22.

