



FONDATION
FRANÇOIS SCHNEIDER

Call for applications

21 September - 20 November 2020

Contemporary Talents

10th edition - New formula!

Contemporary Art Competition

Propose a work or project on the theme of water.

Exhibition • Acquisition • Publication



56
laureates

THE “CONTEMPORARY TALENTS” COMPETITION

Every year since 2011, the Talents Contemporains competition invites artists of all nationalities and disciplines to propose works or projects on the theme of water.

Water is explored under many aspects, ecological, environmental, philosophical, plastic, scientific, political, geographical, poetic... with various proposals ranging from drawing to photography, sculpture, installation or video.

The François Schneider Foundation wishes to support artists halfway through their career and to reveal them to a wide public by exhibiting their works in the François Schneider Foundation art centre and by circulating the works acquired for projects outside the walls (exhibitions, festivals...).

To date, the François Schneider Foundation has built up a unique collection on the theme of water, bringing together more than sixty works.

In brief

- > an annual international contemporary art competition dedicated to the theme of water.
- > more than 1000 entries per year from over 100 countries.
- > **From this 10th edition onwards, 4 winning artists will be rewarded annually for their project or work. 2 works or projects from the fields of sculpture or installation will be rewarded as well as 2 (existing) works from the rest of the visual arts (painting, drawing, photography, video).**
- > the artists will benefit from a group exhibition in the Foundation's art centre, a bilingual publication and the acquisition of their work.
- > a unique collection with some sixty works by 56 winning artists.
- > a maximum endowment of 160,000 euros per year, 15,000 euros per prizewinner and 100,000 euros devoted to the production of the works presented in the form of projects (sculpture, installation), as production assistance.

To this day, **56 artists were rewarded:**

Yoav Admoni (IS), Akmar (NL), Renaud Auguste-Dormeuil (FR), Nour Awada (FR-LB), Rachael Louise Bailey (GB), Guillaume Barth (FR), Hicham Berrada (MO), Benoit Billotte (FR), Mathieu Bonardet (FR), Muriel Bordier (FR), Jessie Brennan (GB), Emilie Brout & Maxime Marion (FR), Gaëlle Callac (FR), Cécile Carrière (FR), Julie Chaffort (FR), Yves Chaudouët (FR), Claire Chesnier (FR), Etienne Cliquet (FR), Valère Costes (FR), Olivier Crouzel (FR), Edouard Decam (FR), Asieh Dehghani (IR), Rebecca Digne (FR), Cristina Escobar (CU), Laurent Faulon (FR), Sara Ferrer (ES), Etienne Fouchet (FR), Antoine Gonin (FR), Harald Hund (AT), Hao Jingfang & Wang Lingjie (CH), Elizaveta Konovalova (RS), Jérémy Laffon (FR), Mathilde Lavenne (FR), Olivier Leroi (FR), Rahshia Linendoll-Sawyer (US), Claire Malrieux (FR), Laurent Mareschal (FR), Medhi Meddaci (FR), Camille Michel (FR), Gustavo Millon (CL), Eva Nielsen (FR), Maël Nozahic (FR), Johan Parent (FR), Benoît Pype (FR), Bertrand Rigaux (FR), Benjamin Rossi (FR), Erik Samakh (FR), Sandra & Ricardo (PT), Alex Seton (AS), Paul Souviron (FR), Capucine Vandebrouck (FR) et Wiktoria Wojciechowska (PL) and Zhang Kechun (CH).



THE FONDATION FRANÇOIS SCHNEIDER, 20 YEARS OF COMMITMENT TO EDUCATION & ARTISTIC CREATION

- > An atypical and committed foundation
- > A philanthropic foundation in Alsace, located in rural areas and in the heart of Europe
- > A willingness to support equal opportunities, in terms of education and artistic creation
- > A territory on the banks of the Rhine inspiring a program that celebrates water and promotes interculturality.
- > An annual international competition, Talents Contemporains, with a budget of 160,000 euros.
- > An art centre of 4,500 m², a sculpture garden and a collection of 78 works of art
- > Thematic exhibitions produced by and for the foundation
- > A residency program for young artists from schools along the Rhine River
- > Cultural mediation promoting exchange with artists and the awakening of the public, especially young people and audiences from all walks of life.

Philanthropic foundation, established in 2000 and recognized as a body acting in the public interest in 2005, the François Schneider Foundation, **works in the twin fields of culture and education**. The Foundation enables secondary school pupils to access higher education by offering them grants and assists contemporary artists by supporting the diffusion of their work.

The Foundation, directed by Marie Terrieux, encourages creative activity through various initiatives devoted to the theme of water, including an international competition, the acquisition of works for its collection and the organisation of themed exhibitions in its Contemporary Art Centre and sculpture garden. This work is complemented by publications, loans, travelling exhibitions and a residency programme for young artists from art schools along the Rhine.

Located on the Rhine territory, which runs from Switzerland to the Netherlands by way of France and Germany, the François Schneider Foundation places interculturality at the heart of its programming, aiming to bring about fruitful contacts between artists and the local populations of these different areas.

THE THEME OF WATER

The theme of water takes a particular sense within the Foundation's Contemporary Art Centre. This one is built in the former bottling plant from Wattwillers springs. Water is also omnipresent in the exhibited art works and in the architecture itself.

Water has always been a source of artistic inspiration. Still in the time of ancient Egypt, the representation of waters undulation was one of the most employed hieroglyphs. Over the centuries, a lot of poets and writers praised its virtues whereas musicians learn from it to compose their melodies, painter drew the meanderings of the lake, river and sea they discovered and artists multiply the techniques to transcribe its plastic power.

Today, in the face of the global ecological and social situation, it has become a pregnant subject of reflection among a whole generation of plastic surgeons.

Indeed, water, essential to all life and to the development of mankind, is a multifaceted and yet singular element. It is symbolically one of the natural elements, with air, fire and earth, which make up the universe. At heart of mythology and religion, it is a sign and a symbol, and it constantly changes form. Water is a natural resource, of course, but for a large part of mankind, it is the rarest asset. Here it is a combination of various subjects, including arts, science, geography, politics, economy, identity and different fields.

COMPETITION TERMS AND ELIGIBILITIES

This Competition is open to major visual artists, of all nationalities, at the mid-point of their career, the eligible disciplines are the following:

- painting
- drawing
- sculpture
- or any other form of plastic or visual art
- installation
- photography
- video

For installations and sculptures, artists have the possibility to present either an existing work or a project. For a project, a production budget must be attached.

For other art forms, **only an existing work can be presented**. No additional production budget can be allocated for paintings, drawings, photographs or videos. The work presented must be unique (for video or photography if the work includes editions, the allocation is different, see rules). Films, live shows and performances will not be accepted.

- **Each candidate may present only one work or one project per year. A work proposed to the competition cannot be represented in the competition the following year or afterwards.**
- **Proof of a professional artistic activity and/or being a graduate of an art school.**
- **Have a solid artistic background:** work recently exhibited in institutions, galleries, festivals, etc. or have participated in an artistic residency.



ENDOWMENT

A maximum of 4 Contemporary Talent laureates will be selected from among the candidates to receive the following endowment:

- 15,000€ each for the acquisition of their work which will become part of the Foundation's collection.
The following are also part of the endowment:
- Participation in a **group exhibition** at the Foundation's art centre.
- **A bilingual publication** presenting the work of the laureates.
- **A video portrait** of each of the laureates.

For the realisation of **the works presented in the form of projects (sculpture or installation), a maximum envelope of 100,000€ is made available**, divided between the different projects according to the needs of the artists and the decisions of the jury. In this case, the files must include a detailed budget of the production costs with an estimate. The budget must not exceed 80 000€. per project. For photographs and videos, if the print is not unique, the prize is €8,000 (see the rules for details). However, it is advisable to propose a unique edition for the competition.

ORGANISATION OF THE COMPETITION

Artists are invited to submit their offerings on the water theme, realistic or utopian, figurative or abstract, whilst offering a singular and sensitive viewpoint on this theme.

THE CALENDAR

- **21 September 2020 from 10am** → **20 November 2020 until 11.59 pm (local time)** : Call of applications
- **December 2020 – February 2021**: the Committees of Experts will meet to choose about thirty finalists
- **March 2021**: Announcement of the finalists in the press, on the website and on the Foundation's social networks
- **April 2021**: Selection of the winners by the International Grand Jury and announcement of the price-winners at the Contemporary Art Centre in Wattwiller

NB : The Foundation reserves the right to change the dates.

THE COMMITTEES OF EXPERTS

Five Expert Committees composed of a pair of experts each analyse 200 to 250 applications and pre-select six of them. The thirty or so finalists are then presented to the International Grand Jury. Professionals from the arts and culture sector (exhibition curators, art critics, specialist publishers, museum directors, etc.), they contribute their expertise in identifying the projects and works received.

THE INTERNATIONAL PANEL OF JUDGES

This Jury, chaired by Jean-Noël Jeanneney, includes well-known personalities from the world of the arts. From this 10th edition, they will elect from among the thirty finalists 4 award-winning artists, including two works in the field of sculpture and installation.

The Grand Jury in 2020 is made up of:

- **Jean-Noël Jeanneney**, former president of “Radio France”, former Secretary of State and former president of the “Bibliothèque Nationale de France” – Paris (France)
- **Rosa Maria Malet**, Director of the Joan Miró Foundation 1980-2017, member of the Board of Directors – Barcelona (Spain)
- **Alfred Pacquement**, Honorary General Curator of Heritage – Paris (France)
- **Chiara Parisi**, Director of the Center Pompidou-Metz (France)
- **Xavier Rey**, Director of the Museums of the City of Marseille (France)
- **Roland Wetzels**, Director of the Tinguely Museum – Basel (Switzerland)

APPLICATION FILE

Participation in the competition can only be done electronically after registration on the website of the François Schneider Foundation:
www.fondationfrancoisschneider.org/en/contemporary-talents-competition

In the event of technical difficulties relating to the internet, applicants will contact the Organizer as soon as possible. We invite you to submit your applications as early as possible to avoid server slowdowns and therefore your application does not reach us on time.

Application files must be written in French for French-speaking candidates, and in English for other candidates.

These files must include:

Administrative part

- ☐ Registration form and signed regulations read and approved (PDF format)
- ☐ Copy of your identity document (front / back identity card or passport) (PDF format)

Artistic part (work carried out or project to be produced, sculpture or installation)

- ☐ Your curriculum vitae and / or presentation of the collective of artists, justifying an artistic background (work recently exhibited in institutions, galleries, festivals, etc. or having participated in one or more artistic residencies) (PDF format, 2 pages maximum).
- ☐ Your portfolio / artistic presentation of your work (PDF format, 10 A4 pages maximum, 10 MB maximum)
- ☐ A letter of intent presenting the work or project and the artist's approach for the competition, intellectual and creative approach (PDF format, 2 pages maximum).
- ☐ A precise technical description of the existing work or project (sculptures, installations), title, materials, technique, dimensions, weight, constraints and technical means required for the exhibition, assembly or transport of the work (PDF format, 1 page maximum).
- ☐ A detailed production budget of up to € 80,000 for works presented in the form of projects for sculptures and installations (PDF format).
- ☐ 1 to 5 color visuals (photo, drawing, diagram, modeling, plan, etc.) (JPG format, 5 MB maximum per visual).
- ☐ Video extract for the video works. It is possible to attach a video capture for the other works (painting, sculpture, etc.) in order to contextualize it (format MOV/MP4, 500 Mo maximum).

NB: The jury will be sensitive to the clear and concise nature of the dossier and to the coherence of the proposal in relation to the collection of the François Schneider Foundation.

Any file that is incomplete or does not comply with the above instructions will not be submitted to the Committees of Experts and the International Grand Jury.



Marie Terrieux, Jean-Noël Jeanneney and the winners of the 8th edition

INFORMATIONS AND CONTACT

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