



FONDATION
FRANÇOIS SCHNEIDER

Call for applications

20 September - 21 November 2021

Contemporary Talents 11th edition

Contemporary Art Competition

Propose a work or project on the theme of water.

Exhibition • Acquisition • Publication



70 laureates

Yoav Admoni • Akmar • Renaud Auguste-Dormeuil • Nour Awada
 Rachael Louise Bailey • Guillaume Barth • Hicham Berrada • Benoit Billotte • Mathieu Bonardet • Bianca Bondi • Muriel Bordier • Jessie Brennan • Emilie Brout & Maxime Marion • Gaëlle Callac • Cécile Carrière • Julie Chaffort • Yves Chaudouët • Claire Chesnier • Etienne Cliquet • Valère Costes • Olivier Crouzel • Edouard Decam • Asieh Deghani • Céline Diais • Rebecca Digne • Cristina Escobar • Collectif EthnoGraphic • Laurent Faulon • Sara Ferrer • Etienne Fouchet • Antoine Gonin • Harald Hund • Arthur Hoffner Hao Jingfang & Wang Lingjie Nadia Kaabi-Linke • Zhang Kechun Elizaveta Konovalova • Jérémy Laffon Mathilde Lavenne • Olivier Leroi Sujin Lim • Rahshia Linendoll-Sawyer Claire Malrieux • Laurent Mareschal Medhi Meddaci • Camille Michel Gustavo Millon • Eva Nielsen • Maël Nozahic • Johan Parent • Benoit Pype • Bertrand Rigaux • Francisco Rodríguez Teare • Benjamin Rossi Erik Samakh • Sandra & Ricardo Alex Seton • Sidorenko-Dutca • Paul Souviron • Elvia Teotski • Thomas Teurlai • Capucine Vandebrouck Wiktoria Wojciechowska • Jenny Ymker

THE CONTEMPORARY TALENTS COMPETITION

Every year since 2011, the Talents Contemporains competition has invited artists of all nationalities and all disciplines of the visual arts to propose a work or a project on the theme of water, rewarded by an acquisition and a prize.

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

The François Schneider Foundation wishes to support artists halfway through their career and present them to a wide public by exhibiting their works in the Foundation's art centre in Wattwiller in Alsace or by lending them to other institutions for off-site projects (exhibitions, festivals, etc.).

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 1,000 entries per year from around 100 countries.
- > Since the 10th edition, **4 winning artists are awarded annually** for their project or work:
 - > **2 works or projects of sculpture or installation;**
 - > **2 existing works of painting, drawing, photography or video (not as a project).**
- > 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 of some sixty works by 70 prize-winning artists.
- > A maximum annual grant of 140,000 euros:
 - > 15,000 euros per winner;
 - > 80,000 euros of production aid distributed for possible sculpture or installation projects (depending on the jury's choice).

To date, **70 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), Bianca Bondi (ZA), 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), Céline Diais (FR), Rebecca Digne (FR), Cristina Escobar (CU), Collectif EthnoGraphic (FR-BR), Laurent Faulon (FR), Sara Ferrer (ES), Etienne Fouchet (FR), Antoine Gonin (FR), Harald Hund (AT), Arthur Hoffner (FR), Hao Jingfang & Wang Lingjie (CH), Nadia Kaabi-Linke (TN), Zhang Kechun (CN), Elizaveta Konovalova (RS), Jérémy Laffon (FR), Mathilde Lavenne (FR), Olivier Leroi (FR), Sujin Lim (KR), 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), Francisco Rodríguez Teare (CL), Benjamin Rossi (FR), Erik Samakh (FR), Sandra & Ricardo (PT), Alex Seton (AS), Sidorenko-Dutca (MD-RS), Paul Souviron (FR), Elvia Teotski (FR), Thomas Teurlai (FR), Capucine Vandebrouck (FR) et Wiktoria Wojciechowska (PL) et Jenny Ymker (NL).



THE FONDATION FRANÇOIS SCHNEIDER, 21 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 90 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 TOPIC OF WATER

The topic of water takes on a special meaning in the Foundation's art centre. It is located in the former bottling plant of the Wattwiller springs. Water is thus omnipresent, both in the works exhibited and in the architecture of the art centre itself. It is on this very subject of water that the "Contemporary Talents" competition was launched by the François Schneider Foundation in 2011, and rewards artists for a work examining the many contours of the aquatic element.

Water has always nourished the founding myths of different civilizations and great religions, and governs relations between people. In popular beliefs and collective memory, a spring or a river takes on different symbolic meanings and often presents water as ambivalent: sweet or evil, purifying or deadly, bright or dark.

Water conveys all possible metaphors, from Greek antiquity to Amerindian cultures, and many writers and creators are inspired by it. From the *Odyssey* in Ancient Greece to the *Classic of the Mountains and Seas* in China, through tales and legends from all over the world, timeless works such as Melville's *Moby Dick* or Jules Verne's *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea*, as well as very contemporary authors, from Édouard Limonov (*The Book of Water*) to Atiq Rahimi (*The Water Bearers*), or, not to mention Gaston Bachelard (*Water and Dreams. Essay on the imagination of matter*), each one deploys a palette of words and representations of unprecedented richness, testifying to the abundance of possible illustrations and the subject itself.

In short, water is infinite and unfathomable, and in this multiplicity it has led many contemporary artists to inventory and illustrate its abundant characteristics. Migratory issues, ecological concerns, scientific questions, geographical experiments have given rise to a variety of works introducing water in all its forms.

COMPETITION TERMS AND ELIGIBILITIES

This competition is open to visual artists, of all nationalities, of legal age, in the midst of their career, the eligible disciplines are

- peinture
- dessin
- sculpture
- installation
- photographie
- vidéo
- or any other form of plastic or visual art (live performance and music are not eligible)

For installations and sculptures, artists may present either an existing work or a project. In the case of a project, a production budget of a maximum of €80,000 must be attached.

For other art forms, **only an existing work can be submitted**. No additional production budget can be allocated for paintings, drawings, photographs or videos.

The work presented, which may consist of a set or a single piece, must be a single copy.

For video or photography, ideally the work must also be a single edition, but if it includes editions, the prize is different (see rules). Film productions, live shows and performances will not be considered.

- **Each candidate may submit only one work or one project per year. A work submitted to the competition may not be represented in the following year's competition or afterwards.**
- **Proof of professional artistic activity and/or graduation from an art school.**
- **Have a solid artistic background:** work recently exhibited in institutions, galleries, festivals, etc. and/or have participated in an artist 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 80,000€ 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 50 000€ 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

- **20 September 2021 from 10am** → **21 November 2021 until 11.59 pm (local time)** : Call for applications
- **December 2021 – February 2022** : the expert committees pre-select around 30 finalists
- **March 2022** : Announcement of the finalists in the press, on the website and on the Foundation's social networks
- **April 2022** : Selection of the winners by the International Grand Jury and announcement of the winners to the press, on the Foundation's website and social networks
- **Autumn 2023** : Exhibition of artworks at the François Schneider Foundation in Wattwiller (Haut-Rhin, France)

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

The expert committees and the grand jury are made up of art and culture professionals (exhibition curators, art critics, specialised publishers, museum directors, etc.), who contribute their expertise in identifying the projects and works received.

THE COMMITTEES OF EXPERTS

Five committees of experts, each composed of two people, analyse 200 to 250 applications and pre-select six. The thirty or so finalists are then presented to the grand jury.

- **Anne-Sarah Bénichou**, Gallery owner and founder of the Anne-Sarah Bénichou Gallery – Paris (France)
- **Yves Chaudouët**, Artist, playwright and filmmaker – Paris (France)
- **Dimitri Konstantinidis**, Founder and director of Apollonia – Strasbourg (France)
- **Claire Malrieux**, Visual artist – Strasbourg (France)
- **Hélène Mugot**, Visual artist – Gentilly (France)
- **Estelle Pietrzyk**, Head Curator of the Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art of Strasbourg (France)
- **Émilie Renard**, Curator and art critic, Director of Bétonsalon – Paris (France)
- **Philippe Schweyer**, Founder of Médiapop, publishing house & music label and editor in chief of Novo magazine – Mulhouse (France)
- **Marie Terrieux**, Director of the Fondation François Schneider – Wattwiller (France)
- **Emmanuelle Walter**, Artistic advisor visual arts for La Filature – Mulhouse (France)

THE GRAND JURY

This jury, under the presidency of Jean-Noël Jeanneney, is made up of well-known personalities from the art world. From this 11th edition, they will elect 4 winning artists from among the thirty or so finalists, including two works in the field of sculpture and installation.

The Grand Jury in 2021 was 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)
- **Constance de Monbrison**, Head of Insulinde collections, musée du quai Branly - Jacques Chirac – Paris (France)
- **Alfred Pacquement**, Honorary General Curator of Heritage – Paris (France)
- **Chiara Parisi**, Director of the Centre Pompidou–Metz (France)
- **Ernest Pignon-Ernest**, Artist, Paris (France)
- **Xavier Rey**, Director of the Centre Pompidou – Paris (France)
- **Roland Wetzel**, Director of the Museum Tinguely – Basel (Switzerland)

NB: The expert committees and the grand jury are subject to change depending on availability.

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. and/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 € 50,000 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.



The winners of the 8th edition and Marie Terrieux

INFORMATIONS AND CONTACT

Fondation François Schneider

27 rue de la Première Armée

68700 Wattwiller – France

Tel : +33 (0)3 89 82 10 10

info@fondationfrancoisschneider.org

fondationfrancoisschneider.org

