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**The Global Fine Art Awards Selects 78 Nominees Today**

*In conjunction with Frieze London and Frieze Masters, the third edition of the Global Fine Art Awards (GFAA) program revealed the 2016 Award Nominees today.*

Art collectors from around the world, museum executives and gallery owners were among the guests invited to attend the live announcement event of the 2016 [Global Fine Art Awards Nominee](http://globalfineartawards.org/) at the Ritz London, the precursor to the 2016 Award Ceremony and Gala.

GFAA President and CEO Judy Holm, accompanied by nine GFAA Advisory Board members and Judges, are convening in London to present the nominations. GFAA Judge Dean Phelus, Senior Director of Leadership Programs, American Alliance of Museums (AAM) states, *“*The Global Fine Art Awards, the only program of its kind, celebrates excellence and innovation in art exhibitions from around the world. This year’s outstanding nominees from over twenty countries demonstrate the universal power of art to facilitate a sense of individual and collective identity, enlighten through knowledge, and nurture an understanding of our connections to the world and to each other.”

GFAA celebrates the best curated fine art and design exhibitions worldwide. In all, there are 78 GFAA Nominees this year in 11 categories ranging from Ancient Art to Contemporary, and encompassing 22 countries, 52 cities and 5 continents. More than 25% of the artist-centric exhibitions are women artists, and there is broad representation in size as well with 32 (40%) of the GFAA nominees from the top 100 art museums visited in the world ([The Art Newspaper](http://theartnewspaper.com/) , April 2015), and 60% emanating from smaller institutions and other venues.

Nominees include exhibitions from many prominent museums across the globe: New York’s Whitney Museum of American Art, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, The Jewish Museum and The Metropolitan Museum of Art; LACMA; The J. Paul Getty Museum, and The Broad Museum in Los Angeles; the British Museum, The National Gallery, Victoria and Albert Museum, Tate Britain and Tate Modern in London; Le Grand Palais and Château de Versailles in France; the Palazzo Strozzi in Florence; the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam; the Museo del Prado and Museo Thyssen-Bornemisza in Madrid; National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Korea; Yuz Museum in China; the State Hermitage and the Moscow Kremlin Museums in Russia.

These exhibitions and public installations feature works by timeless masters, from Botticelli and Bosch, to Degas and Delacroix, as well as some of the most important artists living today. The 2016 list of Nominees includes Christo, Olafur Eliasson, Susan Philipsz, Sterling Ruby, John Baldessari, Frank Auerbach, Tony Cragg, Danh Võ and Tatsuo Miyajima.

The GFAA award program also recognizes group and theme exhibitions. This year’s nominations range from broad period shows, with “Ancient Sicily” and the “Vikings in Ireland”, to “Contemporary Art from Latin America” and in “Creative Africa”. Exhibitions addressing important themes are also nominated for their innovative work – some of these include Class Distinction, Divinity, World Exploration, Communication, and Love.

GFAA judges will ultimately select the winners from this slate of Nominees for these 11 award categories: Contemporary and Post-War (solo and group), Impressionist and Modern; Renaissance (solo and group), Baroque, Old Masters and Dynasties (solo and group), Ancient Art, Photography, Design, Fringe/Alternative and Public or Outdoor Installation. “Youniversal”, the twelfth award, recognizes the most popular nominee and is selected by public voting on the GFAA website.

Following the Nominee event in London, the 2016 GFAA Award Finalists will be announced at an event hosted by Baccarat Hotel in NYC on October 25, 2016.

The culmination of the year-long process to discover the best curated art and design exhibitions will take place on Saturday, February 11, 2017 with the celebration of all Nominees and the presentation of the Winners of the 2016 Global Fine Art Awards (GFAA). The black-tie gala will take place at the historic 583 Park Avenue in New York City.

The Gala Committee is currently in formation and [Gala tickets are now available](http://globalfineartawards.org/wp/index.php/2016-gala-tickets-information/) to the public. Tickets may be purchased online through the Fiscal Sponsor of the GFAA program – Fractured Atlas.

**About the GFAA Program**The GFAA program honors innovation and excellence in exhibition design, historical context, educational value, and public appeal. The program’s mission is to develop interest and passion for fine art, and to further its educational role in society.

GFAA is the first annual program ever created to recognize the best curated art and design exhibitions and installations worldwide. This program includes exhibitions in museums, galleries, art fairs and biennials, as well as public installations.

**The Vision**
GFAA has as its primary purpose to elevate the importance and relevancy of fine art in the world today: economically, socially, and culturally. GFAA endeavors to be world renowned as the premier art and design award program. Over time, the number of awards will grow to encompass more art categories, and awards for curators, artists and other individuals.

**The Process**
A broad set of criteria is utilized to research and assess the prospective nominees, with continuous review of over 50 sources of print and online art editorial and critiques. Through these sources, more than 200 museums and 2,000 exhibitions are vetted during the annual art research as well as personalized assessments based on exhibition viewing.

In addition to the research-based nominations, GFAA accepts open calls from museums, biennials, fairs, galleries and other art organizations. Individual patrons may nominate their favorite exhibitions as well. The timeframe for eligibility this year was for exhibitions and installations opening between Aug 1, 2015 and Jul 31, 2016. The basic criteria for eligibility is that each nominated exhibit must be curated.

The Nominating Committee reviews the slate prepared by the Art Research Committee, and presents their findings and final approvals to the Judges. The Judges modify and select the final slate of Nominees, then vote on the Finalists and Winners.

**Public Voting**
Nominees and winners for the eleven awards are selected by a panel of expert judges. Another integral aspect of the GFAA program is to engage the general public, and include their voice in the program results. Members of the general public vote online for their favorite nominee on the GFAA website. The most popular exhibition wins the final award -Youniversal.

**GFAA Team**
Judy Holm - President and CEO, Jeff Castellano, Renee Farina, Hogan Fritz, Felipe Gehrke, Ivonn Goihman, Danny Gonzalez, Betsie Piussan, Nancy Richmond; (Interns) Jenna Agres , Dahee Lim, Stephanie Wong She Wei

**GFAA Advisory Board**Danielle Amato-Milligan, Tiffany Chestler, Bonnie Clearwater, David M. Kraemer, Eleanor Goldhar, Stephen Kimmerling, Patricia Lannes, Christian Gaines, Peter Hansen, Gail Lord, Salwa Mikdadi, Ty Murphy, Gina Quan, Terence Riley, Gernot Schussmann, Hedva Ser, Lawrence M. Shindell, Peter Trippi, Alex Wuchterl, Juan Carlos Zaldivar

**GFAA Judges**
Dr. Barbara Aust-Wegemund, Dr. James M. Bradburne, Gina Costa, Dr. Joe Lin-Hill, Dean Phelus,

(Emeritus) Cathy Leff, Peter Trippi

**Media, Arts, Educational & Cultural Partners**The American Alliance of Museums (AAM), other important arts organizations, educational and media partners including: Association of Art Museum Directors (AAMD), Frieze London and Frieze Masters, Traveling Exhibits Network, Vastari, Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs, the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners, Fractured Atlas, Fine Art Connoisseur Magazine, Family Office Elite Magazine, Nob Hill Gazette, SocialMiami.com and World Red Eye.

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