

AESTHETICA ART PRIZE

Aesthetica Art Prize Future Now Symposium 2017

Meet the UK's Leading Artists, Curators and Art Organisations

Tickets are now on sale for the Aesthetica Art Prize Future Now Symposium, a two day conference on contemporary art and culture taking place 25 - 26 May at York St John University.

Addressing themes in today's artistic climate through **lectures, panel discussions and portfolio reviews**, the Future Now Symposium considers the arts ecosystem within a broader social context. It is a place for the **exchange of ideas**, offering **support, talent development and networking opportunities** to those working in, or with an interest in, the creative sectors.

This year, the event addresses how the **arrival of the digital age** has created an unprecedented feeling of alienation. Communication has changed and we now rely on technology to interact, presenting ourselves in ways that are evolving beyond control. The sense that the public is merging with the domestic has also spread into a larger, blurred depiction of reality. Surveillance is becoming a prevalent and inescapable issue internationally. Contemporary art is the mechanism that enables us to respond to this renewed understanding of living.

Welcoming speakers from some of the UK's leading art organisations, publications and galleries, such as **Tate, Art Fund, Glasgow School of Art and Whitechapel Gallery**, Future Now gives attendees the opportunity to meet those who are shaping the art world today.

Topics include Curating for the 21st Century Audience; Sculpture Today: Dependent & Autonomous Objects; Innovation in the Making: Technology, Design & Digital; The Future of Art Journalism: A Panel Discussion, and Future of Photography: The Epic in the Everyday amongst others.

Cherie Federico, Director of Aesthetica, says: "After its successful inaugural edition, we are thrilled to be hosting the second Future Now Symposium this year. A vast array of artists, curators, academics and art world professionals will lead talks, participate in panel discussions and offer artists great advice through Portfolio Reviews. The Symposium is about creating a place for practitioners to unite, share best practice and start new collaborations. These events are vital to stimulate discussion and generate new ideas in response to current trends."

Tickets Information:

A one-day pass (£24) permits access to up to four sessions on one day. A two-day pass (£36) permits access to up to four sessions on each day. Lunch, and a mid-morning coffee/tea networking break is included with both passes, and attendees can register for additional special events including the Private View of the Aesthetica Art prize Exhibition at York Art Gallery on 25 May.

Advance booking is required for all sessions and special events. To book Passes visit: www.aestheticamagazine.com/symposium

Attendees must bring their confirmation email to the Registration Desk on the day. The Registration desk will be open from 8.30am Thursday and Friday in the De Grey Foyer.

For quotes, images and interviews please contact Alexandra Beresford on 01904 629 137 or email alexandra@aestheticamagazine.com

Notes to Editors

1. The Future Now Symposium is hosted by Aesthetica Magazine. It takes place 25-26 May at York St John University, YO31 7EX. There are 19 events taking place across the two days, including lectures, panel discussions, portfolio reviews and networking sessions. On each day of the Symposium, there will be a keynote speaker to introduce the sessions. All sessions must be booked in advance. www.aestheticamagazine.com/symposium @AestheticaMag #FutureNowSymposium
2. Art Fund / Artangel / Arts Council England / East Street Arts / Edinburgh Art Festival / Elephant Magazine / FACT Liverpool / Glasgow School of Art / Hiscox / Holden Gallery / Ikon Gallery / Iniva / Jupiter Artland / Leeds Beckett University / Leeds College of Art / London College of Communication / Magnum Photos / Max Mara Art Prize for Women / Nesta / Nottingham Contemporary / Open Eye Gallery / PHOTOFAIRS / Photomonitor / Royal British Society of Sculptors / Tate Liverpool / University of York / Visual Arts South West / Wellcome Trust / Whitechapel Gallery / World Photography Organisation / York St John University / Zabludowicz Collection
3. The award attracts thousands of entries in a range of innovative media from locations as diverse as Australia, Germany, India, Japan, Malaysia, the Netherlands, the UK and the USA. Previous finalists include [John Keane](#), former official British war artist, currently represented by Flowers Gallery in London; [Julia Vogl](#), shortlisted for Saatchi Gallery and Channel 4's New Sensations; [Ingrid Hu](#), former designer at the Lubetkin-winning Heatherwick Studio; [Marcus Jansen](#), a leading modern expressionist; and [Bernat Millet](#), shortlisted for National Portrait Gallery's Taylor Wessing Photographic Portrait Prize.
4. **Aesthetica Art Prize Sponsors and Partners:** Hiscox, York St John University, Virgin Trains, Arts Council England, V&A, The Hepworth Wakefield, Ikon, York Museums Trust, Prestel, Winsor & Newton.
5. **Hiscox** offers a range of [business insurance](#) policies to cover the liabilities and property risks of small businesses and consultants in the UK, as well as profession-specific policies that you can tailor to suit the risks that your business faces. Hiscox also provides specialist [insurance](#) cover for homes and their contents, valuables and collections. For more information, visit www.hiscox.co.uk
6. Hosted by Aesthetica Magazine, the Aesthetica Art Prize is a celebration of excellence in art from across the world. Entries are open until 31 August 2017. www.aestheticamagazine.com/artprize www.facebook.com/aestheticamagazine @AestheticaMag
7. The [Judging Panel](#) will be selecting the winners of the Main Prize and the Student Prize, announced at the Aesthetica Art Prize Exhibition Private View on 25 May. The panel comprises influential art figures, including curators, directors and artists whose expertise span all media. They are: **Whitney Hintz**, Independent Advisor and Curator of the [Hiscox Collection](#); **Alistair Payne**, Head, School of Fine Art, [Glasgow School of Art](#); **Olivier Richon**, Photography Lecturer, [Royal College of Art](#); **Reyahn King**, Chief Executive, [York Museums Trust](#); **Jonathan Watkins**, Director, [Ikon Gallery](#); **Susanna Brown**, Curator of Photographs, [V&A](#); **Rachel Ara**, [Artist](#), Aesthetica Art Prize Winner 2016; **Eleanor Clayton**, Curator, [The Hepworth Wakefield](#); **Cherie Federico**, Co-founder & Managing Director of [Aesthetica](#).
8. To see Judges' biographies, visit www.aestheticamagazine.com/art-prize/judging-panel