

# Contemporary British Painting Prize: Press Release

*"There can be no better, more sensitive or more serious way than 'The Contemporary British Painting Prize' to discover and assess the exciting new directions being taken by painters in Britain today."*

**Michael Peppiatt, Art Critic and Curator**

*"Although only in its first year, the Contemporary British Painting prize has drawn 631 entries of outstanding quality from both emerging and well-known artists and has set a benchmark for the nation."*

**Anna McNay, Art writer**

In 2016 the artist led group 'Contemporary British Painting' launched the 'Contemporary British Painting Prize'. Our initial tweet announcing the prize gained 31,735 impressions and we received 631 entries comprising over 3,000 works of art. The 2016 group show selection has been made by practicing painters Simon Burton, Nathan Eastwood, Terry Greene, Susie Hamilton, Matthew Krishanu and Freya Purdue.

## **The shortlisted artists are:**

Louis Appleby, David Auburn, Aglaé Bassens, Karl Bielik, Katrina Blannin, John Brennan, Lindsey Bull, Nick Carrick, Dan Coombs, Gordon Dalton, Marielle Hehir, Cathy Lomax, Kate Lyddon, Mandy Payne and Paul Smith

The artists selected for the 2016 prize group show come from all over the UK and reflect a diverse range of practice, from the deepening of abstraction, the realist and politically engaged through to the exploration of paint as a conceptual medium. They are equally split between male and female artists with some still in their 20's and in art school while others have maintained a serious professional practice for many years.

The winner will be announced at 11.00am on Saturday 10th September at The Riverside Gallery, Old Town Hall, Museum of Richmond, Whittaker Ave, Richmond TW9 1TP.

The prize winner will receive a solo exhibition at Swindon Museum and Art Gallery in 2017, a critical text on their paintings by Paul O'Kane and a £2,000 purchase prize of their work which will then enter the Priseman Seabrook Collection of 21st Century British Painting.

The winning artist will be selected by **Michael Peppiatt** who is an art historian, curator and writer, he has curated numerous exhibitions worldwide, notably travelling retrospectives of the School of London, Francis Bacon, Alberto Giacometti, Christian Schad and Antoni Tàpies. In 2009, he curated an exhibition of sculpture by Dado for the Venice Biennale and in 2015 published 'Francis Bacon In Your Blood'. **Sophie Cummings** is Curator of Swindon Museum and Art Gallery, **Amanda Geitner** who is Director of the East Anglian Art Fund and was Chief Curator at The Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts, Norwich from 1998 – 2015, **Paul O'Kane**, an artist, writer and lecturer based in London. He is a member of AICA (Association Internationale des Critiques d'Art) and **Grant Scanlan**, curator for Huddersfield Art Gallery.