



# Press release

New York, 11 November 2019

## AXA ART PRIZE Exhibition Goes on View in New York

*November 18 – 22, New York Academy of Art  
Juried by Sanford Biggers, Will Cotton, John Currin and Tschabalala Self  
First prize winner to be announced on November 21*

The AXA Art Prize Exhibition will go on view in New York at the [New York Academy of Art](#) in Tribeca, November 18-22. Now in its second year, the [AXA Art Prize](#) is the nation's first and most prestigious student art competition devoted to figurative art.

Having traveled to San Francisco and Chicago, the exhibition finishes its tour in the U.S. with the official announcement of the first and second prize winners on November 21. The winners have been chosen by renowned artists **Sanford Biggers, Will Cotton, John Currin** and **Tschabalala Self** with **Jennifer Schipf**, AXA XL's Global Practice Leader for Art.

Global property and casualty insurer AXA XL, a division of AXA, developed AXA Art Prize in partnership with the New York Academy of Art, which is devoted to the promotion of figurative art, and boasts an Advisory Board of 34 major art schools across the U.S., including **Rhode Island School of Design (RISD), Columbia University School of Arts, California College of the Arts, the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Pratt Institute** and **Bard College**.

The traveling exhibition is comprised of 40 student artists who were selected from over 500 entrants from 130 schools. The first prize is \$10,000 and the exhibition is accompanied by an illustrated catalogue featuring an essay by former *Art in America* editor David Ebony. The 40 shortlisted artists were selected by an Exhibition Jury comprised of **Ian Alteveer**, Curator at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, **Massimiliano Gioni**, Artistic Director of the New Museum, **Jennie Goldstein**, Assistant Curator at the Whitney Museum, and **Cara Manes**, Associate Curator at the Museum of Modern Art.

The shortlisted artists, 31 young women and 9 young men, are enrolled at 30 different schools and hail from 13 states across the U.S. California College of the Arts and the Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers University both have two artists among the 40 finalists, the School of the Art Institute of Chicago has three finalists, and the New York Academy of Art has seven. Three student artists were named to the shortlist for the second consecutive year: Merritt Barnwell, Luisiana Mera and Prinston Nnanna.

For more information about the Prize, Advisory Board and Jurors, and to view the shortlisted artworks, go to [axaartprize.com](http://axaartprize.com)

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**ABOUT THE NEW YORK ACADEMY OF ART**

Founded in 1982 by artists, scholars and patrons of the arts, including Andy Warhol, the New York Academy of Art is a not-for-profit institution which combines intensive technical training in drawing, painting and sculpture with active critical discourse. Academy traditional methods and techniques and encouraged to use these skills to make vital contemporary art. Through major exhibition an ambitious educational program, the Academy serves as a creative and intellectual center for all artists dedicated to highly skill figurative and representational art.

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<sup>1</sup>AXA XL is a division of AXA Group providing products and services through four business groups: AXA XL Insurance, AXA XL Reinsurance, AXA XL Art & Lifestyle and AXA XL Risk Consulting.