

PRESS RELEASE

London, 9 November 2018

Societe Generale supports rising talent in UK Contemporary Art

Judging panels comprise of leading names from the UK art scene

London, 9 November 2018: Societe Generale today announced the launch of two new art initiatives, reinforcing its Group-wide commitment to supporting Contemporary Art and young artists.

The first is a sculpture commission for the main reception of Societe Generale's brand new UK office in One Bank Street, Canary Wharf, to be opened in October 2019. Five Master Degree graduates from leading art schools across London have been invited to create detailed artwork concepts and proposals focusing on contemporary sculptures.

A panel made up of prestigious names from the UK art scene, including George Vasey, Curator and Writer, Wellcome Collection, Dr Antonia Bostrum, Director of Collections, V&A Museum, Sam Wilkinson, Head of Public Art, University College London, as well as Sadia Ricke, Group Country Head of Societe Generale in the UK, Aurélie Deplus, Head of Contemporary Art Sponsorship at Societe Generale, and Jazz Singh, Group Head of Communication in the UK, will select the winning artist to be announced in January 2019. The winner will be commissioned to produce the artwork, which will be unveiled in One Bank Street in 2019.

Kleinwort Hambros, Societe Generale's UK Private Banking arm, has also announced the *Emerging Artist Prize* to reward the work of a young contemporary artist selected from across the UK.

Artists aged up to 35 who have made an original artistic contribution in one or more of the following fields: painting, photography, sculpture, digital, installation art, drawing and video, will be nominated by independent experts from the UK contemporary art scene.

The winner will be selected by a prestigious jury comprising of Hans-Ulrich Obrist, Director of the Serpentine Gallery, Clare Lilley, Director of the Yorkshire Sculpture Park, Andrew Nairne, Director of

Kettle's Yard at the University of Cambridge, Fiona Bradley, Director of the Fruitmarket Gallery and Aurélie Deplus, Head of Contemporary Art Sponsorship at Societe Generale in February 2019.

Sadia Ricke, Group Country Head for the UK at Societe Generale, commented:

“We feel honoured to be supporting these new and innovative projects. As an active patron of Contemporary Art for over 20 years, we recognise the societal value of creating platforms to raise visibility for up and coming artists. Along with our support for the National Portrait Gallery and the Victoria & Albert Museum, our major art collection in our Paris headquarters, and the successful launch of the Swiss Emerging Artist Prize in April 2018, these new initiatives underline the Group's long-term commitment to Contemporary Art. It also reinforces our position as a forward-thinking organisation, driven by creativity and innovation.”

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Societe Generale

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