

PRESS RELEASE

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www.jerwoodvisualarts.org



Lucinda Burgess, *Borderlines* (2017). Image: John Taylor

Jerwood Drawing Prize 2017 – Selected Artists Announced
13 September–22 October 2017, Jerwood Space, London

The **Jerwood Drawing Prize** is the largest and longest running annual open exhibition for drawing in the UK. Selected from original drawings, the Prize has established a reputation for its commitment to championing excellence, and to promoting and celebrating the breadth of current drawing practice, this year including hand drawn, digital, moving image, textile and sculptural works. The exhibition provides a platform to showcase the work of drawing practitioners, from student to established, and as a project helps to define a wider understanding of the role and value of drawing in creative practice.

This year 69 works by 65 artists have been selected from 2811 submissions from across the UK, by **Dr David Dibosa**, writer, researcher and Reader in Museology at the University of the Arts London, **Helen Legg**, Director of Spike Island and **Michael Simpson**, artist.

The selected artists are:

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| David Ainley | Dean Claydon | Will Kippax | Rebecca Swindell |
| Elisa Alaluusua | Susannah Douglas | Jason Lane | David Symonds |
| Pam Aldridge | Dickon Drury | Gary Lawrence | Sally Taylor |
| Becky Allen | Richard Ducker | Carali McCall | Ben Wade |
| Kate Aspinall | Jim Dunkley | Grace McMurray | Barbara Walker |
| Adam Bainbridge | James Fowkes | Tahira Mandarino | Eleanor Wood |
| Andy Bannister | Nigel Frost | Ana Mendes | Sally Wood |
| Helen Barff | Christopher Fry | Jasone Miranda-Bilbao | Andrea V Wright |
| Dail Behennah | Lesley Hicks | Jade Montserrat | |
| Kelly Best | Jim Hobbs | Dejan Mrdja | |
| Kate Black | Marianne Holm Hansen | David Murphy | |
| Alice Blackstock | Caroline Holt-Wilson | Susan Petticrew | |
| Abigail Booth | Susie Howarth | Helen Rawlinson | |
| Becky Brewis | Ronnie Hughes | Giulia Ricci | |
| Lucinda Burgess | Jeremy Hutchison | Fiona G Roberts | |
| Eric Butcher | Julia Hutton | Caragh Savage | |
| Stephen Carter | Jonathan Huxley | Carly Seller | |
| Ian Chamberlain | Alexander Johnson | Tom Sewell | |
| Lewis Chamberlain | Ben Johnson | Laurie Steen | |

Of the selection process, Michael Simpson said: *"I found the whole experience of taking part in the judging of the Jerwood Drawing Prize so engrossing that when we finally came to the end of day two, I felt disappointed it was over. Looking at art is one of the great pleasures of life and to examine almost three thousand drawings in such a short intense period of time became, in the best sense, a demandingly rigorous exercise in critical appraisal. The diversity was astonishing, wide ranging and rich; when you see so much variation in human endeavour, you know anything is possible on a predominately flat simple surface. Ruskin's book, The Elements of Drawing with its rigidly archaic instructions to students kept filtering into my mind."* **Michael Simpson**, Artist and 2017 Selector

Supported by **Jerwood Charitable Foundation**, Jerwood Drawing Prize is a unique initiative led by founding Director, **Professor Anita Taylor** (Executive Dean of Bath School of Art & Design at Bath Spa University). In offering emerging, mid-career and established artists a national platform to exhibit their work, the exhibition has established a reputation for supporting excellence and the development of new insights into the role and value of drawing in artistic practice today.

The **First Prize of £8,000**, **Second Prize of £5,000** and **two Student Awards of £2,000 each**, will be announced and awarded at the preview on 12 September 2017. A new prize – **The Evelyn Williams Drawing Award, worth £10,000** – will also be awarded to an artist selected for the 2017 exhibition. The Award will support an individual artist with a significant track record to develop and realise a body of drawings for a new solo exhibition.

The Jerwood Drawing Prize exhibition will be on display at **Jerwood Space, London** from 13 September – 22 October 2017, followed by a national tour to **East Gallery, Norwich University of the Arts** (14 November 2017 – 6 January 2018), **The Edge, University of Bath** (10 February – 31 March 2018) and **Sidney Cooper Gallery, Canterbury** (12 April – 6 May 2018).

Exhibition Information

Title:	Jerwood Drawing Prize 2017
Dates:	13 September–22 October 2017
Address:	Jerwood Space, 171 Union Street, London SE1 OLN
Opening Times:	Mon–Fri from 10am–5pm, Sat & Sun from 10am–3pm
Admission:	Free
Nearest Tube:	Southwark, London Bridge or Borough
Website:	www.jerwoodvisualarts.org
Twitter:	#JDP17 @JerwoodJVA

Jerwood Visual Arts will host a series of evening events to accompany the exhibition. Events are free but must be booked in advance; for more information please visit www.jerwoodvisualarts.org

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Notes to editors

The **Jerwood Drawing Prize** project is led by founding Director, Professor Anita Taylor, Executive Dean of Bath School of Art & Design at Bath Spa University and supported by Jerwood Charitable. The project was founded in 1994 as the Rexel Derwent Open Drawing Exhibition and was known from 1996 until 2000 as the Cheltenham Open Drawing Exhibition until the Jerwood Charitable Foundation became the principal benefactor in 2001.

Following 17 significant and successful years of support, Jerwood Charitable Foundation and Bath Spa University have announced that 2017 will be Jerwood Charitable Foundation's final year as the key partner and funder for the Jerwood Drawing Prize. The exhibition project will continue to be led and developed by Professor Anita Taylor at Bath Spa University. The visual arts in the UK has benefited enormously from the prestige of the Jerwood Drawing Prize, which has championed the careers of many emerging and established artists and this legacy will continue as the project moves forward into a new phase with new supporters.

Since its inauguration in 1994, the Jerwood Drawing Prize exhibition has showcased work by emerging, mid-career and established artists including **Charles Avery, Sian Bowen, Gordon Cheung, Eileen Cooper RA, Graham Crowley, Adam Dant, Ian Davenport, Paul Emsley, Mark Francis, Neville Gabie, Tricia Gillman, Jane Harris, Melanie Jackson, Annie Kevans, Ansel Krut, Tom Phillips RA, Rebecca Salter RA, Soheila Sokhanvari, Michael Simpson, Emma Talbot, Virginia Verran and Rose Wylie RA.**

Jerwood Visual Arts is a national programme supporting visual arts practice, through which Jerwood Charitable

Foundation works with early career artists to commission and present new work. Artist opportunities run throughout the year alongside a programme of related exhibitions, events and commissioned writing taking place online, in London and across the UK. www.jerwoodvisualarts.org

Jerwood Charitable Foundation is dedicated to imaginative and responsible revenue funding of the arts, supporting artists to develop and grow at important stages in their careers. The aim of its funding is to allow artists and arts organisations to thrive; to continue to develop their skills, imagination and creativity with integrity. It works with artists across art forms, from dance and theatre to literature, music and the visual arts. For more information visit www.jerwoodcharitablefoundation.org

Bath School of Art & Design at Bath Spa University has a long and distinguished history. The Bath School of Art was founded in 1852 and has sustained and nurtured the talent and careers of numerous artists and designers ever since. With its rich history and beautiful settings, Bath Spa University is a leading educational institution in creativity, culture and enterprise. Professor Anita Taylor, Director of the Jerwood Drawing Prize project, became the Dean of Bath School of Art & Design in June 2013. She is also an artist, creator of Drawing Projects UK and Adjunct Professor of the University of Sydney affiliated to Sydney College of the Arts. artdesign.bathspa.ac.uk

The Evelyn Williams Trust was founded in 1991 and its primary objective is to promote the Arts. The Trust was modestly endowed by Evelyn Williams and her husband and has received support from individuals. Since its inception, it has financed year-long Fellowships in art schools to enable artist residences and later, in conjunction with Wimbledon Art School, to pay fees for Drawing MAs. www.evelynwilliams.com

Selector Biographies

Dr David Dibosa trained as a curator after receiving his first degree from Girton College, University of Cambridge. He was awarded his PhD in Art History from Goldsmiths College, University of London. During the 1990s, he curated public art projects. He is currently Course Leader for MA Curating and Collections at Chelsea College of Arts. He is also a Researcher in University of the Arts London's Research Centre for Transnational Art, Identity and Nation (TrAIN).

Helen Legg was previously Curator at Ikon Gallery, Birmingham, where she worked for five years on exhibitions and offsite projects as well as the development of Ikon Eastside, a second gallery based in a former factory building in Digbeth. In 2010, she was appointed Director of Spike Island, an international centre for the development of contemporary art and design, based in Bristol. She sat on the selection panel for the Paul Hamlyn Artist's Awards in 2013 and latterly for the Turner Prize and the CAS Annual Award in 2014. She is Chair of Visual Arts South West and an advisor for the Bristol Cultural Development Partnership.

Michael Simpson studied at Bournemouth College of Art (1958-60) and Royal College of Art, London (1960-63). He lives and works in Wiltshire, UK, making large scale paintings in ongoing series that repeat and rework a number of key elements. Rooted in a fascination with fifteenth century Venetian and early Flemish painting, and inflected by the formal restraint and reduced palette of Minimalism, Simpson has developed a distinctive, darkly comedic artistic vocabulary with which to create works that move beyond their subject matter to question the nature of painting itself. Awarded the John Moores Painting Prize in 2016, his forthcoming solo exhibition will open at Blain Southern, Berlin in September 2017.