



ROBERT WALTERS GROUP

UK YOUNG ARTIST OF THE YEAR AWARD

In partnership with Saatchi Gallery

ARTIST'S BRIEF 2019

Deadline for submissions

1 September 2019 (midnight)

About the award

Three unique organisations are collaborating to provide a significant platform and stepping stone for young artists. The new **Robert Walters Group UK Young Artist of the Year Award** in partnership with Saatchi Gallery will discover and champion exceptional artists who are representative of contemporary Britain.

From an open call across the UK, we are seeking to discover 10 outstanding artists whose work demonstrates a strong and original voice, is of exceptional artistic quality. We're looking for artists who represent the UK's richly diverse population, and embody the experiences of their community. Artists who create bold, unique pieces of art that reveal their own perspectives and experiences and whom represent unique viewpoints and will help start new conversations in the UK art scene.

The ten shortlisted artists' work will be exhibited at the Saatchi Gallery in London for a VIP awards evening.

- **First Prize | £10,000 cash prize**

The winner's work will be shown at the Robert Walters Group head office for a period of 12 months following the award and at an international presentation with UKYA in 2020.

- **Second Prize | £5,000 cash prize**

A second-prize winner will also be announced at the awards evening and will receive a £5,000 cash prize, courtesy of the Robert Walters Group.

Eligibility

You must be aged between 18–30 (on or by Sunday 1st September 2019) and be allowed to work or study in the UK at the time of making this submission. If shortlisted, you must be available to be in London on Monday October 7th 2019. Artists should be working within the following fields:

Applied arts

Ceramics, glass, textiles and jewellery

Digital arts

Moving image, performance video, technological arts

Fine arts

Painting, printmaking, photography, installation, sculpture

Selection criteria

Judges will be looking for works which reflect the following:

- **Diversity of Experience**

We're looking for artists who represent the UK's richly diverse population, and embody the experiences of their community.

- **Diversity of Expression**

We're looking for artists who create bold, unique pieces of art that reveal their own perspectives and experiences.

- **Diversity of Thought**

We're looking for artists who represent unique viewpoints and will help start new conversations in the UK art scene.

and who can demonstrate a strong and original voice with exceptional artistic quality and looking to open up new opportunities for their work using this exemplary platform.

Selection criteria

Applications will be reviewed by UKYA and by a selection panel which will consist of representatives from each partner organisation and leading artists from the above fields.

Judges will include **Philippa Adams**, Senior Director of Saatchi Gallery; **Robert Walters**, art collector and CEO of Robert Walters Group; **Gavin Turk**, artist; **Michael Forbes**, artist, and **Rosalind Davis** an artist, writer and UKYA alum

Financial support

Robert Walters Group will provide a small stipend of £200 for each of the ten shortlisted artists to attend the awards event in London on Monday October 7th and will cover all shipping costs for works to be delivered to and from the Saatchi Gallery. The partners will also be producing an exhibition booklet and extensive promotional activity of the shortlisted artists.

Key dates

- **Monday, 8 July 2019**

Call for entries opens

- **Sunday, 1 September 2019**

Call for entries closes

- **9-15 September 2019**

Judging panel meets to assess submissions and decide shortlist

- **Monday, 20 September 2019**

Finalists announced

- **w/c 23 September 2019**

Communication with artists and shipping arrangement to be made (artwork must be received at Saatchi Gallery by Friday, 4 October)

- **Monday, 7 October 2019**

Exhibition and prize-giving event to be held at the Saatchi Gallery (each shortlisted artist will receive 2 VIP guest invites)



About the partners

- **Robert Walters Group**

Robert Walters Group is a global recruitment group committed to powering people and organisations to fulfil their unique potential. With vast experience in helping professionals grow their careers, Robert Walters Group is now aiming to help emerging UK artists express their unique voices and launch their artistic careers.

Learn more at www.robertwalters.com/ukya.

- **UK Young Artists (UKYA)**

UK Young Artists (UKYA) www.ukyoungartists.co.uk is a registered national charity that champions the next generation of creativity, supporting collaboration and intercultural dialogue, ensuring a vibrant and diverse creative future for the UK. We develop artists' practice through cross art form opportunities and celebrate creativity at national & international festivals.

Learn more at www.ukyoungartists.co.uk.

- **Saatchi Gallery**

Saatchi Gallery was founded in 1985 with the aim of bringing contemporary art to as wide an audience as possible and make it accessible by providing an innovative platform for emerging artists to show their work. Since moving to Duke of York's HQ in 2008 the Gallery has welcomed over 1 million visitors a year and is one of the world's leading museums on social media. Entry to all Saatchi Gallery curated exhibitions is free.

Learn more at www.saatchigallery.com.

