

15.11.2010

Kyiv, Ukraine

Press release

Finalists of the PinchukArtCentre Prize 2009 started their internships at studios of internationally renowned artists

Earlier this month, the winner of the Main PinchukArtCentre Prize Artem Volokitin and the winners of two Special PinchukArtCentre Prizes Oleksii Salmanov and Masha Shubina have started their apprenticeship programmes at studios of internationally renowned artists. Thus, during one month, Artem Volokitin and Masha Shubina will be training in the art studio of Antony Gormley in London and Oleksii Salmanov in the studio of Olafur Eliasson in Berlin.

During their internships, the Ukrainian artists will be offered an opportunity to get engaged in studios' ongoing work, participate in both concept development and creation processes. The internships will not only offer an insight into the work of the studios, but will also grant them opportunities for small artistic experiments. In addition these young Ukrainian artists will have a chance to discuss their future works and artistic development with the internationally renowned masters.

Ekhard Schneider, General Director of the PinchukArtCentre: *"We believe that the integration of Ukrainian artists into the global art context is very important. In the time of total globalization it is impossible to exist solely within a framework of national reality. Therefore, we hope that the experience these three artists will gain in the studios of outstanding world artists will not only help them learn the latest technology of creating works of art, but also widen their artistic viewpoint on the world."*

In December 2009 an international jury selected the finalists of the PinchukArtCentre Prize among 20 shortlisted nominees whose works were exhibited in the art centre from 31 October to 20 December 2009. According to the Prize regulations, the winners received cash prizes: the Main Prize of UAH 100 000 and two Special Prizes of UAH 25 000 each. The Internships at studios of world known artists are fully covered by the PinchukArtCentre and are an integral element of the Prize.

Currently the works by Artem Volokitin are presented as part of the group show of the 21 artists shortlisted for the Future Generation Art Prize 2010. As the winner of the national Prize Artem was automatically included in the final stage of this international competition.

Artem Volokitin

Born in 1981 in Chuhuiv of Kharkiv Region. Graduate of Kharkiv Academy of Design and Arts. Resides in Kharkiv. Focuses on painting, photography and video.

Oleksii Salmanov

Born in 1976 in Rostov-on-Don, Russia. Graduated from International Solomon Institute in Kyiv. Resides in Kyiv. Focuses on photography.

Masha Shubina

Born in 1979 in Kyiv. Graduated from National Academy of Fine Arts and Architecture and Moscow Institute of Architecture and Arts. Resides in Kyiv. Focuses on painting.

Olafur Eliasson

Born in Copenhagen in 1967. Studied at the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts in 1985-1995. At the start of his career moved to Germany and established Studio Olafur Eliasson in Berlin. Resides and works in Berlin.

Antony Gormley

Born in London in 1950. Completed a degree in Archaeology, Anthropology and History of Art at Trinity College, Cambridge. Attended Central School of Art and Goldsmith's College and Slade School of Art.

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The **PinchukArtCentre Prize** is the first private nationwide art prize in Ukraine aimed at fostering, supporting and developing a new generation of young Ukrainian artists working in contemporary art.

The PinchukArtCentre's prize is to be awarded to the best Ukrainian artists under 35 of every odd year starting from 2009.

The Prize nominees in 2009 were chosen from over 1100 applicants, who submitted their applications to the PinchukArtCentre at the start of the year. The shortlisted artists were: Myroslav Vayda, Artem Volokitin, Andriy Halashyn, Gamlet Zinkivskyi, Mykyta Kadan, Zhanna Kadyrova, Maya Kolesnik, Volodymyr Kuznetsov, Lada Nakonechna, Oksana Protsenko, Oleksiy Say, Oleksiy Salmanov, Olesia Khomenko, Oleksiy Khoroshko, Ivan Chubukov, Masha Shubina and the groups BLUEMOLOKO, Hat, SOSka and SYN. Among the Ukraine-based competitors there were also young artists residing in other countries, such as Germany and Costa Rica.

Website of the PinchukArtCentre Prize: www.prize.pinchukartcentre.org