

Winner will be announced in December, 2015, and will receive 40,000 euros

SONAE MEDIA ART AWARD ANNOUNCES FINALISTS

Jury selected five finalists from the 174 applications submitted.

The finalists of the first edition of the Sonae Media Art Award are: Diogo Evangelista, the collective Musa Paradisiaca formed by Miguel Ferrão and Eduardo Guerra, Tatiana Macedo, Rui Penha and Patrícia Portela. The initiative promoted by Sonae in partnership with the National Museum of Contemporary Art - Chiado Museum [MNAC-MC] is biennial and has as main objective to distinguish and to make public the artistic creations in the *media art* area.

From a range of 174 applications submitted, 128 were validated and five finalists were chosen. The works presented included 3 artworks per application which were evaluated by a selected jury, consisted of Sandra Vieira Jurgens (critic, art historian and editor); Natxo Checa (curator and producer at the ZDB gallery, in Lisbon) and Emília Tavares (curator of Photography and New Medias of MNAC-MC).

The Jury gave privilege to the works in multimedia language, giving particular importance to the interdisciplinary dynamics of the presented artworks for the competition which correspond and corroborate the coherence of the artistic journeys of the five finalists; these should reunite the conditions of artistic and conceptual quality, project innovation and interdisciplinary capacity in the understanding of the *media art* concept.

Each finalist shall receive a 5000€ grant, destined to the creation of an unprecedented artwork. The artworks of the artist finalists will be exhibited at MNAC - Chiado Museum from 20 of November, 2015 to 31 of January, 2016.

The winner of the Sonae Media Art Award will be chosen from the five finalists, through the evaluation of the works exhibited. The award jury will be composed by: Lori Zippay (executive director of Electronic Arts Intermix in New York), Marco Martins (filmmaker) and João Silvério (curator of contemporary art). The decision regarding the winner will be announced on December, 2015.

The Sonae Media Art Award is biennial and it attributes the amount of 40,000€ to the winning artist. This initiative integrates the patronage agreement concluded between Sonae and MNAC-MC on February of 2014 and is part of Sonae's corporate responsibility policy, which seeks the promotion of creativity and innovation, stimulating new tendencies and bringing society closer to art, namely through important cultural events that allow enriching experiences of personal and collective development.

The five finalists:

Diogo Evangelista (1984)

Diogo lives and works in Lisbon. He has a degree from the Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Lisbon, and he attended the Visual Arts course of the Accademia de Belle Arti de Turim.

From his career, one can point out various individual exhibitions and his participation in collective exhibitions. He developed 3 artistic residencies in Lisbon (2010), Barcelona (2011) and Budapest (2012). He was granted the awards: Ariane Rothschild Art Award 2008 (3rd place) and "BESrevelação" 2013.

Musa Paradisiáca

Miguel Ferrão (1986)

He has a degree in Painting from the Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Lisbon, and concluded his Masters in Philosophy – Aesthetics in the Faculty of Human and Social Sciences, New University of Lisbon.

Eduardo Guerra (1986)

Eduardo has a degree in Painting from the Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Lisbon, and in Visual Arts from the University of East London, he completed his Masters in Philosophy – Aesthetics in the Faculty of Human and Social Sciences, New University of Lisbon.

He lives and works in Lisbon.

Whilst working within a collective, he developed various screenings and performances, he participated in various collective exhibitions and held 2 individual exhibitions, of which the last was at the Dan Gunn Gallery in Berlin.

They developed 3 artistic residencies, in São Tomé, São Tomé and Príncipe, New Mexico, Abrantes, Guimarães (2012), Príncipe (2013), Fábrica da Pólvora (2014). The collective received the Visual Arts Support award of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation (FCG) (2012) and were shortlisted for the "EDP Novos Artistas" Award in 2013.

Tatiana Macedo (1981)

She lives in Lisbon and works between Lisbon, London and Amsterdam. Tatiana has a BA Honours in Fine Arts from the Central St. Martins College of Art & Design and a Masters in Visual Anthropology from the Faculty of Human and Social Sciences, New University of Lisbon.

From her career, one can point out various individual exhibitions, her participation in collective exhibitions and in cinema festivals, the execution of 2 artistic residencies (2007 and 2013), as well as the making of the documentary *Seems So Long Ago, Nancy* (2012).

She won various grants; she received the 1st Photography Award, Cena D'Arte, CML (2004) and was shortlisted for the VAFA Video Art for All. Macau, China (2012).

Rui Penha (1981)

Rui has a degree in Teaching Music from the University of Aveiro (2006); he obtained a Doctorate in Music – Composition at the same University. (2014).

He is a composer and an interpreter of electroacoustic music, developing the activity in the music technology area, emphasizing on the software and interfaces' conception for musical expression

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and installations. He taught in various universities and is currently a collaborator in the INESC Porto. He executed various interactive installations, software and new instruments; has his work recorded and published, as author and composer, won and/or was shortlisted for various Awards and Distinctions, of which stands out the 1st award of the “Prémio Nacional de Composição Jorge Peixinho” (2003), Honourable Mention at the “Composição Música Viva” Competition (2004), Honourable Mention at Lomus (2008). He represented Portugal in the World New Music Days in Zagreb (2011).

Patrícia Portela (1974)

Patrícia lives and works between Lisbon and Antwerp.

She has a Degree in “Realização Plástica do Espectáculo” (Plastic Arts & Performances’ Set Up) from ESTC, Lisbon, has a Masters of Arts in European Scenography from Central Saint Martins College of Art, London (CNC Scholarship for young artists, 1996/97), a Post-graduation in Arts, Performance and Theatricality from APT – Antwerp (FCG Scholarship Artistic and Technical Research 2002/03), a BA Abridged in Philosophy (Cum laude), from the Institute of Philosophy of Leuven, Belgium (2013). She is currently attending the Doctoral Program in Philosophy of Science of the Faculty of Sciences, University of Lisbon, in the area of Arts, Science and Technology, 2014-2017.

She has developed various artistic residencies and has conceived various installations individually or in collaboration, coordination, conception and has done the dramaturgy of performances, some of which were awarded, such as Flatland I, 2004 (FCG “Madalena de Azeredo Perdigão” Award, special mention for the Ernesto Sousa Grant, and *Flatland Trilogy*, 2006 (honourable mention from the Association of Portuguese Theatre Critics) with European roaming, in Brazil and in the Middle East; Wasteband, 2003 (“Reposição Teatro na Década” Award from the C.P.A.I. and an honourable mention for the FCG “Acarte/Madalena de Azeredo Perdigão” Award) with European roaming. She is the author of various publications.