



International Art Contest for Minority Artists

Second Edition 2023

Recognizing Minority Artists Working on Intersectionality Themes

Judges Panel and Award Criteria

The Judges Panel for the Second Edition of the International Art Contest comprises the following people:



Yvonne Apiyo Brändle-Amolo

Former OHCHR Person of African Descent fellow, Switzerland, is best known for her femme-activism which involves using mixed media like Swiss yodel, sculpture, video and visual arts to challenge societal identity politics. Between 2014 to 2019, her short film “[Not Swiss Made](#)” about racism in Switzerland won 18 prizes globally, starting with the Arte Laguna Video Art and Performance price in Venice, Italy. In 2015, she was an artist in residence at the [Art Olympics Biennale - Kenyan Pavillion](#) in Venice, Italy. Her [One Family – human blood sculptures](#) caused a buzz in 2017, as did her [Swiss traditional folks' dance](#) intervention, which taught traditional Swiss dance to refugees and Swiss people. Later that year she collaborated with Ernesto Netos' on his Gaia Mother tree exhibition curating a food [The way to an enemy's heart](#) intervention. Ms Brändle-Amolo has since worked on a series of social-political [Feminist Salon](#) lounges which consisted of film, discussions and performances. She also started a VLOG [African Descent](#) after launching the United Nations initiative

the [International Decade for People of African Descent](#) in Switzerland. Last year she co-curated an art projection [Fraumunster21](#), commemorating the 50th anniversary of women's federal right to vote in Switzerland. Currently working on an opera and jodel concert for her Atelier Vivant Art residency in Thusis, Ms Brändle-Amolo is also an elected member of the Swiss parliament for the Social Democratic Party.



Carine Durand, Director of the Museum of Ethnography of Geneva

Carine Durant is a social anthropologist who completed her PhD at the University of Cambridge (2010) after a MPhil in Ethnology and a MA in International Negotiation at the University of Aix-en-Provence (France). She has worked for over twenty years in various curatorial and research capacities at the Musée des Confluences (Lyon, France, 2000-2004), the University of Cambridge Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology (UK, 2004-2006), and the Nordiska Museet (Stockholm, Sweden, 2007). She has curated several public exhibitions about contemporary indigenous art and political movement for the Musée des Confluences (Inuit 2002-2003), the Cambridge Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology (Northern Skies, Southern Stars 2006, Sápmi 2010) and the Nordiska Museet (Sápmi 2007). She acted as Cultural Heritage consultant in Barcelona, Spain between February 2011 and August 2015. After being Chief Curator at the Ethnographic Museum of Geneva (MEG) between October 2015 and June 2022, she was appointed Director of MEG on 1st July 2022. Since 1998, she has conducted long-term anthropological field research crossing the boundaries of disciplines between social anthropology, education, performance studies, and art. Her research method is based on a transnational approach which has led her to conduct research in a wide variety of settings including anthropological museums in Italy, France, the UK, Norway and Sweden, theatres in Brazil, and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Geneva, Switzerland. Concurrently with her professional activity, she explores how anthropologists cross the boundaries of their disciplines in practice. She adopts alternative literary genres such as storytelling and playwriting to "rediscover" anthropological concerns such as cultural identity, memory and the transmission of knowledge from one generation to the next.



Abdullah Habib, Rohingya Photographer based in Bangladesh and Award-Winner of the International Art Contest for Minority Artists 2022

Abdullah Habib is a Rohingya artist undertaking photography, videography and poetry. He is a former school teacher from Maungdaw, Rakhine State in Myanmar. Forced to flee his home, he arrived in Bangladesh in early September 2017 and started working with the Rollywood Rohingya film team making videos re-enacting Rohingya life. He has produced several photo-essays and poetry books on different topics. In 2019, his photographs were published by the Asia Time and many other. In August 2020, he received third prize in the photo series category from the Rohingya Photo Competition. In 2021, his work was published by Westword in Today, Tomorrow, Forever: Being Rohingya in Australia. His photographs have been exhibited at the Human Rights Research and Education Centre in Ottawa and the Oxford Human Rights Festival. In 2022, He and his fellow photographers have published a photo magazine on Identity of Rohingya with their collective photos and story. Moreover, he was awarded for his photography and poetry in the International Art Contest on Statelessness organised by Minority Rights Group International, OHCHR, UN and UNHCR in Geneva. Recently, He represented the stories of his community with his poetry in the 10th edition of Litfest in Dhaka with other two Rohingya female artists.



Zahra Hassan Marwan, illustrator, drawer Award-Winner of the International Art Contest for Minority Artists 2022

Working as a traditional artist with watercolor and ink, Zahra creates work that reflects her cultural roots in Kuwait as well as her life now in Albuquerque, New Mexico. She loves poetry and independent cinema and how quiet and mysterious the night can be. She is deeply fond of the sea. She holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of New Mexico in Languages and Literature, with a minor in Flamenco Dance and History as well as a minor in Philosophy. She has loved working with museums, non-profits, theater companies, cultural centers and has found making picture books to be dreamier than she had dreamed them to be! Her debut picture book, *Where Butterflies Fill the Sky*, was published by Bloomsbury Books in 2022 and was named one of the New York Times and New York Public Library Best Illustrated Children's Books and named one of NPR's Best Books of 2022. In 2022, Zahra also received one of the three awards of the first International Art Contest for Minority Artists working on Statelessness Themes.



Alexandra Xanthaki, United Nations Special Rapporteur in the Field of Cultural Rights

Alexandra Xanthaki was appointed UN Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights in October 2021. A leading expert on cultural rights, Alexandra Xanthaki (LLB Athens; LLM Queens, Belfast; PhD Keele) is Professor of Law at Brunel University London, UK and the

Research Director of the Brunel Law School. A prolific author on minority and indigenous rights, Alexandra has over 50 publications varying from cultural rights of minorities and indigenous peoples to cultural diversity, cultural heritage, balancing cultural rights with other rights and interests, and multicultural aspects of international human rights law. More information:

<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/CulturalRights/Pages/AlexandraXanthaki.aspx>

Award Criteria

When reviewing the entrant artists and their artwork, criteria to be discussed by the Judging Panel may include, but are not limited to:

- Artistic merit
- Elements in the artist's work giving insights on minority issues, identity and/or experience, and intersectionality
- Relevance of the artist's views and work to the topic of the contest
- Creativity and innovation
- Effective reach and impact of more established works or perceived potential of increasing visibility of less known ones
- Bravery and/or originality in addressing difficult themes or issues
- Dedication

The above-mentioned criteria are not exhaustive, and award-winners may not meet all of these criteria. The decision of the Judging Panel will be taken on a consensual basis. It is final and not subject to appeal.