

# The Young Belgian Art Prize is now the “BelgianArtPrize”

- Not just a change in name but a game changer -



A big departure for this prestigious biennial art prize: The non-profit organisation La Jeune Peinture Belge – which has organised the prize since 1950 – has decided to put all its energies into supporting talented leading artists who live in Belgium by supporting them in **developing their career and international visibility**. To this end the **age limit for artists no longer applies**.

The national jury has selected the **four finalists** for the BelgianArtPrize 2017:  
Edith Dekyndt, Simona Denicolai & Ivo Provoost, Otobong Nkanga and Maarten Vanden Eynde.

Their works will be on display in the Centre for Fine Arts between **March 17 and May 28 2017**.

The Prize winner will be announced on **April 19 2017**.

## BelgianArtPrize, what's new?

- The **focus** of the BelgianArtPrize has shifted. The prize now aims to support **talented leading artists living in Belgium and to support them** in developing their career through increased **international visibility**. The exhibition will also take place earlier in the year so that it coincides with the international art fairs *Art Brussels* (21-23 April) and *Independent* (19-23 April).
- The **age limit** of 35 no longer applies; all Belgian artists or artists who have been living in Belgium for at least one year are now eligible.
- Candidates no longer have to submit a dossier, but are nominated by a pool of experts. The national jury selects **4 finalists** from the longlist. These artists will have the opportunity to exhibit their works in the Centre for Fine Arts. (17.03 > 28.05.2017)
- **Two awards** are up for grabs: the **Crowet Prize** (€ 25,000), which is awarded by the international jury, and the **ING Public Prize** (€ 10,000), awarded by public vote. (19.04.2016)

# BelgianArtPrize

## A New Strategy and International Ambitions

The *Young Belgian Art Prize*, originally established in 1950 as the *Young Painters Award*, **has had a complete makeover** and will henceforth be known as the **BelgianArtPrize**.

The **selection procedure and criteria** have changed. Beginning with this 2017 edition, all Belgian artists or non-Belgian artists who have lived in Belgium for one year or more, irrespective of their age, can be nominated by a committee of experts made up of art professionals and collectors.

The **BelgianArtPrize** will focus on supporting **talented leading artists** in order to develop their career with international visibility boost. The non-profit organisation La Jeune Peinture Belge will take on the role of facilitator and concentrate on strengthening the international **character** of the BelgianArtPrize and its winners. To this end it intends to create a platform that will facilitate meetings and exchanges between the finalists, collectors as well as national and international art experts. The non-profit organisation is also working to forge links with other major European art prizes. Finally, it wants to increase the visibility of candidates through the organisation of artist talks, conferences, interviews and communication campaigns.

The Crowet family, who first launched the Prize and still is its invaluable patron, continues to maintain close links through the **Crowet Prize** (€ 25,000). ING, a structural partner since 2009, will award the **ING Public Prize** (€ 10,000).

## BelgianArtPrize 2017

The non-profit organisation La Jeune Peinture Belge has called upon its members as well as Belgian contemporary art experts to each nominate 5 artists. The **national jury**, which consists of 4 professional art experts and 3 art collectors from Belgium, then selects the **4 finalists** from this longlist.

For the 2017 edition the **national jury** consists of museum directors Denis Gielen (MAC's), Dirk Snauwaert (WIELS), Phillip Van den Bossche (Mu.ZEE) and Philippe Van Cauteren (S.M.A.K.) alongside art collectors Gaël Van Lierde-Diercxsens, Frédéric de Goldschmidt and Tanguy Van Quickenborne.

On October 10 of this year the national jury came together in the Centre for Fine Arts and identified the **four finalists** who received the highest number of votes for the BelgianArtPrize 2017: **Edith Dekyndt, Simona Denicolai & Ivo Provoost, Otobong Nkanga and Maarten Vanden Eynde**.

These artists will be invited to exhibit recent work at the Centre for Fine Arts between 17 March and 28 May 2017.

An **international jury** will choose the winner of the BelgianArtPrize from amongst the four finalists. This jury consists of 3 professional art experts and two art collectors. The members of the jury for the 2017 edition are **Beatrix Ruf** (Director of the Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam), **Hans Ulrich Obrist** (Artistic Director of the Serpentine Galleries in London) and **Dieter Roelstraete** (Co-curator of Documenta 14). The art collectors are **Mimi Dusselier** (who has been involved with and committed to visual arts for the past 30 years) and **Estelle Francès Lasserre** (Fondation d'Entreprise Francès).

The international jury is chaired by **Sophie Lauwers** (Head of exhibitions BOZAR) and **Roland Gillion Crowet** (President of the non-profit organisation *La Jeune Peinture Belge*).

The Award Ceremony for the BelgianArtPrize will be held on April 19 in the Centre for Fine Arts' Horta Hall. The winner will be awarded the sum of **€ 25,000**, funded by the financial provision of the **Crowet Prize**. The winner of the **ING Public Prize, selected by popular vote**, will receive **€ 10,000**.

## **An Historic Prize**

The story of La Jeune Peinture Belge began on 9 February 1950 when Belgian art lovers, critics and collectors set up this non-profit organisation, which has been chaired by Roland Gillion Crowet since 1984. The goal of the non-profit organisation was to organise a biannual art prize, which would encourage contemporary creation and place young artists on the international map. The Centre for Fine Arts has been a partner of the Prize since the very beginning. It exhibits works by the finalists with the support of ING Bank.

The BelgianArtPrize, which enjoys the Patronage of His Majesty the King, was the first of its kind in Belgium and has built up an excellent reputation over the years. Artists who have won the Prize in previous years include Pierre Alechinsky, Raoul De Keyser, Ann Veronica Janssens, Berlinda De Bruyckere, Marie-Jo Lafontaine and Hans Op de Beeck.

## Finalists BelgianArtPrize 2017

### Edith Dekyndt

Edith Dekyndt experiments with the possibilities of the most ordinary of materials, which she brings into the artistic domain. Traditional considerations of the fine arts have no place in her approach, which does away with the secrecy of the artist's studio to be out in the open, fully immersed in the world. Her works invite us to change not just our perspective, but also our way of being and of influencing the world.

Edith Dekyndt was born in Belgium in 1960 and lives and works in Berlin. Her works have been exhibited at international institutions including the DAAD in Berlin, WIELS in Brussels, the Consortium in Dijon, Witte de With in Rotterdam, Mac's - Grand-Hornu, in Hornu, New York's MoMA, and the Contemporary Art Museum in Hiroshima. Her works are on display in international private and public collections.

[www.edithdekyndt.be](http://www.edithdekyndt.be)



Edith Dekyndt, *Laboratory 01*  
(*Fabric with coffee*), replica,  
1995-2016, Wiels.

Photography: Sven Laurent

### Denicolai & Provoost

The Italian-Belgian duo, formed by Simona Denicolai & Ivo Provoost, are multidisciplinary artists who work with - but not exclusively - animation, objects, installations, performance, video, and publishing. They seek to offer collaborative and procedural approaches, sometimes over the long term, sometimes as a one-off performance, that involve complicity and collaboration with people who are not from the world of art but who are an integral part of the worlds that surround us. They often borrow the elements that are present in a context to combine them, separate them or assemble them together, and to create a language. They work more like intermediaries between the various components of a context to make them interact with each other through their own forms. It is this role of intermediary (or 'director of the real') that interests them the most: What is the artist's role in the city?



Denicolai & Provoost, *'Hello, are we in the show?'*  
(*compositing study*), 2014

Production S.O.I.L., with the support of VAF, in  
collaboration with Solang Production Paris Brussels.

Denicolai & Provoost work as a duo together in Brussels since 1997. Simona Denicolai (1972, Milan, IT) and Ivo Provoost (1974, Diksmuide, BE) exhibited in international institutions and galleries such as S.M.A.K., Ghent (2005); Le Carré, Château-Gontier (2008); IAC, Villeurbanne; Le plateau Frac Ile-de-France, Paris (2011); Le Quartier, Quimper (2015); M HKA, Antwerp (2016); Spazio Ridotto, Venice (2016); Brno Biennial 2016, Czech Republic. Their work is part of several private and public collections in Belgium: Mu.ZEE, Ostend; S.M.A.K., Ghent; Mac's - Grand-Hornu, Hornu; B.P.S. 22, Charleroi and in France: Frac des Pays de la Loire; Carquefou; Frac Haute-Normandie, Rouen; Frac Bourgogne, Dijon en I.A.C. Institut d'Art Contemporain, Villeurbanne.

[www.denicolai-provoost.com](http://www.denicolai-provoost.com)



## Practical information

### Finalists BelgianArtPrize 2017

Edith Dekyndt  
Denicolai & Provoost  
Otobong Nkanga  
Maarten Vanden Eynde

### National Jury

Museum Directors: **Denis Gielen** (Director of MAC's), **Dirk Snauwaert** (Artistic Director of WIELS), **Phillip Van den Bossche** (Director of Mu.ZEE), **Philippe Van Cauteren** (Artistic Director of S.M.A.K.).

Art Collectors: **Gaël Van Lierde-Diercxsens** (Art Collector, Curator and Artistic Advisor), **Frédéric de Goldschmidt** (Art Collector and Patron of the arts), **Tanguy Van Quickenborne** (Entrepreneur and Art Collector).

### International Jury

Professional experts from the arts sector: **Beatrix Ruf** (Director of the Stedelijk Museum in Amsterdam, Curator and member of several cultural Boards), **Hans Ulrich Obrist** (Artistic Director of the Serpentine Galleries in London and Curator of many exhibitions), **Dieter Roelstraete** (Co-curator of Documenta 14).

Art Collectors: **Mimi Dusselier** (Art Collector who has been involved with and committed to the visual arts for over 30 years), **Estelle Francès Lasserre** (Art Historian and Cultural Manager, Founder and Director of the Fondation d'Entreprise Francès).

The international jury is chaired by **Sophie Lauwers** (Head of Exhibitions BOZAR) and **Roland Gillion Crowet** (President of the non-profit organisation La Jeune Peinture Belge).

### Key dates

**16.03.2017**: Press conference and official opening of the exhibition

**17.03 – 28.05.2017**: Exhibition in the Antechambers of the Centre for Fine Arts

**19.04.2017**: Award Ceremony at the Centre for Fine Arts

### Contact

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