

Thao Nguyen Phan wins the Han Nefkens Foundation - Loop Barcelona Video Art Award 2018

Barcelona, 21 November 2018: **Thao Nguyen Phan** is the winner of the **Han Nefkens Foundation - Loop Barcelona Video Art Award 2018**, in collaboration with the **Fundació Joan Miró**.

Thao Nguyen Phan's wins the Han Nefkens Foundation - Loop Barcelona Video Art Award for her heterogeneous and powerful works, which have a uniquely poetic and beautiful form of storytelling.

Established by the Han Nefkens Foundation in collaboration with Loop Barcelona in 2018, the annual award aims to increase contemporary artistic production in the video art field by **supporting artists of Asian origin or nationality**.

Thao Nguyen Phan (1987, Vietnam) has unanimously been chosen as the winner of the Han Nefkens Foundation - LOOP Barcelona Video Art Award 2018 in collaboration with Fundació Joan Miró. Promising young artist Thao Nguyen Phan has a strong eye and, remarkably, for an artist of her age, she has found a voice that is both unique and incisive. Her diverse practice includes complex, layered narratives, which create a form of storytelling that is at once grounded in her local landscape and in the communities with whom she works, while at the same time referring back to fictional texts. She manages to blend the universal and the local in a poetic and visually powerful way. She is a great storyteller who executes her work in a highly professional manner. The jury feels that, at this moment in her career, Thao Nguyen Phan will be able to take full advantage of this opportunity by producing a new work that will without doubt further her career.

Thao Nguyen Phan receives **15.000\$** funding for the production of a new work which will be presented at the Fundació Joan Miró in November 2019 to coincide with **Loop Barcelona 2019**. The Han Nefkens Foundation will also present the work in various art centres worldwide throughout 2019 and 2020.

The winner has been selected by a judging panel chaired by **Han Nefkens**, Founder of the Han Nefkens Foundation, and joined by **Emilio Alvarez**, Founding co-director of LOOP Barcelona, **Marko Daniel**, Director of the Fundació Joan Miró, **Hans Ulrich Obrist**, Co-Director of the Serpentine Galleries, and **Barbara London**, Associate Curator at MoMA.

Considered a multimedia artist whose practice encompasses painting, installation and 'theatrical fields', this also includes what **Thao Nguyen Phan** calls performance gesture and moving images. Through literature, philosophy and daily life, she observes ambiguous issues in social convention, history and tradition. Phan has exhibited in Vietnam and further afield, with solo and group exhibitions at Gemäldegalerie (Berlin, 2018), Dhaka Art Summit (2018), Para Site (Hong Kong, 2018), Factory Contemporary Art Centre (Ho Chi Minh City, 2017); Nha San Collective (Hanoi, 2017); Bétonsalon (Paris, 2016), among others. In addition to her work as a multimedia artist, she is co-founder of the collective, Art Labor, which explores cross disciplinary practices and develops art projects that benefit the local community.

Featuring artists from all over Asia, the nine shortlisted artists for the Han Nefkens Foundation - Loop Barcelona Video Art Award 2018 were: **Mr. Chi-Yu Wu** (1986, Taiwan), **Ms. Yin-Ju Chen** (1977, Taiwan), **Ms. Sow-Yee AU** (1978, Malaysia), **Mr. Tzu Nyen Ho** (1976, Singapore), **Mr. Isaac Chong** (1990, Hong Kong), **Ms. Thao Nguyen Phan** (1987, Vietnam), **Mr. Chia-Wei Hsu** (1983, Republic of China), **Ms. Nao Yoshigai** (1987, Japan) and **Mr. Ping Wong** (1984, Hong Kong).

Han Nefkens Foundation

The Han Nefkens Foundation is a private, non-profit organization set up in Barcelona in 2009. It focuses on the production of video art, with the aim of connecting people through art across the world, collaborating with renowned international art institutions. The Foundation's founding values have defined it from the beginning as an innovative and forward-thinking model: a production hub that oversees and promotes contemporary creation from the very first moments until the final presentation. Positioned as a platform for video artists to advance their careers, its main activity is to commission new works through its awards and grants on an international level.

LOOP Fair Barcelona

Founded in 2003, LOOP Barcelona is dedicated to the study and promotion of artists' films and videos. LOOP teams up with an international community of artists, curators, gallerists, collectors and institution directors to develop projects which aim at exploring the capacities of video and film in today's contemporary art discourses. Every year LOOP organizes a city-wide festival and hosts LOOP Fair, a selection of

contemporary artists' films and videos presented by international galleries in a unique viewing experience. Being the first commercial event to ever be devoted exclusively to moving image, the fair constitutes a professional framework and a dynamic meeting point for art lovers and experts alike.

Fundació Joan Miró

The Fundació Joan Miró was created by the artist himself and opened its doors to the public in 1975. It holds a unique collection of Miró's works, his personal library, as well as an archive with the entirety of his preparatory drawings. A center for the research of Miró's output and legacy, since its opening as the first museum devoted to modern and contemporary art in Barcelona, the Fundació has hosted numerous exhibitions. It is also the home of Espai 13, one of the earliest spaces devoted to emerging artists and curators, as well as an active educational center focused on the promotion of creativity and a better understanding of modern and contemporary artistic practices.

Current projects at the Han Nefkens Foundation

Production Awards

Han Nefkens Foundation - LOOP Art Fair Video Art Award (Barcelona, Spain)

Han Nefkens Foundation - ARCO Video Art Award (Madrid, Spain)

Han Nefkens Foundation - BUK Museum Korean Video Art Award (Seoul, Korea)

Han Nefkens Foundation - CAC Award Latin-American Video Art (Quito, Ecuador)

Production Grants

Bundeskunsthalle, Bonn: Vaijko Chachkhiani

Manifesta 2018, Palermo: Erkan Özgen

Gwangju Biennial: Heecheon Kim

Fundació Antòni Tàpies, Barcelona: Erkan Özgen

Fundació Suñol, Barcelona: Arash Nassiri

Boijmans van Beuningen, Rotterdam: Dinh Q. Lê

Centre Cívic Ateneu Fort Pienc, Barbara Sánchez Barroso

Liverpool Biennial: Aslan Gaisumov

CAC Quito, Ecuador: Sojung Jun

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