

08.11.2021

## The Norval Sovereign African Art Prize Inaugural Shortlist Announced



**Cape Town, South Africa** – [Norval Foundation](#) and [The Sovereign Art Foundation](#) (SAF) today announced the names of 30 artists shortlisted as finalists for The Norval Sovereign African Art Prize, the inaugural edition of an annual award for contemporary artists from Africa and its diaspora.

Finalists in the running for this year's Prize hail from 18 countries, of which South Africa has the strongest representation, followed by Zimbabwe, Angola, Morocco, and Nigeria. A total of 336 entries were received from artists from 37 countries.

A board of 53 independent arts professionals – comprising curators and academics who work closely with artists in their respective regions – nominated 158 artists for the Prize. The 30 finalists were then shortlisted by a panel of five world-class art specialists, namely: writer, curator, and museum director **David Elliott**; Exhibitions Director, Museum of African Contemporary Art Al Maaden, **Janine Gaëlle Dieudji**; Curator, Norval Foundation, **Khanya Mashabela**; exhibition curator and contemporary art consultant, **Marie-Ann Yemsi**; and Chief Executive and Director, Design Museum, London, **Tim Marlow**.

The Norval Sovereign African Art Prize celebrates the practices of leading contemporary artists and aims to benefit them by further increasing their exposure to an international audience. The first prize is a cash award of R500 000 South African Rand and the opportunity for a solo exhibition at Norval Foundation in Cape Town.

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The shortlisted artworks will be presented to the public in a Finalists Exhibition at Norval Foundation from 26 January – 28 February 2022, where visitors will be invited to vote for their favourite artist. Together with [online votes](#), the most popular artist will be awarded the Public Vote Prize (R25 000 South African Rand). Winners will be announced on 16 February 2022.

The Prize aims to raise significant funds for the shortlisted artists and for Norval Foundation's Educational Programme in an equal split through an auction administered by Sotheby's from 15 – 22 February.

Partnership opportunities are currently available. If interested in learning more, please contact [NSAAP@SovereignArtFoundation.com](mailto:NSAAP@SovereignArtFoundation.com).

Judge Quote:

*"Focusing on artists working in the context of Africa and its diaspora, the expansive range of perspectives represented by the selection of finalists reiterates that Africa cannot be defined by a single narrative. The exhibition of their artworks at Norval Foundation offers visitors an exciting opportunity to gain a small sense of the extraordinary breadth of the artistic practices often grouped under the umbrella of 'Contemporary African art'. The prize represents access to resources and a platform that so many artists in the region so richly deserve. It has been a pleasure to participate in this inaugural edition, and we hope that it is the beginning of a long and fruitful future for the NSAAP."*

END

### The 2022 Norval Sovereign African Art Prize Finalists Exhibition

Presented by: Norval Foundation and The Sovereign Art Foundation  
[Click here](#) for full list of participating artists.

Auction Partner: Sotheby's  
Framing Partner: Framed  
Logistics Partner: Aspiring Logistics  
Digital Partner: Ocula

### Visiting Information

**Venue:** Norval Foundation, 4 Steenberg Road, Tokai, Cape Town, 7945  
**Press Preview:** 25 January 2022  
**Exhibition period:** 26 January – 28 February 2022  
**Opening hours:** Monday – Sunday, 10am – 5:30pm  
Closed on Tuesdays

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## Press Enquiries

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## Press Kit

Please see overleaf for full list of 2022 finalists, artworks, and nominators.

[Click here](#) to view and download a full press kit with high-resolution artwork images, bios, portraits, and factsheet. *All images please credit the artist, Norval Foundation, and The Sovereign Art Foundation.*

**Facebook** SovereignAsianArtPrize | SovereignArtFoundation  
NorvalFoundation

**Instagram** @norvalsovereignafricanartprize  
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**#SovereignArtFoundation #NorvalFoundation #NSAAP**

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Shortlisted Artist	Artwork Title	Country	Nominator
Abraham Onoriode Oghobase	<i>Metallurgical Practice: Landscape 01</i>	Nigeria	Eva Maria Ocherbauer, Tokini Peterside, Emmanuel Iduma and Antawan Byrd
Alexandra Karakashian	<i>Refuge</i>	South Africa	Andrea Lewis
Ashley Walters	<i>Night Watch #3, Arbeidslus, Stellenbosch</i>	South Africa	Stefan Hundt
Banele Khoza	<i>I have never told anyone about my first</i>	Swaziland / South Africa	Serge Tiroche and Julia Meintjes
Patrick Bongoy	<i>Phoenix</i>	Democratic Republic of Congo	Andrea Lewis
Bonolo Kavula	<i>Tswelopele</i>	South Africa	Andrea Lewis
Cassi Namoda	<i>Visit From Ancestor II</i>	Mozambique/USA	Anna Schneider and Paula Nascimento
Cedric Nunn	<i>Kids refresh themselves in the afternoon Summer heat of Pienaar Sig. Nieu-Bethesda</i>	South Africa	Julia Meintjes
Chris Soal	<i>To make my form your own</i>	South Africa	Howard Bilton
Dan Halter	<i>The Communist Manifesto</i>	Zimbabwe / Switzerland	Marylin Martin, Michèle Sandoz, and Aya Koudounaris
Dawit L. Petros	<i>Preoccupations (Rivista Coloniale, 1939)</i>	Eritrea / Canada	Emmanuel Iduma
Délio Jasse	<i>Esgotada</i>	Angola	Adama Sanneh
Esther Mahlangu	<i>Abstract (C003121)</i>	South Africa	Howard Bilton
Frances Goodman	<i>Metallic Magnificence</i>	South Africa	Adama Sanneh
Helen Teede	<i>Surrender</i>	Zimbabwe	Michèle Sandoz and Serge Tiroche
Hussein Salim	<i>Garden of Carnal Delights</i>	South Sudan	Howard Bilton
Januario Jano	<i>Untitled (M005)</i>	Angola	Paula Nascimento
Kimathi Mafafo	<i>Ndlovukazi</i>	South Africa	Andrea Lewis
M'barek Bouhchichi	<i>Terre</i>	Morocco	Valentine Umansky and Othman Lazraq
Mawande Ka Zenzile	<i>Landscape Painting</i>	South Africa	Renee Drake
Modupeola Fadugba	<i>Black Water Pillars</i>	Nigeria	Tokini Peterside, Serge Tiroche and Alana Francis de Govia
Mohamed Bourouissa	<i>Network #07</i>	Algeria / France	Anna Schneider
Mohssin Harraki	<i>In the Shadow of the Roots</i>	Morocco	Anissa Touati
Mongezi Ncaphayi	<i>Old and New Dreams</i>	South Africa	Marilyn Martin and Alexandra Dodd
Henry 'Mzili' Mujunga	<i>Red Blanket and Devine</i>	Uganda	Margaret Nagawa
René Tavares	<i>Sóia dona mu Retratos pra inglês ver series</i>	São Tomé e Príncipe	Paula Nascimento
Thania Petersen	<i>Tanne Manne</i>	South Africa	Roelof van Wyk, Alexandra Dodd, Julia Meintjes, and Hoosein Mahomed
Virginia Chihota	<i>Nguva Yekuputsa Nenguva Yekuvaka (a time to breakdown and a time to build)</i>	Zimbabwe	Michèle Sandoz and Anna Schneider
Willie Bester	<i>Holy Bible</i>	South Africa	Howard Bilton
Zohra Opoku	<i>Great Black Water is my name. My forms (are) the forms of Kheprí...</i>	Ghana / Germany	Valentine Umansky and Renee Drake

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## Editors Notes

### Norval Foundation

Norval Foundation is a centre for art and cultural expression, dedicated to the research, education and exhibition of 20th- and 21st-century visual art from South Africa and beyond. Founded in 2018 and incorporating a sculpture garden alongside a protected, endemic wetland, Norval Foundation is the only place in Africa to see Yinka Shonibare's *Wind Sculpture SG (III)*.

The Gerard Sekoto Foundation is based at Norval Foundation, as are the Edoardo Villa Estate Collection and the Alexis Preller Archive. Norval Foundation believes that art has the power to enrich our lives and that artists contribute to our communities in profound ways. The Norval family are the founders and initial funders of Norval Foundation and their aim is to make art widely accessible to local and international visitors by creating a self-sustaining centre for art. The proceeds from capital donations are used to secure the Foundation for future generations.

[NorvalFoundation.org](http://NorvalFoundation.org)

### The Sovereign Art Foundation

The Sovereign Art Foundation (SAF) is a charitable organisation that was founded in 2003 with a well-defined twin focus: to recognise the growing wealth of contemporary art talent in Asia and bring the proven benefits of expressive arts to disadvantaged children.

In the same year, SAF launched The Sovereign Asian Art Prize, now recognised as the most established and prestigious annual art award in Asia-Pacific. The Prize increases the international exposure of artists in the region, whilst raising funds by auctioning shortlisted artworks and sharing proceeds equally between the participating artists and SAF. SAF uses these proceeds to fund programmes that support disadvantaged children using expressive arts. This model has so far raised over US\$9 million for artists and charities worldwide

In 2013, SAF launched Make It Better (MIB), an initiative that supports children from low-income backgrounds and with special educational needs in Hong Kong. MIB works in local schools and community centres to offer children a programme of expressive arts workshops designed to build self-esteem, confidence, self-awareness and interpersonal skills. SAF also supports teachers, social workers and caregivers of these children by introducing them to the therapeutic benefits of art.

[SovereignArtFoundation.com](http://SovereignArtFoundation.com)

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## Sovereign

Sovereign began in Gibraltar in 1987 and has since grown into one of the largest independent corporate and trust service providers in the world. Sovereign currently manages over 20,000 clients that include companies, entrepreneurs, private investors or high net worth individuals and their families and have assets under administration in excess of US\$10 billion.

**Sovereign Corporate Services** – offers company formation and management across all major jurisdictions, together with the necessary support to assist companies of all sizes to establish and sustain operations successfully.

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[SovereignGroup.com](http://SovereignGroup.com)

## Sotheby's

Sotheby's has been uniting collectors with world-class works of art since 1744. Sotheby's became the first international auction house when it expanded from London to New York (1955), the first to conduct sales in Hong Kong (1973), India (1992) and France (2001), and the first international fine art auction house in China (2012). Today, Sotheby's has a global network of 80 offices in 40 countries and presents auctions in 10 different salesrooms, including New York, London, Hong Kong and Paris. Sotheby's offers collectors the resources of Sotheby's Financial Services, the world's only full-service art financing company, as well as Advisory services for collectors, museums, corporations, artists, estates and foundations. Sotheby's presents private sale opportunities in more than 70 categories, including three retail businesses: Sotheby's Wine, Sotheby's Diamonds, and Sotheby's Home, the online marketplace for interior design.

[www.sothebys.com](http://www.sothebys.com)

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