

**Young artists comment on modern life. Final exhibition
of the 17th edition of the APH Competition**

The perspectives, experiences and attitudes of today's young generation are the main context for the final presentation of this year's edition of the Hestia Artistic Journey (APH) competition. The exhibition opening, featuring works by 25 young artists, takes place on 25 June at the Museum on the Vistula, a branch of the Museum of Modern Art in Warsaw. During the event, which is open to the public, the names of the competition winners will also be announced.

The Hestia Artistic Journey competition, a natural part of the Polish art market, gives young artists the opportunity to reach a wider audience every year. On 25 June 2018 at 7:00 pm during the final exhibition at the Museum on the Vistula (a branch of the Museum of Modern Art in Warsaw), we will see 25 works that represent an artistic commentary on modern life by young artists. The event will be accompanied by an official ceremony to announce the names of the competition winners.

The authors of the featured works are 4th- and 5th-year art students from Polish universities who have decided to pursue the field of art and were selected by the competition jury in recognition of their artistic spirit.

"We also extend this invitation to enter the field of art to all new participants, ourselves included – the audience and wider public. This is after all a space that contains not only diverse objects, but is also accessible, friendly and open to everyone. The works created by this year's finalists represent not only various creative approaches, but also give us a glimpse into how the young generation sees modern social and artistic issues," says Magdalena Kąkolewska, President of the Hestia Artistic Journey Foundation.

During the opening of the final exhibition, we will also learn the names of the winners of the 17th edition of the APH competition. The jury will announce the names of the young artists who will receive artistic residencies and scholarships from the APH Foundation, as well as the chance to lend their creative potential to the ERGO Hestia annual report. Awaiting this year's finalists is the opportunity to embark on a one-month artistic residency, including at Residency Unlimited in New York. Moreover, one of the finalists will receive a new prize from the competition organiser, the Hestia Artistic Journey Foundation Award. It provides a 6-month scholarship worth PLN 12,000 to implement an artistic project on a topic related to "travel". A Special Award, founded by ERGO Hestia Group President Piotr M. Śliwicky, will also be granted at the close of the competition for

the creation of an artistic interpretation of the company's annual report. As part of the 17th edition of the final exhibition, guests and visitors to the Museum on the Vistula will be able to see a work by last year's winner of the Special Award, Agnieszka Mastalerz. The artist will present a project created in collaboration with ERGO Hestia employees.

The patron of the APH competition is Sopockie Towarzystwo Ubezpieczeń ERGO Hestia SA and the initiative's solid foundation is possible thanks to the long-term institutional partners with which the APH Foundation cooperates. The events accompanying the exhibition will also include free curator tours and educational-artistic workshops for children and adults. This is a unique opportunity to see the direction in which young artists are moving, what topics interest them and to what extent their perspective on the world is able to influence that of the audience.

The finalists of the 17th edition of the Hestia Artistic Journey Competition (in the alphabetical order): Bruno Althamer, Adelina Cimochoicz, Jakub Danilewicz, Przemysław Garczyński, Zuzanna Grochowska, Barbara Gryka, Marcin Janusz, Katarzyna Kalinowska, Hanna Kaszewska, Klaudia Krynicka, Zuzanna Kryńska, Joanna Kunert, Zuzanna Malinowska, Karolina Mądrzecka, Renata Motyka, Jan Możdżyński, Laura Ociepa, Maryna Sakowska, Mateusz Sarzyński, Jana Shostak, Joanna Tochman, Olga Tuz, Natalia Zalewska, Paulina Żmuda, Konrad Żukowski.

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Laureates from 2017: Katarzyna Szymkiewicz, Józef Gałązka, Horacy Muszński, Agnieszka Mastalerz, Piotr Urbaniec, Olga Kowalska, Hanna Dyrzcz, Krzysztof Maniak, Katarzyna Kimak, Ewa Kasperek, Xavery Wolski, Małgorzata Goliszewska, Matěj Frank, Krzysztof Nowicki, Agnieszka Kobyłecka, Cyryl Polaczek, Michał Batorski, Daniel Cybulski, Natalia Bażowska, Ewa Mrowiec, Łukasz Biliński, Łukasz Patelczyk, Anna Wypych, Aleksandra Prusinowska, Marta Antoniak, Marcin Zawicki, Miłosz Wnukowski, Katarzyna Makiela, Magdalena Melin, Ewa Juszkiwicz, Jakub Rebelka, Anna Kloc, Paulina Maksjan, Kamil Lisek, Tomasz Kucharski, Marek Wrzesiński, Anna Waligórska, Marcin Grzęda, Agnieszka Ledóchowska.

JURY MEMBERS:

Piotr Śliwicki – Chairman, President of Sopockie Towarzystwo Ubezpieczeń ERGO Hestia SA;

Magdalena Kąkolewska – President of the Hestia Artistic Journey Foundation;

Nathalie Anglès – Art curator and critic; Director of Residency Unlimited in NY;

Bogna Świątkowska – President of the Bęc Zmiana Foundation;

Agnieszka Tarasiuk – Curator, Director of the X. Dunikowski Sculpture Museum, a branch of the National Museum in Warsaw;

Dr Josep Santacreu – Art historian, critic and curator of the DKV Seguros art collection;

Sebastian Cichocki – Art critic and curator of the Museum of Modern Art in Warsaw;

Jarosław Fliciński – Artist;

Paweł Sosnowski – Critic and curator at the Propaganda Foundation and Gallery;

Michał Suchora – Curator at BWA Warszawa Gallery.

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