



WORLD ILLUSTRATION AWARDS 2015 EXHIBITION

5 October – 1 November 2015

Terrace Rooms, South Wing, Somerset House

Free admission

Somerset House welcomes the World Illustration Awards 2015 Exhibition showcasing contemporary works by emerging and established international artists

Somerset House is pleased to announce that the *World Illustration Awards 2015 Exhibition* will return to the Terrace Rooms, 5 October – 1 November.

Somerset House is collaborating with the Association of Illustrators (AOI), a resident in the site's creative community, and, for the first time, the USA's Directory of Illustration, to present an exhibition with an increased global perspective. The Awards themselves aim to recognise the exceptional work produced by illustrators around the world and promote illustration as an essential contributor to global visual culture, selecting highlights for display at Somerset House.

Work by a range of international artists from the UK to South Korea and South Africa to The Netherlands will feature in the exhibition, taking the form of over 50 framed artworks, 3 video animations and an iPad game application.

The exhibition includes the 16 category winners whose work has been selected from over 2,000 entries and honoured for its creativity and craftsmanship. The winners fall into two sections, Professional, open to all practicing professionals, and New Talent, open to students and recent graduates.

Category winners include: French artist Malika Favre for her film-noir inspired posters for the 2015 BAFTAs; German reportage illustrator Olivier Kugler's poignant portraits of Syrian refugees; Dutch artists Pieter van Eenogé for his simple yet affecting work *When We Pollute the Ocean We Pollute Ourselves* for the Surfrider Foundation and Aad Goudappel for his specially commissioned editorial illustrations on autism; South Africa's Studio Muti collective for their tribute to French novelist Jules Verne and Portuguese artist João Fazenda for his illustrations of non-fantastical Japanese folktales.

Also included in the exhibition will be Jean Julien's anecdotal observations for The Eurostar's #BetterCloser Campaign and Grahame Baker-Smith's colourful *Alice In Wonderland*-themed illustrations, commissioned by Royal Mail to commemorate the book's 150th anniversary.

The two overall winners of the Professional and New Talent categories will be announced at the opening night of the exhibition on Monday 5 October. This year's winning work was chosen by a panel of esteemed international judges from all areas of the industry including commissioners, publishers and artists, such as Daniel Moorey, the Head of Print at Adam and Eve DDB and Chris Paul, Creative Director at Candlewick Press in the USA.

Image download:

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/ws4jaatg659pqt/AAAgHX6pbNOwV_GjhHX0h7yda?dl=0.

For more information, please contact:

Sabine Reimer, Awards Manager, AOI: awards@theaoi.com / +44 20 7759 1012

Or the Somerset House Press Office on: press@somersethouse.org.uk / +44 20 7845 4624

Complete Category Winner information and high res files can be downloaded from the AOI's press page: <http://www.theaoi.com/press.php>

Notes to Editor

LISTINGS INFORMATION

Dates: 5 October – 1 November

Opening Hours: Daily, 10.00 – 18.00

Admission: Free

Address: New Wing, Somerset House, London, WC2R 1LA

Transport: Temple, Embankment Charing Cross, Waterloo

Somerset House Facebook: www.facebook.com/SomersetHouse

Somerset House Instagram: [@SomersetHouseLondon](https://www.instagram.com/SomersetHouseLondon)

Somerset House Twitter: [@SomersetHouse](https://twitter.com/SomersetHouse)

The AOI Facebook: www.facebook.com/theaoi

The AOI Twitter: [@theaoi](https://twitter.com/theaoi)

The AOI Instagram: [@association_of_illustrators](https://www.instagram.com/association_of_illustrators)

The Directory of Illustration Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/DirIllustration>

The Directory of Illustration Twitter: [@DirIllustration](https://twitter.com/DirIllustration)

Exhibition Hashtag: #WIA2015

Somerset House public enquiries: 020 7845 4600

About Somerset House

Somerset House is a unique part of the London cultural scene, Somerset House is an historic building where surprising and original work comes to life. From its 18th century origins, it has been a centre for debate and discussion – an intellectual powerhouse for the nation. Today, Somerset House is a key cultural destination in London in which to experience a broad range of artistic activity, engage with artists, designers and makers and be a part of a major creative forum – an environment that is relaxed, welcoming to all and inspirational to visit while providing a stimulating workplace for the cultural and creative industries. Since its opening in 2000, Somerset House has built up a distinctive outdoor public programme including Skate, concerts, an open-air film season and a diverse range of temporary exhibitions throughout the site focusing on contemporary culture including photography, fashion, architecture and design, with an extensive integrated learning programme. We currently attract well over 2 million visitors every year. It is probably the biggest community of creative organisations in London including The Courtauld Gallery and Institute of Art, King's College London Cultural Institute and over 100 other creative businesses. It currently attracts approximately 2.5 million visitors every year.

www.somersethouse.org.uk.

About The Association of Illustrators (AOI)

The Association of Illustrators (AOI) is a non-profit trade association with a membership that includes freelance illustrators, agents, clients, students and colleges. Established in 1973, it is the leading body to represent illustrators in the UK and campaigns for illustrators' rights, continually working to increase the professional standing of illustrators, commercially and artistically. The AOI works to improve contract and contracting practice extended to illustrators by commissioners.

www.theaoi.com

About The Directory of Illustration

The Directory of Illustration is widely regarded as the leading marketing program for illustrators in the United States. Their website and print resources are relied on by qualified art buyers from all over the world when they need to commission illustration.

www.directoryofillustration.com