



INTERNATIONAL FAIR
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Artissima 26 Edition 2019

Present Future 2019.

aaajiao is the winner of the 19th edition of the illy Present Future Prize.

Torino, 1 November 2019 – **aaajiao** is the winner of the 19th edition of the illy Present Future Prize, promoted by **illycaffè** since 2001 and assigned to the most interesting artist of Present Future, the section of Artissima dedicated to emerging talents. The prize also offers its winner the exceptional opportunity to have a show in a museum of the territory, on the occasion of Artissima 2020.

The artist is presented by Berlin-based gallery **House of Egnor**.

The prize has been awarded today by an international jury composed of **Carolyn Christov-Bakargiev**, director, Castello di Rivoli Museo d'Arte Contemporanea, Rivoli (Torino); **Stefan Kalmár**, executive director and curator, ICA – Institute of Contemporary Arts, London; and **Agustin Pérez Rubio**, curator, Berlin Biennale, 2020. Together they have identified the winner with the following motivation:

The jury unanimously awards the Chinese artist aaajiao who lives virtually between Berlin and Shanghai for the commitment to exploring subjectivity today. Originally a computer programmer, this activist, media artist and blogger, has developed a body of work that translates and obscures the legibility of identity in order to question normative expectations of the digitalized self.

This year Present Future features works by **20 artists** represented by **22 galleries** (**16** foreign, **6** Italian), selected by the board coordinated by **Ilaria Gianni**, independent curator and writer based in Rome, and composed of **Juan Canela**, independent curator and art critic based in Barcelona, and **Émilie Villez**, director of KADIST, Paris.

Assigned by an international jury to the project deemed most innovative, since 2012 the prize has offered its winner the exceptional opportunity to have a show at the Castello di Rivoli Museo d'Arte Contemporanea. In 2018 the award went to the artist **Pedro Neves Marques**, presented by Umberto di Marino gallery in Naples, whose solo show ***Becoming Male in the Middle Ages***, curated by Marianna Vecellio, has opened today at the museum and will be on view until 23 February 2020.

Thanks to the commitment of illycaffè and to the partnership with Castello di Rivoli Museo d'Arte Contemporanea, the illy Present Future Prize has made an important contribution to the growth of emerging talents, confirming the innovative role of an internationally renowned art institution.

Over the years the project, now in its 19th edition, has involved key artists in the art world like Pedro Neves Marques, Cally Spooner, Cécile B. Evans, Alina Chaiderov, Rachel Rose, Caroline Achaintre, Fatma Bucak, Vanessa Safavi, Santo Tolone, Naufus Ramírez-Figueroa, Tobias Putrih, Hans Op de Beeck, Gardar Eide Einarsson, Marc Bijl, Hans Schabus, Phil Collins, Jeremy Deller, Dora García, Tue Greenfort, David Maljkovic, Ryan Trecartin, Melanie Gilligan.

ARTISSIMA – International Fair of Contemporary Art

Oval, Lingotto Fiere Torino

31 October 2019 | Press presentation, preview, opening

1–2–3 November 2019

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