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The John Ruskin Prize 2012 for a New Look at Nature

Call for entries

The Campaign for Drawing, in collaboration with the Guild of St George, announces a new art award: The John Ruskin Prize. The award is open to everyone over 18 working in painting, drawing, printmaking or mixed media, and resident or domiciled in the UK.

The organisers hope the award will encourage fresh and unusual interpretations of the natural environment from students and artists across the UK. The competition's timing allows entrants to react to three seasonal changes - autumn, winter and spring. However, existing nature-based work and imaginative responses to the theme are equally welcome.

First Prize: £1000 and an opportunity to exhibit at Brantwood (John Ruskin's famous Lake District home) and in the Millennium Gallery, Sheffield during the major autumn 2012 exhibition, *Force of Nature: Picturing Ruskin's Landscape*. The winner will also receive a specially commissioned pencil case made from oak grown in Ruskin's Wyre Forest.

Runners-up (nine): Inclusion in the selling exhibition of short-listed artists at Brantwood (and one night's accommodation to attend the Private View, where the winner will be announced).

Applicants may submit up to three digital images of artworks before 1 June. Artworks must be wall-mounted and not exceed 1.75 metres in any direction. Applicants are asked to visit www.johnruskinprize.org for full guidelines and to purchase an entry form.

Entry fee: first image £10; second £5; third £5.

Big Draw members may submit one image free and two further images at £5 each. Find out how to join at www.campaignfordrawing.org

Submission Deadline: 1 June 2012

Shortlist Announced: 6 July 2012

Winner Announced: 7 September 2012

Brantwood Exhibition: 8 September -14 October 2012

Selection Panel:

Howard Hull, Director, The Brantwood Trust

Clive Wilmer, Master, The Guild of St George

Peter Randall-Page, Artist

Sue Grayson Ford, Director, Campaign for Drawing

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Notes to Editors:

Campaign For Drawing:

The Campaign for Drawing is an arts educational charity which raises the profile of drawing as a tool for thought, creativity, social and cultural engagement. It has developed two programmes to encourage the use of drawing by professionals and others: The Big Draw and Power Drawing.

The Campaign's long-term ambition is to change the way drawing is perceived by educationalists and the public. This has won support from leading practitioners in the creative industries and in art, architecture and design colleges, signalling an overdue realisation that drawing is fundamental to the training of students in these disciplines. The Campaign takes a wider view. It sees drawing as a basic human skill useful in all walks of life.

The Campaign's work will finish when the words 'I can't draw' are dropped from English vocabulary.

The Big Draw Membership:

Doodles, sketches and designs are important at work or play. They help us think, invent and communicate. Becoming a Big Draw Member can inspire new ideas, provide connections to the wider creative community and support the Campaign for Drawing's portfolio of activities. There are four categories of Membership, starting at £25 per annum, and offering a wide array of benefits.

One benefit of joining the Big Draw Membership scheme is free entry (of one image) for The John Ruskin Prize.

For further information please visit www.johnruskinprize.org

The Guild of St George:

The Guild of St George, a small charity founded by Ruskin in 1871, launched the Campaign for Drawing in 2000 to celebrate its founder's belief in the value of drawing as a tool for seeing, understanding and respecting nature. The Campaign became an independent charity in 2006. Through this new collaboration, the Guild and the Campaign hope to encourage fresh interpretations of the natural environment by artists working across the UK.