

Press release

For immediate release: 11 July 2008

FIFTH SELECTOR AND NEW PARTNER SPONSOR ANNOUNCED FOR MAJOR BRITISH FIGURATIVE ART PRIZE

Brian Sewell, prize-winning art critic and broadcaster, has joined the selection panel for the Threadneedle Figurative Prize.

Threadneedle is the Mall Galleries' principal sponsor, and is delighted that JPMorgan has agreed to become a Partner Sponsor to this major new showcase for contemporary figurative art.

This month (July 2008) five selectors meet to consider entries for the first £25,000 Threadneedle Figurative Prize and the £10,000 FBA Selectors' Choice. Joining the original four selectors (Richard Cork, Angela Flowers, Hew Locke and William Packer) will be the renowned art critic and columnist for the *Evening Standard*, Brian Sewell.

"Well known for his passionate and forthright views on contemporary art, Brian is a champion of great figurative work and is sure to stimulate a lively debate among the other panellists," explains Lewis McNaught, Director of the Mall Galleries.

In a further development, the Mall Galleries and their principal sponsor, Threadneedle, have welcomed the signing of leading global financial services firm, JPMorgan as a Partner Sponsor to the exhibition, to be held at the Mall Galleries, London, between 20 August and 6 September 2008.

With the combined support of Threadneedle and JPMorgan, the organisers will be able to reach out to a wider global audience, encouraging as many people as possible to visit the exhibition and to vote for their choice of work to win the £25,000 Threadneedle Figurative Prize.

As well as selecting about 60 works from the open submission, the five selectors will shortlist seven works to win the Threadneedle Figurative Prize. But it is the public – voting online and at the exhibition – that will decide which artist wins the Prize. The selectors choose the winner of the £10,000 FBA Selectors' Choice.

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Notes to Editors

1. The competition is open to all artists aged 18 and over living or working in the UK. About 65 works, selected from a national open submission, will be exhibited at the Mall Galleries between 20 August 2008 and 6 September 2008 (**Press View: 19 August 2008**).
2. Seven works, nominated by the selectors, will be shortlisted to win the £25,000 Threadneedle Figurative Prize. The work that receives the largest share of public votes, cast online and throughout the exhibition, wins the Prize. All works selected for the exhibition are eligible to win the Federation of British Artists Selectors' Choice, worth £10,000, awarded by the selectors. **The winners of both prizes will be announced at a special Awards event at the Mall Galleries on the evening of 3 September 2008.**
3. Selectors include art critics Richard Cork (*New Statesman*), William Packer (*Financial Times*) and Brian Sewell (*Evening Standard*), the mixed media sculptor Hew Locke and leading contemporary art dealer Angela Flowers (Chairman of Angela Flowers plc).
4. A dedicated website is available for members of the public to view the works and to vote online for their choice of artist to win the Prize – www.threadneedlefigurativeprize.com. Go to this website for up to date news and press information.
5. Threadneedle Investments is Principal Sponsor of the competition. Threadneedle is a global asset management company with £67.7 billion of assets under management for both private and institutional clients. Its expertise extends to all asset classes, from equities and bonds, to property and alternative investments. It has built a global reputation for strong and consistent long-term performance, a broad and complementary range of products, and superb customer service.

Further information about Threadneedle can be found at:
www.threadneedle.com

6. JPMorgan is Partner Sponsor. JPMorgan is a leading global financial services firm with assets of \$1.6 trillion and operations in more than 60 countries. JPMorgan's commitment to the arts goes back more than a century. Today, the firm continues this commitment as it strives to develop new ways to support the arts and to ensure that the benefits are shared as widely as possible.

The firm is a leader in investment banking, financial services for consumers, small business and commercial banking, financial transaction processing, asset and wealth management, and private equity. A component of the Dow Jones Industrial Average, JPMorgan serves millions of consumers in the United States and many of the



world's most prominent corporate, institutional and government clients under its JPMorgan and Chase brands.

Information about the firm is available at www.jpmorgan.com.

7. The Mall Galleries are run by the Federation of British Artists, a registered charity established in 1961. The Galleries benefited from an extensive refurbishment in the summer of 2007 as a result of generous sponsorship by Threadneedle. Its modern and inviting space offers a perfect contemporary venue for the new show.

8. Arts & Business brings the commercial and cultural worlds together to deliver an unrivalled range of programmes, services and expertise to both sectors. As well as offering consultancy services and brokerage to business, A&B is an advocate for the arts, identifying and fostering emerging cultural talent and providing the necessary support for the arts to work effectively with business.

Listings Information:

Mall Galleries
The Mall (near Trafalgar Square)
London SW1

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