

## The £25,000 Threadneedle Prize shortlist announced

The seven art works shortlisted for this year's £25,000 Threadneedle Prize have been selected. This year, the six shortlisted runners-up will each receive £1,000.

The Threadneedle Prize is the largest art prize in the UK awarded by members of the public, who can vote online at [www.threadneedleprize.com](http://www.threadneedleprize.com) for one work to win the £25,000. Lauren Laverne will announce the winner on Monday 14 September 2009 at the Mall Galleries.

### The seven shortlisted works are:

- *Clara with Chinese horse* (oil on panel) by Jaemi Hardy  
**"The idea of a portrait is sufficient in itself: the visible depiction of one human being by another."**
- *Over the hill* (oil on canvas) by Lucy Jones  
**"The watercolour is a memory of colours and of the feeling of the landscape. My paintings can happen very quickly or can take a year or so to finish."**
- *Green hydrangea* (oil on gesso panel) by Melanie Miller  
**"I am interested in painting slowing down the process of looking. The 'found objects' are painted life size; their small scale invites close scrutiny and an intimate focus."**
- *Middle World* (cement, bronze, steel) by Tim Shaw  
**"It is a meeting place, a waiting room, the still procession where life and death, joy and despair, light and darkness intersect as chaotic disorder."**
- *St Peter on the cross* (oil on canvas) by Louis Smith  
**"...inspired by Caravaggio's 'The Crucifixion of St Peter'... I wanted to evoke some of the darker aspects of the human condition."**
- *Self-Portrait* (oil on canvas) by Sheila Wallis  
**"...all objects and paraphernalia other than the body, and the surface it rests upon, are removed, presenting a small, naked creature, not the classic 'nude'."**
- *The Manufacturers* (oil on canvas) by Rose Wylie  
**"I saw and liked the photo of The Manufacturers on the front page of the New York Times - America apologising to the Chinese people for the Mattel problem of toxic paint on children's toys."**

Conceived by the Mall Galleries following discussions with leading figurative artists, and actively supported by their sponsor Threadneedle, The Threadneedle Prize is a major showcase for new contemporary figurative art which was described last year, by BBC Radio 4's *Front Row* programme, as a **"rival to the Turner Prize...full of constant surprises."**

This year's shortlisted seven and 80 other selected works will be on display at the Mall Galleries in Central London from Wednesday 2nd to Saturday 19 September 2009, and will also be available to view at <http://www.threadneedleprize.com>

A panel of five artists including Michael Leonard, Cathy Lomax, Jock McFadyen, last year's winner Nina Murdoch and Daphne Todd along with Guest Selector Desmond Shawe-Taylor, Surveyor of The Queen's Pictures, selected the 87 works for this year's exhibition. A new £5,000 FBA Emerging Artist Prize, for the best young artist aged 18-28, has been chosen by the selectors and will also be awarded on 14 September 2009.

**YBAs are dead – What next?** Thursday 3 September 2009, 6pm  
Brian Sewell, art critic at the *Evening Standard*, Jock McFadyen, realist painter and Threadneedle selector and Brit artist Bob & Roberta Smith will be among the guest panellists for a debate on the state of British art today.

**Listings Information:**

The Threadneedle Prize for Painting and Sculpture

Mall Galleries

The Mall (near Trafalgar Square)

London SW1

Nearest Tube: Charing Cross

Tel: 020 7930 6844

[www.threadneedleprize.com](http://www.threadneedleprize.com)

[www.mallgalleries.org.uk](http://www.mallgalleries.org.uk)

**Open** 2 - 19 September 2009, 10am-5pm daily, and 10am-9pm every Friday during the exhibition

Preview Party and Press View: Tuesday 1 September 2009

**Admission** £2.50, Concessions £1.50 (Free to Friends of the FBA, Art Fund Members, Westminster Res-card holders and Under 16s).

**For more information contact:**

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Alternatively log in to the press area which is now available on The Threadneedle Prize website for access to high-res press images.

**Notes**

Founded in 1994, Threadneedle is an international asset management firm with £50bn\* of assets under management. Based in the City of London, our exceptional investment team work together sharing ideas, debating new thinking and challenging consensus opinion, to deliver outstanding investment performance spanning all major

asset classes from equities and bonds to property and alternative investments. For more information, visit [www.threadneedle.com](http://www.threadneedle.com).  
Source: Threadneedle as at 30.06.2009.