

PRESS RELEASE

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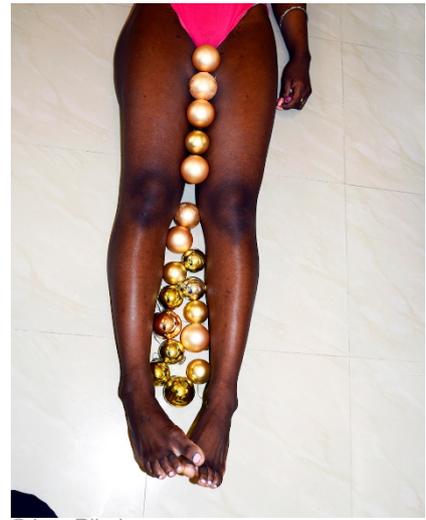
Winners of the second Jerwood/Photoworks Awards announced: Alejandra Carles-Tolra, Sam Laughlin and Lua Ribeira



© Alejandra Carles-Tolra



© Sam Laughlin



© Lua Ribeira

[See notes to editors below for full image credits]

Following a national open call, Jerwood Charitable Foundation and Photoworks announce the winners of the second Jerwood/Photoworks Awards: **Alejandra Carles-Tolra, Sam Laughlin and Lua Ribeira**.

Each photographer will receive an award of £5,000 to support the time and space to research and develop new work, with access to a production fund of up to £5,000 each and significant mentoring over a year-long period.

New work by each artist will be shown for the first time at Jerwood Space, London in January 2018 followed by a national tour with partners including Impressions Gallery, Bradford and Belfast Exposed.

Alejandra Carles-Tolra is interested in the relationship between individual and group identity, specifically how group identity shapes the individual. She will explore these themes by photographing “Janeites” – individual devotees of Jane Austen who have formed communities in which to celebrate and recreate Austen’s world.

Sam Laughlin’s practice is concerned with both man-made and natural architectures. He will work with researchers to develop a series examining the result of behaviours exhibited by various animal species, including (but not limited to) nesting and migration. Counter to the conventions of wildlife photography, Sam will focus on form and process, rather than seeking the spectacle in nature.

Lua Ribeira will play with the provocative history of the black body in photography, continuing an exploration into female identity within contemporary Jamaican dancehall culture in the UK. Her investigations encompass performance, ritual and self-expression, mysticism, cultural identity, female divinity and ideas of femininity that clash with western counterparts. Fed by their folklore and Lua’s own imagination, universal subjects such as birth, love, death and sex are fundamental to the work.

The call for entries was open to all UK based practitioners using photography and within ten years of graduating or establishing their practice. More than 350 entries were received from across the UK. The

selectors were: Celia Davies, Director, Photoworks; Mark Durden, writer and photographer; Anna Fox, photographer; Ori Gersht, photographer and Sarah Williams, Head of Programme, Jerwood Visual Arts.

The Photoworks and Jerwood Visual Arts teams will work closely with the awardees as they develop their new work. They will also participate in a mentoring programme working with a knowledgeable and experienced group of specialists including: Rut Blee Luxenburg, photographer; Tim Clark, curator and editor; Celia Davies, Director, Photoworks; Mark Durden, writer and photographer; Mitch Epstein, photographer; Fariba Farshad, curator; Anna Fox, photographer; Ori Gersht, photographer; Francis Hodgson, writer/art adviser; Michael Mack, publisher; Maureen Paley, gallerist; Mark Power, photographer and Sarah Williams, Head of Programme, Jerwood Visual Arts. This edition of the awards also sees Spectrum Photographic as the Jerwood/Photoworks Awards official print partner.

In a joint statement Celia Davies, Director of Photoworks and Shonagh Manson, Director of Jerwood Charitable Foundation said:

Once again we have received a large number of applications in response to the Jerwood/Photoworks Awards national open call – a testament to the demand for and the importance of this unique talent development programme for outstanding new artists. The quality of the submissions this year was very high. Central to the selection panel's decision-making were the strength and richness of each proposal and the potential of these ideas to be developed by the photographer within the context of the Jerwood/Photoworks Awards programme. The conversations between the photographers and the evolving dynamic between the work will be compelling to be part of over the coming year.

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Notes to Editors

Image credits:

above, left: © Alejandra Carles-Tolra, *Thomas In the Woods*, from the series *Fall In*, 2013

above, centre: © Sam Laughlin, *Untitled* from the series *Nests*, 2016

above, right: © Lua Ribeira, from the series *Noises in the Blood*, 2016

Alejandra Carles-Tolra (b1988, Spain) Alejandra received a BA in Sociology from the University of Barcelona and a Photography MFA from the Massachusetts College of Art and Design. Alejandra's work has been published and exhibited internationally, most recently at *Vice*, *The Huffington Post*, *Gup Magazine*, *World Photography Organization*, *The Independent*, Circulation(s) Festival in Paris, and Getty Images Gallery in London. She has taught photography at The University of New Hampshire and Massachusetts College of Art and Design, among other institutions. Alejandra currently collaborates with non-profit organizations as an art workshop facilitator using art and education to empower vulnerable communities.

alejandractr.com

Sam Laughlin (b1990, U.K.) Sam studied Documentary Photography at the University of South Wales, Newport. He has exhibited widely both in the UK and internationally, most recently at the Regency Town House for Brighton Photo Fringe 2016 where he was awarded the Danny Wilson Memorial Award.

samlaughlin.co.uk

Lua Ribeira (b1986, Galicia, Spain) studied Sciences of Information at University of Vigo and Graphic Design at Bau, Escola Superior de Disseny, Barcelona. She graduated in Documentary Photography from the University of South Wales, Newport in 2016. Lua's work has been awarded the Firecracker Grant 2015, Ditto Press Scholarship 2015, and the Reginald Salisbury Fund 2016 and she was recently shortlisted for the Bar Tur Photobook Award. Lua has participated in The Independent Air Residency, Denmark 2015 and group exhibitions in the United Kingdom, Spain, Italy and Germany.

luaribeira.com

The **Jerwood/Photoworks Awards** are a collaboration between Jerwood Charitable Foundation and Photoworks, supported by Arts Council England and Official Print Partner, Spectrum Photographic. They are presented every two years as part of Jerwood Visual Arts, in London and on tour nationally.

The winners of the inaugural Jerwood /Photoworks Awards were Matthew Finn, Joanna Piotrowska and Tereza Zelenkova.

Photoworks, is a national development agency for photography who produce internationally renowned events including **Brighton Photo Biennial** and the visual culture journal **Photoworks Annual**. Photoworks commission new work, new writing, learning and participation projects and support talent through programmes including the **Jerwood Photoworks Awards**. Photoworks aims to connect outstanding artists with audiences and champion talent and ambition. Photoworks is a charity and National Portfolio Organisation supported by Arts Council England

photoworks.org.uk @photoworks_uk

Jerwood Visual Arts is a national programme supporting visual arts practice, through which Jerwood Charitable Foundation works with early career artists to commission and present new work. Artist opportunities run throughout the year alongside a programme of related exhibitions, events and commissioned writing, taking place online, in London and across the UK.

jerwoodvisualarts.org @JerwoodJVA

Jerwood Charitable Foundation is dedicated to imaginative and responsible revenue funding of the arts, supporting artists to develop and grow at important stages in their careers. The aim of its funding is to allow artists and arts organisations to thrive; to continue to develop their skills, imagination and creativity with integrity. It works across art forms, from dance and theatre to literature, music and the visual arts.

jerwoodcharitablefoundation.org

Spectrum Photographic is a professional imaging lab specialising in fine art and photographic printing as well as archival mounting. Situated in the heart of Brighton, our work has been exhibited in art galleries and museums worldwide: we are proud of our reputation for high quality and pride ourselves on providing excellent customer service. Founded in 1993, Spectrum has flourished into one of the UK's leading photographic printing and finishing centres.

spectrumphoto.co.uk @SpectrumLab

Impressions Gallery helps people understand the world through photography. The Gallery collaborates with photographers and organisations nationally and internationally to commission, exhibit and publish photography. Established in 1972 as one of the first specialist photographic galleries in Europe, Impressions has grown to become one of the UK's leading independent venues for contemporary photography. Impressions is a charity and National Portfolio Organisation supported by Arts Council England.

impressions-gallery.com @ImpGalleryPhoto

Belfast Exposed was founded in 1983 as a community photography collective that set out to challenge mainstream media representation of Northern Ireland during the Troubles. It is now Northern Ireland's principal gallery of contemporary photography, commissioning, publishing and showing work by artists and photographers from Ireland and across the world. Recent exhibitions have included new commissions by Martin Parr, Bertien van Manen, solo shows by Geert Goiris, Michael Wolf, Hans Peter Feldmann, Allan Sekula and Taryn Simon. We house an archive of over 500,000 community photography images, run an international programme for early career artists from Ireland and roll out a nationwide training and education programme.

belfastexposed.org @BelfastExposed

JERWOOD CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

photoworks

JERWOOD SPACE

impressionsgallery

BELFAST EXPOSED



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