

HAROON MIRZA AWARDED DAIWA FOUNDATION ART PRIZE 2012

The Daiwa Anglo-Japanese Foundation is delighted to announce **Haroon Mirza** as the winner of the **Daiwa Foundation Art Prize 2012**. The Prize offers a unique opportunity for a British artist to gain exposure to Japan's visual arts sector. Mirza is now invited to hold a solo exhibition at SCAI THE BATHHOUSE in Tokyo in autumn 2012. In addition, he receives a £5,000 participation fee plus travel and accommodation costs for a seven-day period in Japan to coincide with the opening of the exhibition.

Mirza was awarded the Northern Art Prize in 2010 and held a solo exhibition at London's prestigious Lisson Gallery in 2011. His work attempts to isolate the perceptual distinctions between noise, sound and music and explore the possibility of the visual and acoustic as one singular aesthetic form. These ideas are examined through lo-fi yet complex assemblages and installations that employ furniture, household electronics, video and existing artworks to formulate temporally based audio compositions.

The Prize was presented at a private awards ceremony by the distinguished panel of judges: **Jonathan Watkins**, Director of Ikon Gallery, Birmingham; **Mami Kataoka**, Chief Curator at the Mori Art Museum, Tokyo; **Masami Shiraishi**, President, SCAI THE BATHHOUSE, Tokyo; **Martin Gayford**, art critic and author; and **Grayson Perry**, artist and 2003 Turner Prize winner.

Jason James, Director General of The Daiwa Anglo-Japanese Foundation comments: *'We hope that, in awarding the Daiwa Foundation Art Prize, we will not only open new doors for British artists in Japan but create valuable partnerships and opportunities for the future.'*

This is the second Daiwa Foundation Art Prize, which saw over 700 artists submit work for consideration. The inaugural winner, Marcus Coates, was awarded the Prize of a solo exhibition at the Tomio Koyama Gallery in Tokyo. An exhibition of work by the three shortlisted artists, **Tom Hammick**, **Haroon Mirza** and **Jennifer E. Price** will be on display at Daiwa Foundation Japan House until 19 July 2012.

- Ends -

Exhibition Information:

Dates: 8 June - 19 July 2012
Address: The Daiwa Anglo-Japanese Foundation, Daiwa Foundation Japan House
13/14 Cornwall Terrace (Outer Circle), London NW1 4QP
Open: Mon – Fri, 9.30 – 5.00pm
Tel: 020 7486 4348
Email: office@dajf.org.uk
Website: www.dajf.org.uk

For further details please contact the project coordinators, Parker Harris on:

Tel: 01372 462190
Email: dfap@parkerharris.co.uk
Website: www.parkerharris.co.uk

Notes to Editors:

The Daiwa Anglo-Japanese Foundation is a UK charity, established in 1988 with the generous support of Daiwa Securities Co Ltd. Its purpose is to support closer links between Britain and Japan in all fields of activity, including the visual arts. This is the second Daiwa Foundation Art Prize. In its inaugural year, the prize resulted in a solo show at the Tomio Koyama Gallery in Tokyo for Marcus Coates. www.dajf.org.uk

Tom Hammick studied MA Printmaking at Camberwell College of Art (1990). He has exhibited internationally in group and solo exhibitions including recent solo shows at Flowers Gallery, London, The Eagle Gallery, London, and Gallery Page and Strange, Canada (all 2011). He is a Senior Lecturer in Fine Art, Painting and Print at the University of Brighton. He lives in East Sussex. Although Hammick's work references the real world, it is largely concerned with a sense of metaphorical journeying. His paintings and prints are often developed from observed drawings, but during the process of making the work these sources undergo significant transformations. www.tomhammick.com

Haroon Mirza studied MA Fine Art at Chelsea College of Art & Design (2007). He was awarded the Northern Art Prize in 2010, and in 2011 has had a solo exhibition at the Lisson Gallery, London and participated in group exhibitions including *Illuminations* at the 54th Venice Biennale, *Sum Parts* at ACME Project Space, London and *The British Art Show 7* at The Hayward Gallery, London. www.clickfolio.com/haroon

Jennifer E. Price studied Printmaking at the University for the Creative Arts (2009) and has exhibited in solo and group exhibitions, most recently at the Hatton Gallery, Newcastle upon Tyne, as part of International Print Biennale's 2011 Print Awards. She lives and works in Kent. In her artwork Price harnesses basic and traditional printmaking methods, and then stands them on their head, resulting in cross boundaries of printmaking, drawing, sculpture, site-based installation, and public intervention. The work addresses complex layers of material culture and the role of the visual artist in a complicated age of media. www.jenniferpriceart.com

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For further details, images and interview requests please contact Isabel Cooper at Parker Harris on isabel@parkerharris.co.uk or 01372 462190.

