

**Creation of the Jean-François Prat contemporary art prize  
Three artists shortlisted for the first edition  
Winning artist to be announced on 27 March 2012**

Paris, February 2012,

To celebrate the memory of Jean-François Prat, who died on 26 March 2011, and who was a contemporary art enthusiast, the partners of the law firm Bredin Prat, which he co-founded, have decided to pay tribute to his name by creating a new contemporary art prize. As a long-time art collector, Jean-François Prat supported many artists throughout the whole of his life.

The Jean-François Prat Prize is dedicated to promoting contemporary painting and to supporting emerging artists of any nationality.

The first edition of this new Jean-François Prat Prize is chaired by Jean-Jacques Aillagon, former French Culture Minister, who will present the Prize on Tuesday 27 March 2012 at 7.45 p.m. in Paris in the presence of the artists, following the vote by the Firm's partners.

The Prize consists of an award of €20,000 for the winner and €2,000 for each of the other two shortlisted artists, in addition to the publication of a catalogue on their respective work and a two-month exhibition of the three artists' works in the offices of Bredin Prat in Paris.

The artistic committee, made up of prominent figures from the art world, comprises Marie-Aline Prat, art historian and author of several books on art, Juliette Laffon, senior curator emerita in modern and contemporary art, Hervé Acker, art collector and Frédéric Brière, art collector and author of "*Le Guide de l'Artiste*", a handbook for artists.

The artistic committee has shortlisted three artists for this first edition:

- Farah ATASSI  
Born in 1981, lives and works in Paris, graduated from the Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts de Paris  
Represented by Xipass Gallery (Paris)  
Presented by: François Quintin, Managing Director of the Galeries Lafayette Foundation for contemporary art
  
- Gavin PERRY  
Born in 1971, lives and works in Miami, graduated from the Tyler School of Art (Pennsylvania)  
Represented by Galerie Sultana (Paris), Fredric Snitzer Gallery (Miami) and Barbara Davis Gallery (Houston).  
Presented by: Frédéric Bonnet, art critic at *Le Journal des Arts*
  
- Lesley VANCE  
Born in 1977, lives and works in Los Angeles, graduated from CalArts (California)  
Represented by Galerie Xavier Hufkens (Brussels) and David Kordansky Gallery (Los Angeles)  
Presented by: Florence Derieux, Director of the Champagne-Ardenne FRAC regional contemporary art fund