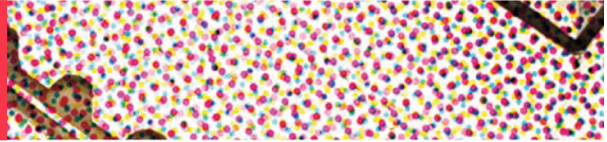


PRIX JEAN-FRANÇOIS PRAT



Paris, June 28th, 2023

PRESS RELEASE

JEAN-FRANÇOIS PRAT PRIZE 2023 – 12th EDITION

JEM PERUCCHINI : PRIZE WINNER OF THE JEAN-FRANCOIS PRAT PRIZE 2023



Manuel Borja-Villel and Jem Perucchini / Jem Perucchini - Crédit photos : Ayka Lux – Say Who

The 12th Jean-François Prat Prize was awarded to the artist JEM PERUCCHINI, Tuesday June 27th, 2023 at the Bredin Prat Foundation for Contemporary Art - 53 quai d'Orsay, Paris.

His work was presented to the jury by Cécile BOURNE-FARELL, independent curator.

The Jury was chaired by Manuel BORJA-VILLEL, curator of the Sao Paulo Biennale and former director of the Reina Sofia Museum (Madrid).

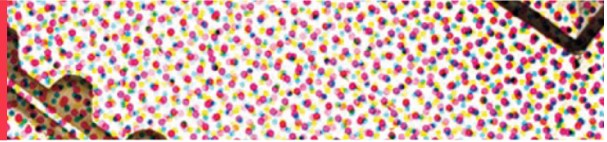
Jem PERUCCHINI is the youngest awarded artist (28 years old) of the Jean-François Prat Prize since its creation, along with Myriam HADDAD who was also 28 when she received the prize in 2019. Born in Ethiopia, he lives and works in Milano.

The other two finalists were Mandy EL-SAYEGH (born in 1985, lives and works in London) and Philipp TIMISCHL (born in 1989, lives and works in Paris).

The 2023 selection of the Jean-François Prat Prize focuses on artists who develop a relationship between painting and other medias: sculpture for Jem PERUCCHINI, performance for Mandy EL-SAYEGH, installations, artificial intelligence and video. for Philipp TIMISCHL.

The President of the Jury, Manuel BORJA-VILLEL, explained what interested him in this edition of the Jean-François Prat Prize:

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« What is important today in art is not about forms, is not about categories (painting, installation, vidéo, etc.), it is more where you speak from and, actually, this is what makes this prize and these three artists special.

The three artists question their own media, they question themselves and, at the end, they question us. It's a true value and we have to support that. That makes these artists special.»

Manuel Borja-Villel, président du jury.

PUBLIC EXHIBITION: JUNE 27TH – JULY 27TH

(Every Saturdays, through online reservation at:

<http://www.bredinpratfoundation.org/en/visit-the-exhibitions/>)

JEM PERUCCHINI



Jem Perucchini uses the Italian Renaissance aesthetics to stage the figure of the black person in a mystical painting on the future seized in formation, on the mystery of what is being done, contrary to an historical painting intending to freeze the great moment (battle, victory) or the great man.

His portraits of characters with generic faces do not have a political or historical purpose, but rather seek to create an intimacy between the viewer that can give rise to a personal narrative, opening up possibilities.

© Courtesy of Corvi-Mora gallery (Londres)

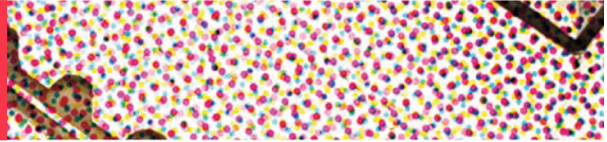


“I create immersive painting. By immersive painting, I mean the possibility of identifying with the subjects represented, subjects which, through the viewer's eyes, can give rise to a narrative. The history of humanity has always unfolded through narrative and mystery.” Jem Perucchini.

Senza titolo (Parche), 2022

© Courtesy of the artist and of Corvi-Mora gallery (Londres)

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The work of the artist Jem Perucchini invites us to apprehend his painting in a certain relation to the Sienese painting from which he takes inspiration. Everything in this work, too, is a mystery, leaving free rein to optical strategies and infinite combinations in the play of looks and associations between people, in a perfect dialectic between content and form.

His choreographies borrow a posed gesture with long androgenous bodies, the heads round and seeming to look at each other from an angle, the hands thin, and with everything controlled, even frozen. These characters seem out of time, levitating between reality and fiction. Everything is mathematically constructed, we are in a space of illusion but unlike Uccello, here there is no narrative.

Jem Perucchini's work is strongly influenced by his surroundings, notably Renaissance architecture and painting, to which he applies these same principles of linear perspective.



Between ornaments and optical games, the clothes worn by the protagonists draw our attention to the colours and patterns of the fabrics. And finally, in *Pittore Italiano*, we get lost and find ourselves as if in a maze between the emptiness and the fullness of the prints of the fabrics that operate on the bodies like encrypted characters.

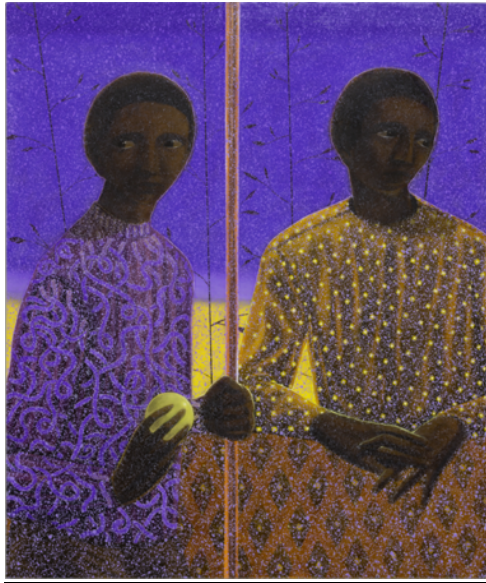
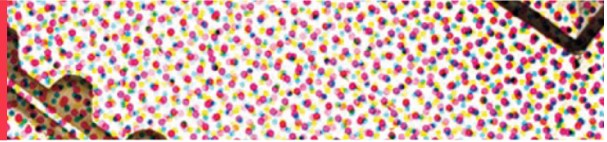
Pittore Italiano, 2020
© Courtesy of the artist and of Corvi-Mora gallery (Londres)



The background of the paintings is generally treated rhythmically, bathed in golden cosmic rays, in which everything is symbolic and refers, as the artist says, to 'the desire for freedom'. A mystical and highly sophisticated aspect emerges in the group work *Tapete*, 2022, in which two other inserted paintings create a soothing and regenerative *mise-en-abyme* in the manner of mandalas.

Tapete, 2022
© Courtesy of the artist and of Corvi-Mora gallery (Londres)

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A certain state of magnetic tension is staged to anticipate the opponent's next move, but above all to speak of intimacy and complicity between the characters and the viewer.

The characters seem to be surprised, as if events are about to happen, choices are taking shape and existence seems more fragile than ever.

Senza titolo (ascesa), 2023

© Courtesy of the artist and of Corvi-Mora gallery (Londres)

In Jem Perucchini's work, the effects of revelation and disappearance show us that everything here is mastered, nothing is superfluous, everything is also mystery, illusion and an inexhaustible quest for existential research.



Ermete Trismegisto,, 2023

© Courtesy de l'artiste et de la galerie Corvi-Mora (Londres)

Jem PERUCCHINI – Mini Bio

Born in 1995 in Tekeze (Ethiopia), lives and works in Milan.

Graduated from the Academia di Belle Arti in Brera (Milan), he has exhibited in individual exhibitions at the Corvi-Mora gallery (London) and in the public space for Una Boccata d'Arte, in Battaglia Terme (Italy), and in collective exhibitions at the Corvi-Mora Gallery (London) and at the Italian Embassy in London. He is part of the Art on the underground project for Brixton station, in London.

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EDITION 2023

INDIVIDUAL PRESS VISITS

By request, June 1st -July 21st, 2023,

Hosted by Frédéric Brière, executive director of the Bredin Prat Foundation
at 53, quai d'Orsay 75007 Paris

SUPPORTING CURATOR PRESENTING THE ARTISTS TO THE JURY OF THE PRIZE

- Nicolas TREMBLEY, Independent curator and art critic, presenting Mandy EL-SAYEGH
- Cécile BOURNE-FARRELL, Independent curator, presenting Jem PERUCCHINI
- Julie BOUKOBZA, independent curator presenting Philipp TIMISCHL

ARTISTIC SELECTION COMMITTEE 2023

- Marie-Aline Prat, art historian and art collector
- Anaël Pigeat, art critic and editor at large of *The Art Newspaper France*
- Odile Burluraux, curator at the Musée d'art Moderne de Paris
- Frédéric Brière, executive director of the Bredin Prat Foundation
- Frédéric Bonnet, art critic and independent curator

THE JEAN-FRANCOIS PRAT PRIZE

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, and his family, decided to pay tribute to his name by creating in 2012 a new contemporary art prize.

Each year, an expert committee, made up of key figures from the world of art, pre-selects eight artists and shortlists three finalists, from among whom the winning artist is selected. Then, following the vote by the jury (80% of art connoisseurs' partners of Bredin Prat, and 20% of artworld figures) the person chairing the Prize presents the award to the winning artist at an evening event bringing together guests from the art world, business and the press.

The Prize consists of an award of €20,000 for the winner and €2,000 for each of the other two shortlisted artists, as well as the publication of a catalogue presenting the work of the three selected artists and a two-month exhibition of a selection of their paintings at the premises of the Bredin Prat Foundation for Contemporary Art, which organizes the Prize.

The winning artists of the previous editions of the Jean-François Prat Prize are Florian Krewer and Marine Vallon in 2022, Alexandre Lenoir in 2021, Toyin Ojih Odutola in 2020, Myriam Haddad in 2019, Nicolas Roggy in 2018, Avery Singer in 2017, Janis Avotins in 2016, Raphaëlle Ricol in 2015, Zander Blom in 2014, Matt Saunders in 2013 et Farah Atassi in 2012.

In the past, the Prize has been chaired by private collectors Patrizia Sandretto Re Rebaudango (2022), Charles-Henri Filippi (2021), MNM museum director Marie-Claude Beaud (2020), Centre Pompidou – MNAM museum director Bernard Blistène (2019), collector and serial digital entrepreneur Marc Simoncini (2018), former Centre Pompidou curator-at-large Florence Derieux (2017), artist Bertrand Lavier (2016), curator of the Pinault Collection Caroline Bourgeois (2015), President of the Society of Friends of the Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris Christian Langlois-Meurrine (2014), director of the FIAC contemporary art fair Jennifer Flay (2013) and former Culture Minister Jean-Jacques Aillagon (2012).

THE BREDIN PRAT FOUNDATION FOR CONTEMPORARY ART

PRIX JEAN-FRANÇOIS PRAT



Created in 2017, the purpose of the Bredin Prat Foundation for Contemporary Art is to support and promote contemporary artistic creation by establishing a new contemporary art collection focusing on what makes a “tableau”: paintings and photographic works, and through the annual Jean-François Prat Prize. Awarded each year to a French or foreign artist, the Jean-François Prat Prize is the international radar searching new emerging artists in painting worldwide.

The Foundation hosts free access public tours to this collection and to annual exhibitions of the Jean-François Prat Prize shortlisted artists at its premises on the Quai d’Orsay in Paris (originally the premises of the formerly French State-owned tobacco company Seita), as well as permanent access through its websites.

The Bredin Prat Foundation, a French non-profit entity serving a general public interest, is fully in line with the culture and the values of the law firm Bredin Prat characterized by innovation and creativity.

THE BREDIN PRAT LAW FIRM

Founded in 1966, Bredin Prat’s practice areas include Corporate Law (Mergers and Acquisitions, Private Equity, Capital Markets, Governance), Litigation and White-Collar Crime, Competition and EU Law, Arbitration, Tax, Employment, Financing, Restructuring and Insolvency, Public Law, Tech Law, and Financial Services and Insurance Regulation.

With offices in Paris and Brussels, the firm now has more than 200 lawyers committed to the highest standards of excellence, to advise the firm’s French and international clients in complex or sensitive transactions or contentious matters. Cross-border matters today represent more than two-thirds of the firm’s work.

Press contact: Aurélie SIMON +33 1 44 35 35 35 / aureliesimon@bredinprat.com)

To get the best-detailed information about the Jean-Francois Prat Prize, please check online:

www.prixjeanfrancoisprat.com/en/ or <http://www.bredinpratfoundation.org/en/>



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