

Wells Art Contemporary Awards 2024

Category: [Multiple Disciplines](#)

Deadline: March 11, 2024

Website: graphiccompetitions.com



The Wells Art Contemporary (WAC) Awards, held annually in the historic Wells Cathedral in Somerset, UK, stands as a beacon of innovation and creativity in the contemporary art world. This prestigious event not only showcases the latest in visual arts but also offers artists a unique platform to exhibit their work in one of Europe's most beautiful cathedrals, renowned for its stunning Gothic architecture and spiritual ambience. The WAC Awards attract submissions from across the globe, making it a truly international affair where artists have the opportunity to present their work before a distinguished panel of judges and to an audience that spans tens of thousands each year.

WAC is distinguished by its dual exhibition format: the Gallery Show and the Installation Show. The Gallery Show offers artists a space within the Cathedral cloisters to exhibit their artworks in a traditional gallery setting, while the Installation Show invites artists to propose site-specific installations within the Cathedral's body and its surrounding grounds. This innovative approach not only celebrates the diversity of contemporary art practices but also encourages artists to engage with the unique architectural and spiritual elements of Wells Cathedral. The event is a testament to the blending of historical settings with contemporary creative expression, offering a distinct and memorable experience for both artists and visitors alike.

With a focus on accessibility and inclusivity, the Wells Art Contemporary Awards are open to all artists over the age of 18, working in any media and style, from anywhere in the world. This openness fosters a rich diversity of artistic expression, further enriching the cultural tapestry of the exhibition. The WAC Awards are not just a competition but a celebration of creativity, innovation, and artistic exploration, providing a prestigious platform for emerging and established artists to showcase their work. By highlighting contemporary art in such a historically significant venue, WAC bridges the past and present, offering a unique dialogue between the art of yesterday and the creative visions of today.

The entry fee is £30 per work.

Eligibility

Open to all artists worldwide over the age of 18.

Prize

The Wells Art Contemporary Awards 2024 offers a range of prizes including the Howden Art Award (£2,000 for one artist), the NG Art Creative Residency Award (a two-week placement in Provence, including board, lodging, and mentorship), the JGM Gallery Prize (showcasing selected artists online), a Student Prize (£1,000 to a fine art student under 26), the Parker Harris Mentoring Prize (professional development session), the Somerset Art Works Prize (mentoring session), the People's Choice Prize (£500 awarded by visitor votes), and the St Cuthberts Mill Award (20 sheets of Saunders Waterford 300gsm paper). Additionally, twenty £200 bursaries will be awarded to selected installation artists.
