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BMW Art & Culture announces the launch of its ninth call for applications for the BMW Residency at the GOBELINS School of Visual Arts.

- **A carte blanche for photographic innovation and transmission offered to contemporary talent.**
- **Applications accepted until March 29th, 2019.**
- **The jury will select the winner in June.**

Paris – Every year since 2011, BMW Art & Culture has given an artist the opportunity to produce a photography project in a three-month residency. The project is undertaken at the GOBELINS School of Visual Arts, which has been involved in the Residency for the past two years, following a six-year partnership with the Nicéphore Niépce Museum.

The BMW Residency results in the production of works created with the support of the artistic director, François Cheval and GOBELINS staff. A selection of works produced during the Residency will be exhibited at two major photography events for which BMW is a partner – the 2020 Rencontres d'Arles (between the opening week in July and the end of August 2020) and 2020 Paris Photo fair.

Works produced during the BMW Residency will be presented in a book included in the BMW Art & Culture collection published by éditions Trocadéro.

The BMW Residency will take place between September and December 2019.

Projects submitted by applicants for the BMW Residency must be meaningful with a focus on innovation and experimentation offering a fresh vision of our world in motion using technical, narrative, documentary, and comic techniques as required, and drawing on GOBELINS resources and François Cheval's expertise.

Projects must be original and exclusive to the BMW Residency and must not have been presented, even partially, at the time of application. Moreover, they must not be exhibited prior to the 2020 Rencontres d'Arles or Paris Photo fair.

The call for applications for the next residency will be available on the BMW and GOBELINS websites from December 13th, 2018:

www.bmw.fr/candidatures-residencebmw-2019

www.gobelins.fr/residencebmw2019



BMW offers the winner of the Residency at GOBELINS a grant, access to support from professionals, two dedicated exhibitions at the Rencontres d'Arles and Paris Photo fair, publication of a book sold in bookshops, and support with PR.

The artist is chosen by a selection committee based on his/her application submitted in response to the call for applications. The selection committee chaired by BMW includes key figures from the world of photography.

A selection of works chosen jointly by the artist and the artistic director of the BMW Residency is produced in three batches:

- the first exhibition set is given to the artist
- the second batch is a selection of works given to BMW for its corporate collection
- the third batch, consisting of the image chosen for publicizing the winner's project, is given to GOBELINS

Applications should include a biography, a file presenting the artist's general approach, sets of completed works as well as a note of intent on the planned artistic project.

Ten photographers will be preselected. They will be asked to ensure that they are available for half a day for an interview with the jury and to present photographic prints and past work.

Applications must be sent electronically to: <https://contests.picter.io/bmw-residency-2019> by 11.59 pm CET on March 29th, 2019.

The jury will meet in May to announce the winner. Shooting should be completed by the end of December and the deadline for production is March 1st, 2020. 15 SEP

This call for applications can be downloaded from the following websites:

BMW Group France: www.bmw.fr/candidatures-residencebmw-2019

GOBELINS School of Visual Arts: www.gobelins.fr/residencebmw2019

The BMW Group's commitment to culture.

BMW and photography.

Daring to create and innovate has always been hard-wired into the BMW DNA.

BMW is a great believer in aesthetics and technological innovation. The car brand has chosen to support photography as an original, distinct art form and an invention that contributed to the advent of the modern age in much the same way as the automobile.

This commitment first came to fruition in the BMW Paris Photo Award for the 2003 Paris Photo fair. Awarded for 8 years, this prize became an international benchmark taking pride in the work of artists presented by galleries and contributing to the renewal of photographic language. BMW has been an official partner of the Paris Photo fair since then and a partner of the Rencontres d'Arles since 2009.



This commitment was reinforced in 2011 when the BMW Residency was set up. After six years of partnership with the Nicéphore Niépce Museum, BMW France reoriented the BMW Residency by entering a new partnership with the Gobelins School of Visual Arts in Paris to give winners access to an environment with a total emphasis on innovation, transmission, and new technologies.

This new phase of the BMW Residency chimes perfectly with the forward-looking vision of the hundred-year-old group, which is based on innovative concepts combining technology, design, and creativity. BMW supports contemporary creativity by giving the winner complete artistic freedom.

The school's innovative approach to education and experimentation, and the transfer of knowledge between experts, the prize winner, and students are the perfect illustration of the philosophy that BMW has set out for the future.

BMW Group – a patron of the arts

BMW supports over 100 cultural projects all over the world, in modern and contemporary art, jazz and classical music, and architecture and design. As such, it contributes to the dissemination of knowledge and the arts. In each of its partnerships, BMW Group guarantees artists absolute freedom, as this is essential to the success of innovative artistic work as to the emergence of major innovations in a successful company.

The story began in 1972, when artist Gerhard Richter was commissioned to produce three very large paintings "Rot", "Gelb" and "Blau" for the headquarters of the BMW Group in Munich.

During this period, BMW and Hervé Poulain introduced the collection of BMW Art Cars designed by modern and contemporary artists of international renown, such as Alexander Calder, Roy Lichtenstein, Andy Warhol, Robert Rauschenberg, Olafur Eliasson, and Jeff Koons. In late 2016, John Baldessari's 19th BMW Art Car was presented at Art Basel Miami Beach and placed 8th in the GTLM classification at the 24 Hours of Daytona (USA). In 2017, the BMW Art Car, designed by Chinese multimedia artist Cao Fei, was shown in Beijing and raced in November at the 24 Hours of Macao.

BMW supports museums and awards, such as the Munich Academy of Fine Arts, the Goethe-Institut, the "Premio de Pintura" in Spain, the Berlin Biennale, and the Tate Modern in London, where BMW has created the "BMW Tate Live".

In addition, partnerships with international fairs have intensified in recent years: alongside the abc (art berlin contemporary), Gallery Weekend Berlin and the Berlin Biennale, BMW is involved in events such as Art Basel in Basel, Miami Beach and Hong Kong, Frieze Art Fair and the Frieze Masters in London and New York, Paris Photo fair, Kyotography, the Korea International Art Fair and the Kochi-Muziris Biennale in India.

Since 2015, Art Basel and BMW have been supporting emerging artists through the BMW Art Journey, which allows the winner to embark on a journey of discovery and creativity.

Finally, the 4th edition of the "BMW Art Guide by Independent Collectors" was published in the fall of 2016. 256 private collectors' presentations take the reader on a journey around more than 43 countries, often in unusual regions.

GOBELINS School of Visual Arts

GOBELINS plays a central role in the creative industries, having established itself for over 50 years as the benchmark school for creative visual disciplines, covering the whole process from image design to production. As a member body of the Paris Region Chamber of Commerce and Industry, GOBELINS offers training in photography, print and multimedia communication, graphic design, interactive design, animation, and video game design. The school trains over 1,000 students every year, including 495 apprentices and 2,000 trainees in continuing education.

GOBELINS: “genuine experiences”

GOBELINS teaches students to “develop their own unique visual identity”! For over 50 years, its photography department has been passionately teaching students who go on to lead successful careers in creative photography. With its finger on the pulse of conceptual and technological developments in contemporary photography, GOBELINS trains photographers as ‘project managers’ through its 3-year program (a bachelor's degree at Level 6 under the European Qualifications Framework). It transforms them into professionals capable of shooting, printing, touching up photos, creating 3D images, and shooting and editing videos (short format). GOBELINS encourages knowledge transfer by offering its students workshops led by professional photographers such as Jean-François Bauret, Christophe Huet, Dominique Issermann, Payram, Paolo Roversi, and Cyrille Weiner.

Graduates of the school include the following famous photographers and rising stars: Raphaël Dallaporta whose work features in prestigious collections in France and worldwide - Sacha Goldberger, an advertising executive, artistic director, and photographer – Mathilde Fanet, winner of the 2018 Industrial Photography Award - Margaux Senlis, winner of the 2017 Marc Grosset Award - Pascale Arnaud, winner of the 2017 Picto Fashion Award - Laura Bonnefous, winner of the 2015 Picto Fashion Award with a talent grant - Charlotte Abramow, winner of the 2014 Picto Fashion Award and special distinction at the Photo Folio Awards at the Rencontres d'Arles for her book Maurice, tristesse et rigolade [Maurice, sadness and fun], - Fanny Viguier, winner of the 2012 SFR Young Talent Award, - Maia Flore, winner of the 2015 HSBC Photography Award, etc.

Past winners of the BMW Residency - 2011 to 2018

The BMW Residency has enabled work produced by past prize winners to be showcased to photography professionals and the wider public.

- **In 2011, Alexandra Catière** was the winner of the first edition of the BMW Residency at the Nicéphore Niépce Museum. This Belarusian artist is renowned for the delicacy and intelligence of her work, which successfully combines traditional and avant-garde techniques. The work she produced during her residency culminated in the series Ici, par-delà les brumes [Here, beyond the mist] in 2012, which was subsequently presented at the Moscow Museum of Modern Art and BMW Museum in Munich.
- **In 2012, BMW supported French photographer Marion Gronier** as she tackled a personal project on the human face. Her series Les Glorieux [The Glorious Ones] captures the moment when the human mask breaks down and the disembodied face empties itself of all expression.



- **In 2013**, the selection committee was unanimous in its decision to select the project by **Elise Mazac and Robert Drowilal**, which explores the imagery of the Wild Style in mass culture and its use in consumer society. The work produced during their residency was presented at the 2014 Rencontres d'Arles and Paris Photo fair. It was also exhibited at Paris Photo Los Angeles in 2015.
- **In 2014, Natasha Caruana**, a young British artist, devoted her time in the Residency to seeking the truth of "love at first sight". Over a three-month period, she took her inspiration from her own life and drew on popular myths and scientific surveys to get closer, through photography, to the truth of this eternally inexplicable phenomenon.
- **In 2015, Alinka Echeverría**, with her "Fieldnotes for Nicephora" project, examined the historic, technical and philosophical links between photography and ceramics. Her project took us into the museum's archives.
- **In 2016, Dune Varela**, produced work on landscape and its representation. Based on photographs of temples and caves taken from the archives of the Nicéphore Niépce Museum, the Internet, and her own photographs, she examined the fragility of photography as a medium through her project *Toujours le soleil* [Always the Sun].
- **In 2017, Baptiste Rabichon**, produced work on the theme of experimentation for his project *En ville* [In the City]. He built his message around the use of complex tools and manufacturing protocols combining new and traditional techniques. While wandering Paris, he took photographs of eight balconies, the only internal part of Parisians' apartments that they expose to the outside world. These key features of the work are completely transformed by the photographer, who has altered the images using various traditional and modern techniques.
- **In 2018**, the current resident, **Emeric Lhuisset**, was selected by the jury for a project concerning migration, its symbolic vision and symbolic dimension. His project smashes the taboo of immediacy and urgency and instead provides a photographic narrative over the course of people's lives.

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