



David McConochie is announced as winner of the V&A Illustration Awards 2016

Display from 24 May until 21 August 2016.

www.vam.ac.uk/illustrationawards



David McConochie was tonight (23 May) named as the winner of the V&A Illustration Awards 2016 and inaugural recipient of the Moira Gemmill Illustrator of the Year prize in a ceremony held at the Museum.

The London-based illustrator was nominated for his cover for *The Folio Book of Ghost Stories*. McConochie

was inspired by 'the strangely beautiful but inherent eeriness' of 19th-century daguerreotypes in his work in which at the focal point is a shrouded, faceless figure set in sombre colours. The judging panel were struck by the boldness of the composition and the way in which it sets the tone for the unnerving stories within the book

McConochie studied Graphic Design at the University of Teesside and has since become known for his work in photomontage, collage and assemblage and his mixed-media approach. His work has featured in *The Guardian*, *The Financial Times*, *The Express* and *Metro* and on a limited edition first class postage stamp to mark the 2012 London Olympics.

The annual V&A Illustration Awards celebrate the best illustrations published over the previous year. The judging panel for 2016 comprised author Dame Jacqueline Wilson, Patrick Burgoyne, editor of Creative Review and Annabel Judd, former head of design at the V&A.

Of the 14 shortlisted illustrators, the winners of the four individual categories are as follows:

Book Cover Illustration Award and The Moira Gemmill Illustrator of the Year Prize

David McConochie for *The Folio Book of Ghost Stories* (The Folio Society)

Book Illustration Award

Jason Brooks for *London Sketchbook* (Laurence King)

Editorial Illustration Award

Bill Bragg for *But today I am afraid*, published in *The Guardian*

Student Illustrator of the Year

Kate Milner (Anglia Ruskin University: Cambridge School of Art) for *My name is not 'refugee'*

Student Runner-Up

Joan Alturo (Arts University Bournemouth) for *Morts et Vita*

The separate category of Student Award was judged by Ruth Prickett, the editor of *Illustration* magazine and Rafi Romaya, the art director of Canongate Books.

The winner in each category for published illustration was awarded £3,000 and a trophy. For the first time, the overall winner received an additional £5,000 and was honoured with The Moira Gemmill Illustrator of the Year Prize. The winner of the Student Illustrator of the Year 2016 received £3,000 and a trophy and the runner up received £2,000.

This year's shortlist was drawn from over 1,000 submissions. The V&A Illustration Awards were established in 1972 and previous winners include Posy Simmonds, Ralph Steadman and Michael Foreman.

The award-winning artworks will be displayed outside the V&A's National Art Library from 24 May until 21 August 2016. Admission is free. The V&A is open 10.00 to 17.45 daily; 10.00 to 22.00 Fridays.

– ENDS –

Notes to Editors

- The V&A's annual Illustration Awards has been substantially increased for 2016, in honour of the late Moira Gemmill, who made an outstanding contribution to the V&A as Director of Design for 13 years. The overall winner has been honoured with The Moira Gemmill Illustrator of the Year Prize, to reflect her significant contribution and support of these awards. Generous donations from Edwin Davies CBE, Dame Theresa Sackler, The Ruddock Foundation for the Arts and The Headley Trust have also allowed the V&A to considerably increase the category awards as well as the overall prize.

For further PRESS information about the exhibition, contact Lily Booth on 020 7942 2497 2500 or l.booth@vam.ac.uk (not for publication). A selection of high resolution images are available to download at pressimages.vam.ac.uk