



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Shortlist for 2017 V&A Illustration Awards showcases the best of emerging and established talent in British illustration

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Supported by the Enid Linder Foundation and the Moira Gemmill Memorial Fund

V&A Illustration Awards 2017 display

17th May – 20th August 2017

NAL Library Landing, Room 85

Admission Free

Today, the Victoria and Albert Museum (V&A) announces the shortlisted artists for the 2017 V&A Illustration Awards to celebrate the best of book, editorial and student illustrations published over the last year. From the inventive storytelling of Beatriz Lostalé Seijo's *The Odyssey* to the humorous homage to Hokusai in A. Richard Allen's *Trump Wave*, this year's shortlist shows that illustration has never been more diverse, innovative and inter-disciplinary. All the winning artworks will be displayed at the V&A, on the landing outside the National Art Library from 17th May – 20th August 2017.

The winners of each of the four categories – best illustrated book, book cover design, editorial illustration and student illustrator – will be announced at the V&A Illustration Awards ceremony at the V&A on 16 May 2017, and will each receive £3,000 and a trophy. The overall winner will receive an additional £5,000 and will be honoured with the Moira Gemmill Illustrator of the Year Prize, named in memory of the late Moira Gemmill, the V&A's former Director of Design. The competition has been running since 1972. Previous winners of the Illustration Awards include Sir Quentin Blake, Ralph Steadman, Posy Simmonds, Sara Fanelli, and Yasmeen Ismail.

Julius Bryant, Keeper of Word & Image, said: *“Supporting contemporary artists, designers, and illustrators has always been at the heart of the V&A's mission. That's why the V&A Illustration Awards recognises both student and published work, to help aspiring illustrators break into the*

graphic arts and publishing industries. The first year after completing a course is often the most difficult in terms of building a career. The accolade of winning an award and sharing a platform with established artists can be crucial in this process.”

The judging panel for the published categories comprises Jane Scherbaum, former V&A Head of Design, Loyd Grossman, broadcaster, gastronome and art historian, and bestselling author Beryl Kingston. For the 2017 Student Illustrator of the Year Award, the judging panel is comprised of John O’Reilly, Editor of Varoom magazine and 2016 V&A Illustration Awards winner, Jason Brooks.

– ENDS –

Notes to Editors:

1. The 2017 Shortlist:

2017 Student Illustrator of the Year

Lucy Waldman (UCA Farnham; BA Illustration): Favela Life

Beatriz Lostalé Seijo (Anglia Ruskin, MA Book Illustration): The Odyssey

Emily Evans (RCA; MA Visual Communication): Blood Antiquities

Thomas Hedger (UAL CSM; BA Graphic Design) Petrol Stations

Tom Spooner (RCA, Visual Comms): Towards an Infinite Place

Book Illustration

Benji Davies for Storm Whale in Winter (London: Simon & Schuster, 2016)

Anna+Elena Balbusso for Twelfth Night (London: The Folio Society, 2016)

JARVIS for Alan’s Big Scary Teeth (London: Walker Books, 2016)

Book Cover Design

Joe Ciardiello for Aubrey’s Brief Lives (London: The Folio Society, 2016)

Aino-Maija Metsola ‘Mrs Dalloway - Virginia Woolf Series’ (Vintage, 2016)

Lizzy Stewart for There’s a Tiger in the Garden (Frances Lincoln, 2016)

Editorial Illustration

Gary Neill for ‘Brexit – What Next’, published in Health & Safety

A.Richard Allen for ‘Trump Wave’, published in The Sunday Telegraph Money

Nick Lowndes for ‘Samuel Johnson’, published in The Economist

2. A selection of press images are available to download free of charge from pressimages.vam.ac.uk
3. For further PRESS information about the exhibition, contact the Press Office on 020 7942 2502 or press.office@vam.ac.uk (not for publication).

