

Aesthetica Art Prize Exhibition 2017



Jasmina Cibic, Tear Down and Rebuild, 2015

26 May - 10 September
 York Art Gallery

A platform for innovation and originality, the Aesthetica Art Prize Exhibition invites audiences to engage with captivating projects from some of today's leading artists, both established and emerging. From individual narratives to global concerns, the artworks comment on contemporary culture and explore themes such as globalisation, perceptions of space and alienation in the digital age.

As the boundaries between the public and the private begin to merge into blurred depictions of reality, contemporary art is the mechanism that enables us to respond to a renewed understanding of living. The 2017 presentation features the work of 16 shortlisted artists who hail from diverse locations including Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Japan, the USA and the UK.

Utilising a range of media, they work within the categories of Photographic & Digital Art; Painting, Drawing & Mixed Media; Three Dimensional Design & Sculpture. and Video, Installation & Performance. Images of 84 longlisted pieces will be shown on monitors within the gallery – offering a unique chance for visitors to explore the breadth and diversity of work being produced across the world today.

The accompanying publication *Future Now: 100 Contemporary Artists*, which features the artists' statements, images of their works and essays from leading art figures, is on sale at the exhibition. A series of Lunchtime Talks will take place at the gallery throughout the exhibition, offering a chance for visitors to enhance their experience of the Aesthetica Art Prize and hear directly from artists, curators and academics.

Aesthetica Art Prize Exhibition, 26 May – 10 September (Daily 10am - 5pm), York Art Gallery, Exhibition Square, York YO1 7EW. For admission details, visit www.yorkartgallery.org.uk

The 2017 Aesthetica Art Prize Shortlist

Adam Basanta
 Adam Niklewicz
 Alinka Echeverría
 breadedEscalope
 Dylan Martinez
 Emmanuelle Moureaux
 Jasmina Cibic
 Judith Jones
 Julio Bittencourt



Future Now: Contemporary Artists 2017

Recognising both innovation and creativity, the Aesthetica Art Prize anthology captures captivating projects of today's leading artists, both established and emerging, across four categories.

Order Now



York Museum



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THE
HEPWO
WAKEFIELD

Lesley Hilling
Maryam Tafakory
Sara Morawetz
Stanza
Stephen Johnston
Toby Dye
Webb-Ellis

 PRES

 WINSO
& NEWTON

Lunchtime Talks at York Art Gallery

Further your appreciation of contemporary art and enhance your experience of the Aesthetica Art Prize by joining us at the following talks. Led by artists, curators and academics they offer an insight into current themes in the art world. Talks start at 12:30. Standard York Art Gallery admission charges apply. For details, see www.yorkartgallery.org.uk



Future Now: The Aesthetica Art Prize Shortlist
Friday 26 May

The 2017 finalists offer insight into their practices, which utilise photography, painting sculpture and installation to address a range of contemporary themes from globalisation to technological advancement.



Navigating the Aesthetica Art Prize Exhibition
Thursday 8 June

Griselda Goldsbrough leads an engaging tour around the Aesthetica Art Prize Exhibition, identifying the various themes and techniques presented by the 2017 selection. The talk will highlight key modes of representation and interpretation used in the show.



Engaging with the Arts: Creativity and Wellbeing
Thursday 15 June

As part of the national initiative Creativity and Wellbeing Week 2017, Griselda Goldsbrough draws upon the works in this year's Art Prize to explore the different ways in which we can benefit from engaging with the arts throughout our lives.



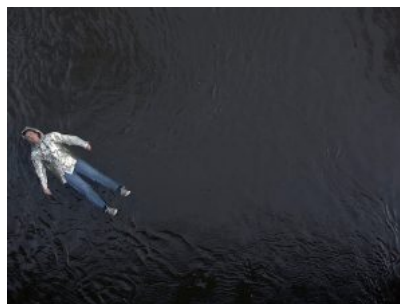
Sculpture Today: Creation and Interpretation
Thursday 29 June

Artist and Lecturer in Sculpture at York St John University, Dr Joanna Sperry-Jones discusses the state of contemporary sculpture and the process behind the creation of three-dimensional works. Addressing the pieces in the exhibition and her own creative process, she will consider audience participation in sculptural works.



Exhibition Practices: Curating for the 21st Century Audience
Thursday 27 July

Jennifer Alexander, Curator of Art at York Art Gallery sheds light on exhibition practices and curating for the 21st century audience. Drawing upon the Art Prize, she will discuss the symbiotic relationship between the space and the exhibits and how the works respond to each other.



Shortlisted Artists: Webb-Ellis Discuss Video Installation
Thursday 10 August

Andrew and Caitlin Webb-Ellis work across film, installation and performance. They are storytellers, transforming personal experiences into multi-disciplinary environments that seek to address the universal. They discuss what it is to be human in these strange times and the shifting boundaries between the self and the other.

 V&A

 THE GLASGOW
SCHOOL

 Royal College of Art

 IKO

 slat
BLACK + ARTS

The 2017 Aesthetica Art Prize Longlist



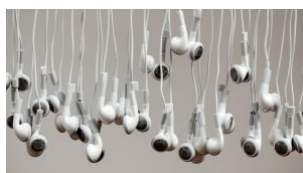
A2arquitectos

Since its invention in 1816, generations of children have been mesmerised by



Abhidnya Ghuge

The humble, disposable paper plate is the medium Abhidnya Ghuge employs to create her vast installations. Thousands of plates are printed with



Adam Basanta

Everyday electronic objects of commercial technology and communications assume new roles in the installations of Adam Basanta, taking on sculptural forms. In Curtain



Adam Niklewicz

Poetic, surreal, and bringing a welcome quality of humour and satire, the images of Adam Niklewicz aim to poke

the kaleidoscope. A2arquitectos, a collective dedicated to creating dream-like experiences through the play...



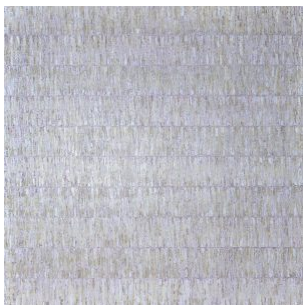
Akiko Nakayama

Creating a sense of energy and metamorphosis to bring a painting to life is Akiko Nakayama's intention. The artist combines movement and vibrant colours to...



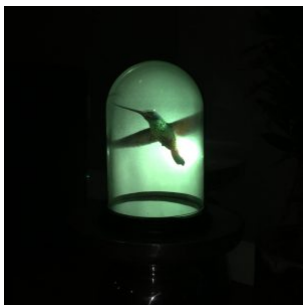
Anne-Marie Creamer

The entanglement of narrative and place is at the core of Anne-Marie Creamer's multi-disciplinary approach, in which digital film, fiction, drawing and staged scenarios are...



Barbara Houwers

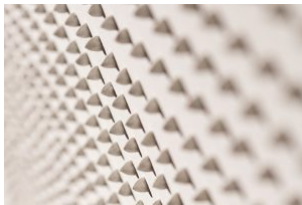
Abandoning representational content and instead focusing on line, structure and tone, Barbara Houwers shifts painting into a sculptural dimension in her recent work. Though pieces...



Carl Hopgood

Immortalising a fleeting moment in time is the aim of Carl Hopgood's multi-disciplinary sculptural practice, as seen in his Digital Taxidermy – Video

designs that have...



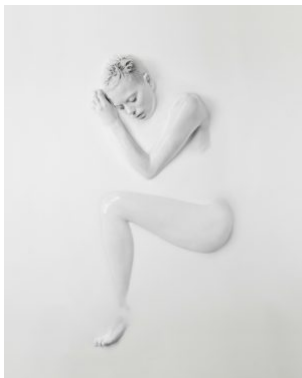
Alexandra Carr

Alexandra Carr is fascinated by the boundary between art and technology and by the patterns which occur in natural phenomena and processes. She has collaborated...



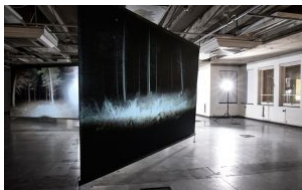
Anthony Garratt

In a signature outdoor painting installation, Anthony Garratt responds to the landscape and history of North Wales. High and Low or Uchel ac Isel comprises...



Ben Tricklebank

Photography, film and interactive works are at the heart of Ben Tricklebank's multi-disciplinary practice, which addresses questions of control, freedom and our relationship with technology...



Charles Danby & Rob Smith

The collaborative work of Charles Danby & Rob Smith is based on a mutual interest in site and land. In Parallel Cipher, for example, a...

(white) the...



Alinka Echeverria

Alinka Echeverria aims to counter the depiction of the African continent and its inhabitants as embodying "otherness", through a process of collaboration with her subjects...



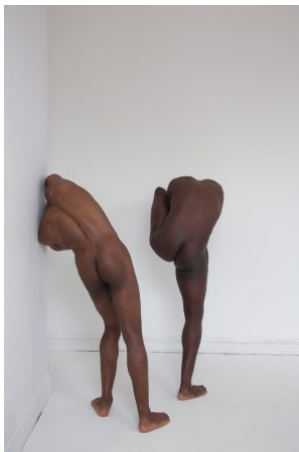
Armando Cabba

Armando Cabba uses the self-portrait to capture the transience of identity from moment to moment – we can never be the same person twice. Even...



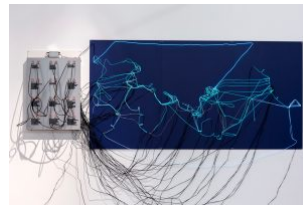
Bernardo Vallarino

Insects become a metaphor for the treatment of human beings as disposable in the work of Bernardo Vallarino. He is concerned with disregard for human...



Chloe Rosser

holes in the illusion of a...



Anna Madeleine

Mapping data over time and revealing the information systems underlying contemporary life is the aim of Anna Madeleine's practice. In Currents, she reminds the viewer...



Baraga

Baraga's interactive works are usually placed in public spaces and unusual contexts to explore the connections between environment, nature, technology and humans. They make use...



breadedEscalope

The collective breadedEscalope critically consider art and design as part of modern life. In Shadowplay, they investigate and make use of the physical properties of...



Chris Meigh-Andrews

The concepts of energy and time and their relationship to thought and

Projected Sculptures...



Courtney Ray

The physicality of photographic film is central to Courtney Ray's approach. The artist feels it not only gives the work a physical permanence, in a...



Dominica Harrison

Handmade and digital approaches combine in the animations of Dominica Harrison. In Illusions, each frame is drawn by hand, screen printed and then scanned to...



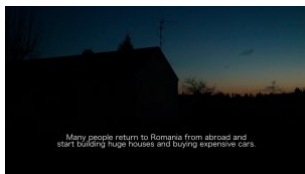
Elizabeth Tomos

Elizabeth Tomos takes an approach in which printmaking and performance art converge, notably in using the body as a means of image production. The hand...



Eunhyung Kim

Eunhyung Kim uses performance to explore fears and concerns relating to human rights. Street takes up the story of Namki Baek, who was killed by...



Daniel Nicolae Djamo

Images of migrating birds along the Loire valley at sunset are juxtaposed with words taken from interviews with Romanian immigrants living in Paris in 2011-2014...



Dylan Martinez

Dylan Martinez's fascination with the mechanisms of vision and how they control our understanding of the world stems in part from his own experiences of...



Emily Joy

Through sculpture, installation and performance art, Emily Joy questions the acts of remembering and re-imagining. The boundaries of the self, limits of the physical body...



Frea Buckler

Resembling unfolded boxes or origami creations, Frea Buckler's one-off works on paper result from an intuitive use of silkscreen techniques, and a spontaneous methodology which...

The contorted human bodies which are the signature of Chloe Rosser's Form series transform something so familiar into something that is unexpected and uncanny, a...



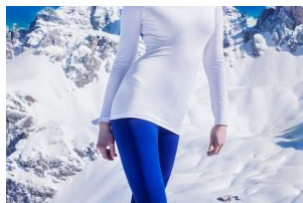
Darae Baek

The overwhelming experience of suddenly recalling the past in a rush of memory and nostalgia while in an entirely different place and time is transformed...



Ed Freeman

For Ed Freeman, the act of making art is a celebration of being human, and the naked human body, which is his main subject, is...



Emma Hartvig

The cinema screen and the world of advertising inform the compositions of Emma Harvig. Her images appear like ambiguous stills taken from an unexplained narrative, with...



HOAX

HOAX theatre group join forces with eco-scenographer Andrea Carr and photographer Kasia Rucinska for stuck, a performance piece using rhetoric and soft sculptures to examine...

perception are key themes for Chris Meigh-Andrews, in a practice that makes use...



David Handley

Childhood has been a constant inspiration to David Handley throughout his work as a fashion photographer. In his latest project, Best Friends Forever, he pursues...



Edgar O Kim

Edgar O Kim transforms an everyday sight – packaged meat – back into something uncanny and grotesque, through selective photographic cropping and representation. The objects...



Emmanuelle Moureaux

A visit to Tokyo in 1995 formed Emmanuelle Moureaux's artistic vision, in response to the city's infinite layers and colours. Terming her concept "shikiri" meaning...



Ian Cumberland

Northern Irish visual artist Ian Cumberland is fascinated by Guy Debord's concept of the "Society of the Spectacle" and its contemporary implications, where authentic life...



Janeanne Gilchrist

Freediving off the coast of Scotland has given Janeanne Gilchrist access to a world which few get to see, of forms in constant flux and...



Jerzy Goliszewski

The mythical figure of the Golem, a figure created to protect people but which, as it grew stronger, lost the ability to tell friend from...



Judith Jones

The "blue hour" of twilight represents an intangible and uneasy border between day and night, both fascinating and fearful. In her Twilight series, Judith Jones...



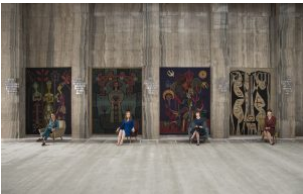
Kenta Nakagawa

Kenta Nakagawa makes use of the



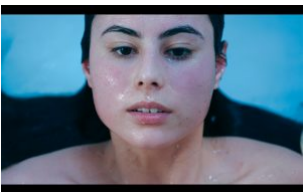
Izabela Kowalczyk

An intuitive need to reveal space as an experience runs throughout the painting and sculptural work of Izabela Kowalczyk. When cutting forms out of paper...



Jasmina Cibic

Jasmina Cibic's art reveals the structures of "soft power" often employed as methods of psychological control by authoritarian regimes, and the way in which national...



Jesse May Fisher

Jesse May Fisher explores the complex world of teenage female friendship, inspired by personal conversations and shared experience to address her realisation that many seemingly...



Julio Bittencourt

The ways in which we live, occupy and share the world has been a fascination for photographer Julio Bittencourt for the last 12 years, informed...



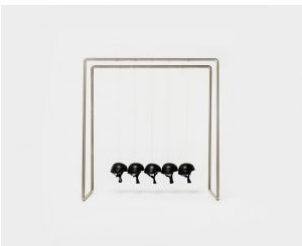
Jack Davis

The fundamental human need to shape our environment and landscape to suit our needs is critically examined in Jack Davis's work. In Nature Nurture, his...



Jason deCaires Taylor

The signature partially-submerged sculptures of Jason deCaires Taylor address social and environmental concerns through their interactions with aquatic environments. The work Rising Tide, on the...



John Trashkowsky

Adding a comic or dramatic twist to reconstructions of everyday objects, John Trashkowsky tackles major issues in contemporary life. In Science Of Power (2015), ideas...



June Lee

June Lee addresses whether it is possible to be alone in an interlinked and globalised world, making use of three dimensions in order to address...



Hristina Sekuloska & Irena Milojeska (HIMA)

The constructions of collaborators Hristina Sekuloska and Irena Milojeska see them assume an architectural mindset in order to challenge the boundaries between the spatial and...



Jack West

The concept of "the machine" links the different aspects of Jack West's creative practice, both in the physical world of the studio and a virtual...



Jeremy Underwood

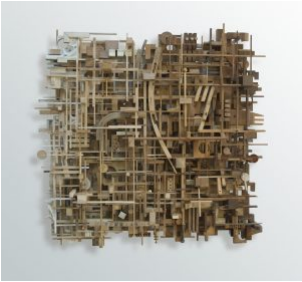
The Human Debris project draws attention to the state of the environment in Houston's waterways through the creation of site-specific sculpture from abandoned objects. Jeremy...



Jola Kudela aka YOLA

Working in public spaces and engaging with society is the key to the art of Jola

structural nature of light to transform architectural spaces in significant buildings throughout the world. His Inner mind architecture project...



Lesley Hilling

The architectural layers apparent in buildings and cities inspires the work of Lesley Hilling. For recent works including El Barrio, she has made use of...



Maryam Tafakory

Combining the moving image and performance art in her video works, Maryam Tafakory is interested in womanhood and rites of passage, drawing on the notion...



Mirren Kessling

A graduate of the Ruskin School of Art, Mirren Kessling aims to capture subjects in a state of unreality within a genuine and unaltered moment...



Khadija Baker

The suppressed history of the Kurdish people is the point of departure for a wider examination of processes of exile and loss of identity in...



Marie Harnett

Split-second moments from a moving image become carefully rendered in pencil on paper in the work of Marie Harnett. The artist searches through films frame...



Meredith Glisson

Meredith Glisson employs choreography as a method of understanding the self. In IS HERE I SHE the collective of women depicted shift from individual representation...



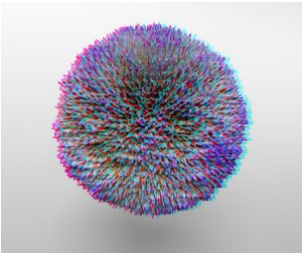
Naja Verena Marcin

The divorce between body and mind in an age dominated by what Debord called "the society of the spectacle" is a recurring theme for Naja...



Khushna

Khushna combines traditional and digital approaches by painting from photographic sources rather than live subjects. Drawing on the influence of the Baroque as well as...



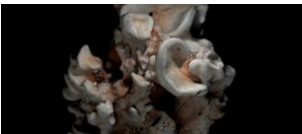
Mark Eaglen

Mark Eaglen's work responds to science, technology and nature, making use of a varied range of processes in order to demonstrate the concepts being examined...



Michael Perl & Christian Zwerschina

The practice of Michael Perl & Christian Zwerschina draws inspiration from the philosophical ideas of Gilles Deleuze, Mario Perniola and Umberto Eco concerning subject, time...



Oren Lavie

Oren Lavie sees art as a "wormhole" a way to access the hidden currents that are at work behind the fine membrane of culture. One...

Kudela. She recreates scenes from classic paintings using contemporary...



Karolina Magnusson Murray

For her digital video installation Commanding Content, Karolina Magnusson Murray takes a critical look at the art industry and the production of content, employing humour...



Kovi Konowiecki

The portraits of an Orthodox Jewish family in Kovi Konowiecki's Bei Mir Bistu Shein represent an attempt to capture the ethereal qualities of faith and...



Martina Stock

Silkscreen techniques or serigraphy on a large scale combine with the artist's musical performances on the harp to create Martina Stock's multimedia, multidisciplinary immersive works...

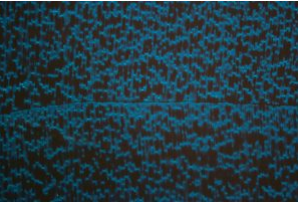


Michelee Scott

Michelee Scott is a photographer fascinated with nature and dream-like landscapes. In her image Desolation, a

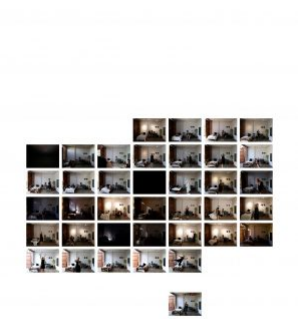
Paul Corfield

The paintings of Paul Corfield begin with a process of experimentation on a computer screen, where three-dimensional modelling, mathematical formulae, simulations and animations are among...



Richard Devereux

The art of Richard Devereux makes use of pressure dispersal techniques, where the random effects of particle interference determine the evolution of the finished product...



Sara Morawetz

Our experience of time is not universal but derived from the specific circumstances of the Earth's motion around the Sun. Sara Morawetz creates performances geared...



Shuster + Moseley

The creative collaboration of Shuster + Moseley began while living in a treehouse on a protest site, an experience which informed their subsequent practice. They...



Peter Gibbons

Peter Gibbons sees his whimsical images as illustrations from stories that will never be told, evoking fantastic tales of pilgrims, beasts and adventurers. He compares...



Sali Muller

Sali Muller employs reflective surfaces alongside video, light and sound installations in order to challenge issues of environmental pollution, consumerism and loss of interpersonal communication...



SauntandSinner x VincentWolf

Collaborators SauntandSinner x VincentWolf, aka Toni Roddie and James Vincent Gillespie, bring together fashion and technology in both digital and physical works. In FLUX, they...



Siru Wen

A fascination with humanity and desire for empathy and understanding with others motivates Siru Wen, for whom the act of photography is one of



Peter Gudynas

Photography becomes visual metaphor in the work of Peter Gudynas through the use of digital manipulation and post-production techniques. Here, he reflects on the problems...



Sam Williams

Sam Williams's assemblages of video, text, installation and performance occupy a world in a state of transition, addressing themes of gender, environment, belonging and the...



Seecum Cheung

Seecum Cheung directly addresses the rise of right wing nationalism in Europe through a series of video interviews which raise disparate viewpoints and emotions. Interview...



Stanza

The urban landscape, surveillance culture and the impossibility of privacy in the city are recurring concerns in the work created by Stanza. The artist makes...

barn standing alone in a November field instantly captured...



Ouchhhh Studio

An interdisciplinary creative hub, Ouchhhh Studio brings together expertise in animation, motion graphics and public art in order to create work inspired by current research...



Rachael Kelly

The workings of globalised capitalism and, in particular, its relationship to ethics are the subject of recent work by Rachael Kelly. In Periodic Exchange, she...



Samuel Weniger

Samuel Weniger created this collaborative work I kissed your kiss on your girlfriend's cheek, it was still wet, based on a poem written for him...



Sherman Finch

Referencing composer John Cage's interest in chance, Sherman Finch creates a dialogue between visual aesthetics, viewer interaction and auditory perception in his most recent work...



Stefan Reiss



Stephen Johnston

Mortality was a common theme for the Old Masters, with their scenes of luxury and gluttony undercut by reminders of the grave. Stephen Johnston considers...



The Institute For New Feeling

The collective of Scott Andrew, Agnes Bolt and Nina Sarnelle use their corporate identity as the Institute to borrow from the language of corporate branding...



Vivien Schneider-Siemssen

The idea of forging connections between cultures, and the realisation that a journey is often an end in itself, form the backdrop to much of...



William Matheson

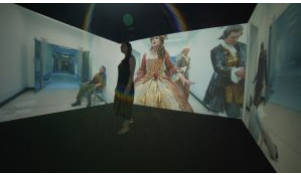
In his two channel video work Para, William Matheson explores the many unsettling connotations of that prefix – including paranormal, paranoia and parasite. The video...

emotional...



Tadao Cern

A sense of curiosity and playful spirit of invention drive Tadao Cern's creative process. Black Balloons came from a sense of discovery of the oppositions...



Toby Dye

Film director Stanley Kubrick's trademark long zooms down corridors, notably used in Barry Lyndon, inspired this installation by Toby Dye. The Corridor evokes a hypnotic...



VOID

VOID is a group of visual and sound artists based in Brussels. They are concerned with sound as a material and the many ways it...



Yael Portabales

Self-portraits are a recurring theme for Yael Portabales, who is fascinated with the way that different aspects of herself emerge through the shots, their composition...



Tania Franco Klein

A move to London by photographer Tania Franco Klein led to an abiding fascination with public social behaviour and the manifestation of disconnection and isolation...



Various Artists

This Brussels-based collective brings together 24 fictional personalities, allowing different collaborations and practices to develop within the group. Agua con Gaz brings together their various...



Webb-Ellis

British/Canadian duo Webb-Ellis work in film, installation and performance to tell stories with images and sounds in their multi-disciplinary environments. They are concerned with what...



Yoshinori Niwa

The nonsensical actions depicted in Yoshinori Niwa's performance, video and installation works raise questions of the relationship between the individual and the collective, and the...

In the pragmatic art of Stefan Reiss, disparate media such as drawing, painting, sculpture, installation, projection and performance are related through an interest in the...



Tasha Marks / AVM Curiosities

Tasha Marks's background as a food historian with a specialism in sugar informs her work, which tells stories through all the senses, including taste and...



Vikram Kushwah

Fairytale, daydream and childhood magic mix with modernity to create a profound sense of the uncanny in Vikram Kushwah's photography. Ambiguity and uncertainty contrast with...



William Braithwaite

The powerful forms of Modernism and Brutalism, and their use of repetition of simple minimal shapes to produce complexity, inform the art of William Braithwaite...



Yuge Zhou

The idealism, attitude and pace of everyday city life is a recurring theme for Yuge Zhou, who aims to make people more aware of their...

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