

## Press Release

Wednesday 6 April 2022

### ***National Portrait Gallery calls for entries to its annual Taylor Wessing Photographic Portrait Prize***

***The photography exhibition will be displayed at Cromwell Place, South Kensington, from 27 October 2022, as the Gallery prepares for its anticipated reopening***



Taylor Wessing Photographic Portrait Prize 2021 prize winners L-R: *Merna Beasley*, *Kurtijar Woman* from the series *Tribute to Indigenous Stock Women* by David Prichard © David Prichard; *Yuki San* from the series *Hakanai Sonzai* by Pierre-Elie de Pibrac © Pierre-Elie de Pibrac; *David* from the series *Rosemary & Thyme* by Katya Iлина © Katya Iлина.

Today, the National Portrait Gallery announces that entries are open to its annual *Taylor Wessing Photographic Portrait Prize*. The international competition, which celebrates and promotes the very best in contemporary portrait photography, is inviting submissions from 9am on 6 April until 5pm on 31 May 2022 via a brand new digital platform, specially developed for this year's Prize.

The *Taylor Wessing Photographic Portrait Prize* is one of the most competitive photography awards in the world and showcases the work of some of the most exciting and cutting-edge contemporary photographers. Following the success of 2021's display, which featured 54 portraits from 25 artists, works submitted in 2022 will again be exhibited at the South Kensington-based arts hub, Cromwell Place, while the Gallery's own building in St Martin's Place undergoes a major transformation. The exhibition will open in London on 27 October and will run until 18 December 2022.

The competition is open to everyone aged 18 and over from around the world, whether a leading professional, a talented amateur or an exciting emerging artist. Photographers are encouraged to interpret 'portrait' in its widest sense, with 'photography focused on portraying people with an

emphasis on their identity as individuals.' The winner of the competition will receive £15,000, with second prize receiving £3,000 and third prize £2,000.

The *Photographic Portrait Prize* has been sponsored by international law firm Taylor Wessing since 2008. This year marks the fifteenth anniversary of their support for this prestigious competition and exhibition, which has received over one million visits since its launch in 1993.

**Dr Nicholas Cullinan, Director of the National Portrait Gallery, said:** *"In its fifteenth year of sponsorship, we are thrilled to be opening entries to the Taylor Wessing Photographic Portrait Prize 2022. Every year, I am so impressed and inspired by the creativity of photographers around the world who take the time to submit their work to this competition. I have no doubt that this year's Prize will showcase the very best in contemporary portrait photography."*

**Shane Gleghorn, Managing Partner at Taylor Wessing, said:** *"We've supported the National Portrait Gallery and The Taylor Wessing Photographic Portrait Prize for fifteen years. The prize attracts exceptional talent and the very best in photographic works. Each year the prestige of the prize and exhibition provides a platform to showcase subjects that deserve international attention. We look forward to seeing what this year will bring and the next generation of talent emerging from the 2022 prize."*

**Elizabeth Dellert, Membership & Development Director at Cromwell Place, said:** *"Working with public institutions is one of the programming pillars of Cromwell Place and being able to provide a temporary home for the National Portrait Gallery brings an exciting energy to our buildings. The Taylor Wessing Photographic Portrait Prize, which showcases talent from all around the world, mirrors our ethos to provide a London base for our international membership. We are thrilled to host this annual prize for its second year in our Pavilion Gallery and showcase the best in portrait photography today."*

Entrants to the competition are encouraged to submit works as a series, either a group of individual portraits based on a particular theme, or two or more photographs that form a single portrait when shown together, in addition to stand-alone portraits. One series of photographs submitted to the competition may be chosen by the judges to be exhibited in its entirety.

To enter the 2022 competition, photographers are required to upload their image(s) via the National Portrait Gallery's new competition platform. All images will be viewed anonymously by a panel of judges who will collectively select the prize winners and works for exhibition. The digital platform can be accessed via: [www.competitions.npg.org.uk](http://www.competitions.npg.org.uk). The entry fee for the competition is £20 per image. Full information about how to enter, including entry forms and rules, can be found online.

**ENDS**

**For further press information, images and interview requests please contact:**

Poppy Andrews, Senior Communications Manager, [pandrews@npg.org.uk](mailto:pandrews@npg.org.uk), +44 (0)7535 667948

## Notes to editors

*Taylor Wessing Photographic Portrait Prize 2022*

27 October – 18 December 2022

Supported by Taylor Wessing

#PhotoPrize

Full information about how to enter, including entry forms and rules, can be found online at: [www.npg.org.uk/whatson/taylor-wessing-photographic-portrait-prize-2022/how-to-enter/rules](http://www.npg.org.uk/whatson/taylor-wessing-photographic-portrait-prize-2022/how-to-enter/rules)

Entries to the Prize will be accepted from 9am on Wednesday 6 April 2020. The deadline for submissions is 5pm on Tuesday 31 May 2022. Entries must be made via the National Portrait Gallery's new digital platform, [www.competitions.npg.org.uk](http://www.competitions.npg.org.uk).

### National Portrait Gallery

The National Portrait Gallery was founded in 1856 to encourage, through portraiture, the appreciation and understanding of the people who have made and are making British history and culture. Today it promotes engagement with portraiture in all media to a wide-ranging public by conserving, growing and sharing the world's largest collection of portraits.

The Gallery in St Martin's Place, London is currently closed until 2023, while essential building works take place on the *Inspiring People* redevelopment project, which will transform the Gallery, including a complete refurbishment of the building and a new learning centre. During the closure period, the Gallery will continue to share its Collection through its digital channels and a series of nationwide partnerships and collaborations.

[www.npg.org.uk](http://www.npg.org.uk)

### Taylor Wessing

Taylor Wessing is a global law firm that serves the world's most innovative people and businesses. Deeply embedded within our sectors, we work closely together with our clients to crack complex problems, enabling ideas and aspirations to thrive. Creative thinking is at the heart of our culture and we see art as an important instrument of change. Together with our people and community partners, we seek to challenge expectation and create extraordinary results.

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### Cromwell Place

Cromwell Place is a Membership organisation offering a first-of-its-kind exhibition, entertaining, and working space in central London, in the heart of South Kensington's museum district. Designed in 1858 by Sir Charles James Freaque, the five Grade II listed townhouses contain 15 unique gallery spaces, permanent and shared offices, open desks, meeting rooms, viewing rooms, art storage and a Club Room.

Cromwell Place is home to some of the world's most exciting galleries, collectors, dealers and advisors: with specialities ranging from Antiquities and Old Masters through to Contemporary Art. Membership is open by application.