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PRESS

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THE ARMORY SHOW ANNOUNCES ADDITIONAL PRIZES SUPPORTING ARTISTS AND GALLERIES AT THE FAIR

ATHENA ART FINANCE, THE FAIR'S LEAD SPONSOR, ALONG WITH PARTNER POMMERY CHAMPAGNE, AND PATRON ÉTANT DONNÉS, PROVIDE GENEROUS FUNDING FOR NEW AWARDS

The Armory Show announced today the continued support of *Athena Art Finance*, as well as two new prizes from **Pommery Champagne** and **Étant donnés**. For the third consecutive year, Athena will present the annual **Presents Booth Prize**, a \$10,000 prize that recognizes an outstanding and innovative presentation within the Presents section of the fair. **The Pommery Prize** will recognize an exceptional presentation within the Platform section of the fair with a \$20,000 prize. *Étant donnés Contemporary Art* will award the **Étant donnés Prize** of \$10,000 to one living artist of French nationality, or France-based, who is featured at The Armory Show.

Athena Art Finance, a specialty lender providing financing options for the global art market, will present the third annual **Presents Booth Prize**. The prize will support one gallery's cost of participation in Presents, the section of the fair dedicated to young galleries showcasing recent work from emerging artists. "We take great pride in our continuing sponsorship of the Presents Booth Prize, which acknowledges new and exceptional galleries and helps to foster future talent," remarked **James G. Niven**, Chairman of the Board. "We look forward to adding another emerging gallery to this esteemed set of alumni." An international jury of acclaimed collectors and curators will award the prize: **Dan Byers**, Director of the Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts at Harvard University; **Gregory Miller**, President of the Board of Directors at White Columns and collector of conceptual art; and **Jarl Mohn**, collector and Chief Executive Officer of National Public Radio.

The Pommery Prize will be shared between the artist and presenting gallery. **Pommery Champagne** continues to pay homage to Madame Pommery's love for the arts. In addition to the monetary reward, the winning artist of the **Pommery Prize** will have an opportunity to create a new work of art for an exhibition at **Pommery Champagne's** venue in Reims, France. Since 1882, when Madame Pommery commissioned French sculptor Gustav Navlet to create four sculptures for the walls of their cellars, the venerable producer's estate has been steeped in arts patronage. Since 2002, Pommery has continued the tradition by opening the Gallo-Roman chalk cellars and making them accessible each year as a platform for artists to express their talents and create unique works of art each September for their "Experience Pommery" exhibitions. **The Pommery Prize** will be shared between the artist and presenting gallery. For its inaugural year, the jury for the 2019 Pommery Prize includes: **Nathalie Vranken**, Owner, Champagne Pommery and art-world connoisseur and patron; **Sandra Hegedüs**, Collector and Founder of SAM Art Projects; and **Marie Griffay**, Director of FRAC Champagne-Ardenne.

Étant donnés Contemporary Art is a program of the FACE Foundation, developed with the Cultural Services of the French Embassy in the United States. The Étant donnés fund is aimed at strengthening ties between France and the US in the field of contemporary art by fostering active collaboration and encouraging long-lasting partnerships between French visual artists, curators, and collectives, and American curators and cultural institutions. By helping to support the development of the winning artist's practice and professional network, the Étant donnés Prize aims to enhance the visibility of the vibrant French art scene on an international scale.

"Since its inception 25 years ago, Étant donnés has allocated over \$3 million to fund more than 300 projects involving French artists in American institutions, and 30 curatorial trips for American professionals to France," says **Bénédicte de Montlaur**, Cultural Counselor of the French Embassy. "Étant donnés has made a great impact by providing ongoing support to the best of contemporary French culture in the US and strengthening artistic collaboration on both sides of the Atlantic." In its inaugural year, the Étant donnés Prize will be selected by **Suzanne Deal Booth**, art advisor and collector; **Philippe Vergne**, Director of the Serralves Museum of Contemporary Art, Porto; and **Massimiliano Gioni**, Chief Curator of the New Museum.

Recipients of the prizes will be announced on Thursday, March 7, 2019.

NOTES TO EDITORS

The Armory Show

The Armory Show is New York City's premier art fair, and a leading cultural destination for discovering and collecting the world's most important 20th- and 21st-century art. Staged on Manhattan's Piers 90, 92, and 94, The Armory Show features presentations by leading international galleries, innovative artist commissions, and dynamic public programs. Since its founding in 1994, The Armory Show has served as a nexus for the international art world, inspiring dialogue, discovery, and patronage in the visual arts.

Important Information for Media

VIP Preview (by invitation only)

Wednesday, March 6, 2019

Public Days

Thursday, March 7 - Sunday, March 10, 2019

Images and Information

Images and information for media may be accessed and downloaded directly from thearmoryshow.com/press.

Press Accreditation

Online registration for press opens Monday, January 28, 2019, and closes Friday, March 1, 2019 at 11pm. Members of the press must apply online. In-person applications at the Press Desk will not be considered.

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