

Samaneh Atef, Belén Sánchez, Desmond Tjonakoy. euward9 17.5. – 14.7.24

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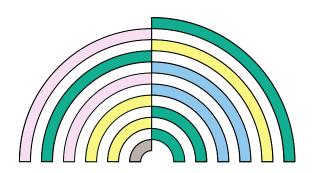
In 2024 Haus der Kunst again welcomes the winners and nominees of the **euward** European Award for Painting and Graphic Arts. Since 2000, the Augustinum Foundation has awarded the prize every three years to artists working in the context of cognitive impairment, to strengthen their presence and recognition within the art world.

Andrea Lissoni, Artistic Director, Haus der Kunst said: "Art institutions need to reinvent themselves, their concepts need to change fundamentally. Our familiar notion of normality has evaporated, has freed itself from the rust of its rigid certainties. And so the collaboration with the Augustinum Foundation offers Haus der Kunst an opportunity to emphasise its fundamental values in a new form."

As a public institution that sees art as a form of social exchange in which everyone can participate, Haus der Kunst considers diversity, equality, inclusion and accessibility to be core values of its work. These values are also lived in the programme planning and the development of the exhibitions. The building was opened in 1937 as "Haus der Deutschen Kunst" (House of German Art) and was a key venue for National Socialist art policy and propaganda. Nazi art policy used a pseudo-medical vocabulary and direct comparisons with photographs of mentally and physically disabled people to defame and eliminate modernism. Against the background of this history, the artistic programme of Haus der Kunst has a special responsibility.

With its ninth edition, euward 2024 is taking place at Haus der Kunst for the fifth time, as a component of the annual programme that puts the artists and their works in the foreground and brings the format closer to the intention of the prize to establish itself in the context of contemporary art. The exhibition of euward9 offers the opportunity to question familiar ideas and conventions and to encounter the artistic work of the award winners and nominated artists freely and without established patterns of interpretation.

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The winners in alphabetical order:

Samaneh Atef's (b. 1989, Bandar Abbas, Iran) intense pen and ink drawings address her own experiences as well as female history. As an Iranian woman and artist, she has a clear message: equality for women in her home country and around the world. The work of the Spanish multimedia artist Belén Sánchez (b. 1972, Madrid, Spain) includes not only drawing and collage but also sculpture, photography, film, and performance. The focus is on her own body, with which Belén Sánchez tells stories of aggression and healing. Desmond Tjonakoy (b. 1993, Amsterdam, Netherlands) is of Ghanaian descent. Using pencil and fine liner, he works on visual themes related to Black culture, music history and religion. Over 240 artists from 25 countries applied for euward9. In addition to the award winners, the works of the nominees will also be shown in the framework of euward9.

An exhibition of Augustinum Stiftung in collaboration with Haus der Kunst. Curated by Klaus Mecherlein (Augustinum Foundation), Project Manager Sabine Brantl (Haus der Kunst)

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Press preview: Thursday, 16.5.24, 11 am

Press images: hausderkunst.de/presse and on request.

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