



## 2023 Koestler Awards Judges

Our judges play a vital part in maintaining the impact and prestige of the Koestler Awards. By using their expertise to select award-winning artworks from over 7,000 entries, the judges help recognise and reward the skill, effort, and ambition of people in the UK's criminal justice system.

Entries are judged by over 100 experts from different fields. Over the years, judges have included Turner Prize-winning artist Jeremy Deller, Poet Laureate Carol Ann Duffy, representatives from the Victoria & Albert Museum, the British Council, the National Theatre, the British Film Institute, Louise Galvin, Speech DeBelle, Louis Theroux, and Hot Chip.

We are very grateful to the judges who have given awards and feedback to Koestler Awards entrants, and the many more people who have volunteered to help compile shortlists and give written feedback.

We are delighted to introduce our 2023 Koestler Award judging team, including Rich Miller, Katie Piper OBE, Jenny Eclair, and Hot Chip.

See the full list of 2023 judges below.

### **Animation**

Paul Bush

Paul Bush is a filmmaker most well-known for experimental stop frame animation. He has made numerous short and medium length films that have been shown around the world. He has directed commercials and written four feature length screenplays one of which he directed and was released in UK cinemas to critical acclaim in 2013.

John Eaton

John Eaton is an animation director and illustrator. Several of his films have been used as promotional music videos for Bands/ music artists including The Coral and Bill Ryder Jones. His films have been in over 30 film festivals and his belated graduation film is due out imminently to be submitted to short film festivals.

### **Anthology**

Rishi Dastidar

Rishi Dastidar is a poet and copywriter. He has written for a wide variety of brands including Sky, Barclays and O2. His poetry has been published by the BBC, Financial Times and New Scientist amongst many others. His third collection Neptune's Projects is published in the UK by Nine Arches Press.

## **Arts Project**

Sasha Morse

Sasha Morse is interested in art and social change. She is Assistant Curator at Art on the Underground, Transport for London's contemporary art programme where she works with artists to create new artworks for the tube.

Louise Shelley

Louise Shelley is a Curator for Transport for London's Art on the Underground programme and Associate Lecturer, Fine Art, Central Saint Martins, UAL. Previous appointments have included Collaborative Projects Curator at The Showroom, London where she led the Communal Knowledge programme (2010-18) and Curatorial Fellow at Cubitt where she developed a programme called Structures That Cooperate (2018-19).

## **Beauty**

Carole Warburton

Carole is a freelance nail technician with extensive experience working in top London salons. In the 90s, she worked for Nicky Clarke in Mayfair, Daniel Galvin in Marylebone, and most recently Paul Edmonds in Battersea. She frequently work at London Fashion Week and fashion shows overseas, representing top nail brands such as Essie and O.P.I., and for renowned designers including Mulberry and Jimmy Choo.

## **Calligraphy**

Ewan Clayton

Ewan has practised calligraphy for over 30 years and is a Professor in Design at the University of Sunderland. He is also a core member of staff at The Royal Drawing School.

Edward Wates

Edward Wates trained as a book designer and worked in publishing for 40 years. He is a member of Letter Exchange, Chair of the Irene Wellington Educational Trust and the Crafts Study Centre. His calligraphy has been widely exhibited and is held in a number of international collections.

## **Ceramics**

Rich Miller

Richard studied ceramics at the Surrey Institute of Art and Design. He runs Froyle Tiles, a handmade tile company that has carried out commissions for a variety of architects and designers. Richard is a judge on the BBC 2 programme 'The great Pottery Throwdown'.

Schneider

Schneider's punk-baroque ceramic sculptures explore the boundaries of functionality and aesthetic standards. Having grown up in East Berlin, Schneider is interested in the tension between rebellion and tradition. Daring to cry out for personal expression - and subsequent punishment - has shaped her personality and artwork.

Joanna Szwej-Hawkin

Joanna grew up and studied in Poland. She now lives in Nunhead, London. Her contemporary pottery and ceramics, both functional and decorative, combine traditional and modern aesthetics. Joanna likes to give her mainly slab-built earthenware and stoneware pots, a slightly distressed look. Her unique trademark, is inlaying the bases of her pots with slips and underglazes. She makes limited editions and one-off pieces.

## **Computer Generated Music**

Hot Chip

Hot Chip was formed in 2000 by old school friends Alexis Taylor and Joe Goddard, later joined by Felix Martin, Al Doyle and Owen Clarke. Their second album 'The Warning' was nominated for both a Grammy and the Mercury Prize in 2006. The follow-up, 2008's 'Made in the Dark' made the UK Top 5 and produced a Top 10 single in 'Ready for the Floor'. The band have gone on to release a further five albums as well as develop a reputation as skilled DJs and remixers.

## **Cover Version**

Ope Igbinyemi

Krutika Shah

## **Craft**

Coco Sato

Coco is an award-winning Japanese artist based in the UK. Her work uses origami to change the way people see the world. Born in Tokyo and graduating with a Bachelor of Fine Art from CSM in London, her work is inspired by everyday life in her native Japan and her sincere desire to dissolve boundaries and foster understanding between different cultures.

## **Digital Art**

Antonio Roberts

Antonio Roberts is an artist and musician based in Birmingham, UK, working primarily with video, code, and sound. He is critically engaged with the themes surrounding network culture and in his practice explores how technology continues to shape ideas of creation, ownership, and authorship. As a performing visual artist and musician he utilises live coding techniques to demystify technology and reveal its design decisions, limitations, and creative potential.

## **Drawing**

Charles Darwent

Charles was art critic of the Independent on Sunday from 1997 to 2014. He has written books on Mondrian and on Josef Albers; his latest is Surrealists in New York: Atelier 17 and the Birth of Abstract Expressionism (Thames & Hudson, 2023).

## **Fashion**

Juliet Ash

Juliet has written on and lectured full time in Fashion and Dress History and Theory at many Art and Design colleges. She was a Senior Tutor in the History and Theory of Dress at the Royal College of Art, London.

## **Film**

Francesca Baker

A creative communicator and strategic thinker Francesca is responsible for marketing and communications and business development at Inside Job Productions. With a wealth of experience in creative and business industries she is sharing the impact of what we do with the third sector and corporate sector.

Ann Summerhayes

With over two decades of experience in film production, Ann combines her love of film and a passion for driving social change as CEO of Inside Job Productions. Leading the team to produce great content for clients from the corporate, public and third sectors she has grown the client base, turnover and social impact of the company.

## **Flash Fiction and Short Story**

Charlotte

Charlotte is a Koestler Award winner, published writer, and former mentee. She continues to write short stories, longer fiction and script writing. Loves music, animals & nature, reading and writing, the arts and DIY. Arts in criminal justice settings are vital and writing can be a deeply impactful way of connecting to yourself and emptying a busy mind.

Paul Coomey

Paul Coomey creates illustrated fiction for children and writes short stories and screenplays for grown-ups. His work has been published nationally and internationally and he designs and runs storytelling workshops in schools and at festivals. Paul lives by the sea with three of the greatest rogues the world has ever known, only two of whom are cats.

## **Furniture**

Jason Mason

Jason has an extensive work history within the construction trades with a focus on heritage carpentry. He has worked with the National Trust on several of their listed properties. After a difficult time personally and struggling with addiction, Jason ended up spending time in prison. Since release, he has been working with Making it Out. He has been instrumental in helping participants in the charity gain confidence and providing a wide breadth of knowledge whilst assisting in MIO projects.

Mark Whaley

Mark was the driving force behind establishing Making it Out, with the aim of providing opportunities for individuals at the margins of society to develop confidence through collaborative making projects. MIO have collectively created public art, furniture and renovated a historic barn. The charity encourages participants to learn new skills and increase independence and self-sufficiency, including through finding work, starting a business, maintaining stable mental health, and getting involved in pro-social activities.

## **Graphic Design**

TBC

## **Graphic Novel**

Hannah Berry

Hannah Berry is a comics creator, scriptwriter and campaigner. Alongside her own occasionally award-winning graphic novels, she has contributed comics to anthologies and publications from 2000AD to the New England Journal of Medicine. She is a fellow of the Royal Society of Literature and was UK Comics Laureate 2019-21.

## **Hairstyling**

Louise Galvin

As founder of the first Carbon Neutral beauty company, Louise Galvin Bracken has a long-held passion for the environment and well-being. At the core of this is the belief that the Arts are essential to enrich the lives of people. Louise is on the Board of GOSH Tick Tock. As part of the board, Louise successfully raised £2m towards the installation a new iMRI Scanner and suite at Great Ormond Street Hospital for children

in 2017/2018. Louise is Chairman of GOSH Night at The Museum Event and a committee member at Save the Children.

## **Handmade Book**

Mike Abrahams

Mike is an artist and designer who makes work that explores and utilises the banal through assemblage, sculpture, artist books, drawing, film and performance. His 'artists books' can be found in the V&A, Tate and collections around the world.

Deb Rindl

Deb is a graduate of Camberwell College of Arts where she studied Graphics & Illustration as a mature student. She creates artist's books in small editions, mostly printed and made by hand, notable for their "sculptural" quality.

## **Handmade Greeting Card**

Ellen Kirkhope

Now working as a Creative Director at Entertainment One, Ellen designs trend and product style guides across a wide range of international brands. Ellen formerly gained her experience as a Creative Director working within the prominent trend agency WGSN leading an international team of designers in creating trend-led, commercial design work and creative editorial content for a global audience. She holds an honours degree in Graphic Design and has a love of print and illustration.

## **Hip Hop, Rap and Grime**

TBC

## **Instrumental**

TBC

## **Life Story**

Jane Corry

Jane trained as a journalist with the Thomson organisation and has since written for several magazines and newspapers, including the Daily Telegraph. She was a writer in residence for three years at Springhill and Grendon Underwood. Jane has written over 20 novels. Her last six novels for Penguin have all been in the top 10 of the Sunday Times. Her new Penguin novel 'Coming To Find You' is set in the Second World War. Jane is a former Royal Literary Fund fellow at Exeter University and has taught creative writing at Oxford University. When not writing, Jane likes to spend time with her family and swim in the sea.

## **Longer Fiction and Novel**

**Anthony Whittome**

As editorial director of Hutchinson and Random House UK for many years, Anthony published work by a range of well-known authors of fiction, non-fiction and poetry.

**Martha Whittome**

Martha is a qualified teacher with over twenty five years' experience in literary arts administration running the Poetry Book Society.

## **Matchstick Model**

Andrew Wright

For several years Andrew was Quality Assurance Manager at Republic Technologies (UK) Ltd. Having worked with a company that manufactured, and now sells, matches for over 30 years Andrew is very well qualified to judge the matchstick modelling categories. Andrew has judged the awards for a number of years and never ceases to be amazed at the time, effort and enthusiasm that is put into the entries.

## **Mixed Media**

Kim Coleman

Kim Coleman is a British artist who works in photography, light, expanded moving image, and installation. Her works have been staged at Tate Britain, the ICA, Jerwood Visual Arts, the Athens Biennale, Serpentine Screen, Minneapolis Film Festival, Block Universe Festival, Palais de Tokyo, Edinburgh Art Festival, Glasgow International, and Frieze Projects for Frieze London. Kim has taught at various art institutions including The University of Chicago, Glasgow School of Art, and the University of the Arts London.

## **Mural and Wall Hanging**

Elizabeth Ferguson

Liz is the Visual Arts Producer for Transport for London's arts programme, Art on the Underground. Originally trained in architecture in the US, she works with artists and architects to improve the built environment around us.

## **Music Composition**

Sam Swallow

Sam Swallow is a composer, orchestrator, producer and multi-instrumentalist. He was previously a member of UK number 1 band The Hoosiers, boasting 2 top ten hits (Worried About Ray and Goodbye Mr. A) and now primarily orchestrates and arranges pop music, working with a plethora of different artists such as The 1975, Lewis Capaldi, Katie Melua, Simple Minds and The Wombats, and orchestras such as The BBC Philharmonic, The BBC Concert Orchestra, The Royal Liverpool Philharmonic, Manchester Camerata and Aurora Orchestra.

## **Needlecraft**

Lorna Hamilton-Brown

Lorna Hamilton-Brown subverts people's associations and preconceptions of knitting to engage audiences with challenging issues to progress social justice. She recently devised and curated the historic WE OUT HERE art exhibition held at the Hastings Contemporary. It featured the works of six Black artists of Caribbean heritage who live and work in Hastings.

## **Non-Fiction, Blog, Essay, Article and Review**

Chelsea McDonagh

Chelsea McDonagh is an Irish Traveller, researcher and writer. She speaks on a wide range of issues affecting Gypsy and Traveller people including education, health, policy and politics. Chelsea is a co-founder of the Rom Belong widening participation programme.

## Painting

Charlotte Cullinan

Charlotte Cullinan is one half of artist duo Cullinan Richards, working collaboratively since 1998, focusing on painting through a variety of means. By producing paintings together they explore a synthesis between painting as image and painting as object and a wider contemporary conversation around expanded painting. Within their large-scale installations Cullinan Richards explore themes including history, family, and shared social and cultural experiences. Their resulting works are a mix of documentation with fiction and lived personal histories, questioning the position of the artwork and the structure of an exhibition.

Jenny Eclair

Jenny Eclair is a stand-up comic and writer, she has toured extensively for over forty years and written six novels, plus a book of short stories. She has numerous TV credits to her name, including 'Drawers Off', the ch 4 life drawing show which she presented and most recently, Taskmaster on Channel 4.

## Pastel

Bob and Roberta Smith

Bob and Roberta Smith is an artist. Bob and Roberta make art that tries to do stuff in society like contribute to discussions and raise funds for charity. In 2020 he created the hashtag 'helpartsavelives'. His best-known works are 'Make Art Not War' Tate Collection, The David Nott, Eddie Mair 'Interview', National Gallery of Wales collection. In 2022 his work 'The Thame mead Codex' was exhibited at Tate Modern and will remain on show until 29th October 2023. Bob and Roberta Smith is also the author of 'You are an artist' published by Thames and Hudson 2021 and this year a children's activity book 'Art Makes People Powerful' published by Quarto Kids. Bob is a patron of the NSEAD, The Big Draw and in 2023 Bob the Artist Patron of Art UK.

## Performance

TBC

## Photography

Misan Harriman

Misan is a photographer, entrepreneur, social activist, and the first black person to shoot the cover of British Vogue's September issue. In July 2021 he was appointed Chair of the Southbank Centre. His commissions include royal, private and high-profile portraiture as well as reportage documenting behind the scenes at major awards, music festivals and film sets. His work has appeared in Vanity Fair, Harpers Bazaar, People Magazine and The Telegraph

Robert Taylor

Robert Taylor has published and exhibited widely over the last 35 years with work held in the V&A and National Portrait Gallery. Robert's early work included many contributions to LGBTQ+ human rights and HIV prevention projects. His current practice divides between collections of portraits of women at Oxford University and projects centred around identity and desire.

## Poem

Tim Dooley

Tim Dooley is a tutor for The Poetry School. He was previously reviews and features editor of *Poetry London* and a visiting lecturer at the University of Westminster. His poetry collections include: *Keeping Time* (2008), and *Weemoed* (2017) and in 2022 a new collection, *Discoveries* and a long poem, *Notes on "The Waste Land"*.

Holly Hopkins

Holly Hopkins' first poetry collection *The English Summer (Penned in the Margins)* was shortlisted for the Forward Prize for Best First Collection and the Seamus Heaney Prize, it was awarded the Poetry Book Society's Special Commendation and was named one of *The Guardian's* 'Best Poetry Books of 2022'.

## Poetry Collection

Diane Pacitti

After winning the Bronte poetry prize, Diane was Poet in Residence in Bradford, producing her collection *Dark Angelic Mills*. An earlier publication, *Guantanamo*, a collaboration with her artist husband Antonio Pacitti, was praised by Harold Pinter. Other work includes an Italo-Scots novel and poems about social justice, migration and ecology.

## Portrait

Alayo Akinkugbe

Alayo Akinkugbe is a writer, curator and the founder of Instagram platform, @ABlackHistoryOfArt. She celebrates the practices of Black artists from across the globe and all periods of art history, hoping to challenge how art is taught and presented in the West, in favour of a more inclusive approach.

Wilfrid Wood

Wilfrid Wood is an artist living and working in Hackney. He depicts made up people, friends and strangers, mainly volunteers from Instagram. The most important thing is that he gets as much character into the portrait as possible.

## Printmaking

Susan Aldworth

Susan Aldworth is a visual artist who lives and works in London. She has a background in philosophy, and a strong interest in investigating the workings of the human mind. Aldworth has exhibited widely both nationally and internationally and her work is held in many public and private collections including the V&A, British Museum, Fitzwilliam Museum and Wellcome Collection. She is an associate lecturer at Central Saint Martin's, London and a regular presenter on BBC Radio. Website: [susanaldworth.com](http://susanaldworth.com)

Gill Saunders

Gill Saunders recently retired from her former role as Senior Curator of Prints at the Victoria & Albert Museum. She is now an Honorary Senior Research Fellow, curating an exhibition of Lucian Freud's etchings which will open next year, and also writing a book on screen-prints to be published in 2025.

## Radio Play

Felicity Finch

## Radio Production

Sefa Nkyi

Sefa Nkyi is an award-winning audio producer and renowned voice over artist. Sefa is a recurring voice for channels such as MTV, ITV, Nickelodeon, Channel 4 and BBC, as well as voicing campaigns for brands such as Nando's, Apple, Burger King and Estee Lauder. Coming from a radio background, Sefa previously worked at BBC 1Xtra as a Broadcast Assistant and then Producer before moving onto Repräsent radio where she was Assistant Manager, alongside DJing and presenting on community station, The Beat FM.



## Screenplay

Lea Sellers

Lea Sellers writes feature film scripts and plays. She is also a trainer in confident communication and media skills. As a former television producer, she worked on programmes such as *Newsnight*, *Question Time* and *Channel 4 News*.

## Sculpture

Erika Flowers

Erika Flowers is a freelance Artist with lived experience, working across a wide range of 2D and 3D media, and an educator delivering workshops within prisons and providing illustrative works for the Criminal Justice Sector and the community. During her sentence Erika drew a postcard each day to record her experiences. 'Postcards from Prison' a physical and emotional account of her journey through her sentence. Erika's work can be found at [www.recorded in art.com](http://www.recorded in art.com)

Nami Ralph

Nami is a Children's Book Illustrator and she also teaches workshops. Nami previously worked in the museum and arts sector for over ten years and has been involved in curatorial projects with the Bauhaus Foundation, British Council, National Trust and the National Gallery of Modern Art in Delhi. Nami previously worked for Koestler Arts as Exhibitions & Events Producer where she co-ordinated Koestler exhibitions at the Supreme Court, Tramway, mac Birmingham and Firstsite

## Singer - Songwriter - Original

Hak Baker

Inspired by his working-class community, Hak Baker's unconventional, rebellious career has seen the East End troubadour become one of the most respected and reverent British artists of his generation. Over the past few years Hak has become one of the most prominent black artists in the alternative music scene, with *Vice* stating "Baker subverts what a British folk singer can be".

## Song Writing

Benjamin Yacoub

## Spoken Word

Errol McGlashan

Errol McGlashan AKA Spoken Word Artist Uncle Errol, is renowned for his powerful performances and dedication to empowering others. With a lived experience of prison, he works with ex-offenders and promotes literacy and creativity. Errol's initiatives, like *Word On The Kerb*, provide platforms for expression. He is a keen actor and all round entertainer and his first one-man show, "Something to Take off the Edge," is currently in production and reflects his personal journey. Errol's artistry is a testament to the transformative power of creativity and inspires hope for positive change.

## Stage Play

TBC

## Textile Art

Onome Otite

Onome Otite is a London-based artist, who uses textiles to create three-dimensional figurative collages. Drawing from her Nigerian heritage, she is influenced by women who use traditional clothing as a means of empowerment and to celebrate their womanhood. Her work introduces new narratives of

West African culture and experience. As part of her practice, she also facilitates and produces art textile workshops to encourage collage, storytelling and community engagement.

### **Themed Category: A Day in the Life**

Katie Piper OBE

Katie Piper is a best-selling international author, inspirational speaker, TV presenter and charity campaigner. In addition to her charity and writing commitments; Katie has recently presented 'Katie Piper's Jailhouse Mums' on W Channel and is currently hosting her weekend breakfast show on ITV, whilst also being a regular panellist on Loose Women.

Chris Baker

Chris is a public speaker, Koestler Arts Award winner, and aspiring documentary filmmaker seeking to raise awareness on how exposure to adverse childhood experiences and trauma can lead to offending, and how therapy and fitness have helped transform his life.

Gary Mansfield

Gary Mansfield is an artist, curator and host of the Ministry of Arts podcast who has lived experience within the criminal justice system. Mansfield regularly speaks about and creates artwork that focuses on identity, empathy and social injustice. He is also a Trustee of Koestler Arts.

### **Watercolour and Gouache**

Carol Wates

Carol Wates studied Art at Guildford and Chelsea Colleges of Art. After graduation she worked as a Visualiser in a London Advertising Agency. Last year she had successful exhibition in Germany, and continues to work on various commissions. All her pictures are executed on the iPad.

Jeremy Deller

Jeremy Deller is a Turner Prize winning conceptual, installation, and video artist. Jeremy has represented Great Britain at the Venice Biennale. His work, which explores political themes through collaborative means, has been exhibited internationally at institutions including the Palais de Tokyo, the New Museum, and Hayward Gallery.

### **Woodcraft**

Geoff Nunn