

# Top Stories...

## AWARDS...

### "Canaletto — Guardi, the Two Masters of Venice" competes for Crystal Globes Arts and Culture 2013

The Crystal Globes — French Press Awards for Arts and Culture — will be held on 4 February 2013 at the Lido cabaret, Paris, and distribute awards in the field of arts and culture for the eighth year running. The board is composed of cultural journalists issued from various media.

This year, the nominees for the Best Exhibition Award include the Musée Jacquemart-André event "Canaletto — Guardi, the Two Masters of Venice". Indeed, this exhibition attracted 240,000 visitors. It competes along with "Adel Abdemessed" (Centre Pompidou), "Dali" (Centre Georges Pompidou), "Design in Africa. To Sit, Lay and Dream" (Musée Dapper) and "Edward Hopper" (Grand Palais).

The board will be chaired by Hervé Bourges, successor of Nicolas Demorand. The Crystal Globes reward the highlights of the year, in the field of music, cinema, fashion, theatre, show, literature and TV.

### Cube Prize to reward young digital creation

From 27 through 31<sup>st</sup> March 2013, the Cube Festival will honour the Cube Prize 2013 laureates at the Espace Saint-Sauveur, Issy-les-Moulineaux, Paris suburbs.

The Cube, established in 2001, is a digital creation centre, aiming at educating the public in the field of digital creative practice, supporting artistic production and experimentation and spreading digital arts of all kinds. The Cube is managed by ART3000, a pioneering association in the field of arts and technological innovations, founded in 1988. Art3000 gathers a great variety of members, enthralled by the impact of new technologies on artistic practices. It has acquired world-class importance.

The Cube Festival will be a unique opportunity to discover five works selected by the jury for the 2013 edition of the Cube Prize, among 150 nominees. The submitted works had to be issued from artists under 35, produced in the last two years and illustrating one of these fields: interactivity, generativity, networks, Internet, and mobility. The Prize Cube winner will be granted €10,000.

## ANNIVERSARY...

### \$550,000 funding in honour of Terra Foundation's 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary

The Terra Foundation for American Art has just celebrated its 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and subsequently decided to dedicate \$ 550,000 in support of four London exhibitions to take place in early 2013. The Foundation thereby established its ongoing involvement in the United Kingdom, which has led it to devote over \$3m to American art exhibitions, academic programmes and professorships throughout the UK.

The four exhibitions supported by the foundation are the following: "Through American Eyes: Frederic Church and the Landscape Oil Sketch" at the National Gallery (6 February to 28 April); "Lichtenstein: A Retrospective" at the Tate Modern (21 February-27 May); "George Catlin: American Indian Portraits" at the National Gallery (7 March to 23 June) and "George Bellows (1882-1925): Modern American Life" at the Royal Academy of Arts (16 March to 9 June).

In 2011, the Foundation fostered a partnership with the National Gallery through "An American Experiment: George Bellows and the Ashcan Painters", which featured artists shown for the first time in the UK, bringing them to international audiences. This partnership was deemed of significant importance by the National Gallery, since it only owns two American paintings. The initiative seemed to have been gracefully accepted by all audiences, accepting that the American painting tradition have "a rightful home in Trafalgar Square".

The Terra Foundation for American art was established in 1978 and aims at fostering the understanding and enjoyment of U.S. visual arts. It prides itself in holding a \$250m budget in addition to a collection of major American artworks, and devotes its resources to research, projects and exhibitions worldwide.

## ON LINE...

### Expansion meets Expertissim

An online art objects' selling site, Expertissim, has recently announced an optimistic statement of its 2012 achievement. The activity of the company has increased both in number of transactions and people's interest in the website.

The French online platform established a record, selling an oil on canvas for €62,498. Although an online art market is still developing and concerns only a minuscule part of all transactions in the art world, its expansion is a sign that it will one day be an important figure on the art scene. Expertissim turnover adds up to 5,000 sales in 2012, including 25% of international transactions, with the average value of €900.

The number of visitors increased by 120% reaching 2,150,000 guests and during the third trimester the site marked 10,000 visits daily. This traffic allowed Expertissim to reach 15,000,000 pages visited. The online sale platform is equally present in the social networks and after launching its English version in 2008, it has just put online the Chinese one.

## ART & POLITICS...

### When art and history become one

Hillary Clinton, Head of American diplomacy, highlighted this week the importance of art in diplomatic relations. "It is a universal language in our search for common ground, an expression of our shared humanity", says the State Secretary. President J.F. Kennedy understood the importance of art as a medium and institutionalised it within the State Department in 1963. Based on 20,000 players including artists, museums, collectors and galleries, this semi-public partnership manages shows of 4,000 artists in 200 American embassies and consulates all over the world.

A lot of artists have participated in these operations and they have been honoured this year with the first "Biennial U.S. Department of State Medal of Arts". Among them are Cai Guo-Qiang, Jeff Koons, Shahzia Sikander, Kiki Smith and Carrie Mae Weems.

### Aboriginal culture highlighted by redevelopment of Thunder Bay's waterfront

The influence of native design is currently being highlighted in Northwestern Ontario (Canada) through the revitalisation of Thunder Bay's waterfront, more specifically down on the North shore of Lake Superior. The waterfront now features a new, publicly accessible section which was arranged by the work of Ryan Gorrie, an Ojibway architecture graduate. Gorrie has crafted a "lyrical vessel that is open to the city and the waters beyond" with traditional bentwood, typically used by aboriginal craftsmen. The piece was named the Gathering Circle.

Such a piece of architecture, namely an abstract-shaped, open-air, circular pavilion located within Prince Arthur's Landing, is a physical and most tangible piece of evidence that Aboriginal culture matters. Moreover, the piece intends to replicate the aboriginal wish that all men and nature be linked by an "inclusive circle".

The whole area was rearranged in a way that traditional and modern aesthetics constantly intertwine, hoping to influence other neighbouring cities and entice them into adding traditional features into previously industrialised areas. A builder living in British Columbia was actually requested to craft the piece, since the art of crafting bentwood has almost completely disappeared.

The site's lead design principal, Calvin Brook, hails the whole project as "a small part of the decolonisation process" and an efficient way of gathering people around common values and fighting against the remaining racism to be found in Northwestern Ontario.