



Paris, December 18, 2023  
Press Release

**ALICE ANDERSON**  
**awarded of the**  
**SAM PRIZE FOR CONTEMPORARY ART 2023**  
**15<sup>th</sup> édition**

**The 15th SAM Prize for Contemporary Art is awarded to Alice Anderson.**

She was chosen among the seven artists nominated for the SAM Prize this year, following the deliberations of the 2023 scientific committee composed of Sandra Hegedüs, Gaël Charbau, Emmanuelle de l'Écôtals, Sébastien Gokalp, Jean-Hubert Martin, Colette Barbier, Dirk Snauwaert and Marine Van Schoonbeek. Alice Anderson was presented by Sandra Hegedüs.

**Thanks to the SAM Prize, the artist will travel to Brazil to carry out a new project entitled SOLIDARITY WITH NONHUMANS, TOGETHER IN THE ANTHROPOCENE ERA, to be exhibited in Paris in 2025.**

"Ailton Krenak, an indigenous leader from the state of Minas Gerais, descended from the Krenak ethnic group in Brazil, inspired me to create this project of collective performances with the public after reading his book *Ideas for delaying the end of the world* (Editions dehors). I recognized my practice in his thinking and my thinking in his struggles. Since then, I've longed to travel to Brazil to meet him among the indigenous people of his community, and thus answer the call made to his readers to *Defend a few ideas to delay the beginning of the end of the world...*" Alice Anderson explains.

The six other artists nominated for the **SAM Prize for Contemporary Art**, 15th edition, each with a project for a foreign country, were:

Juliette Minchin (Mexico)

Marie-Claire Messouma Manlanbien (Australia/Tasmania)

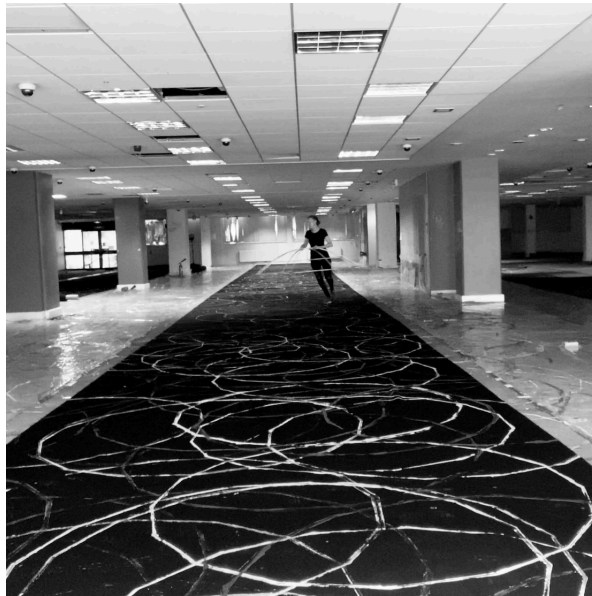
Sandra Muteteri Heremans (Russia)

Chloé Quenum (Nigeria/Benin)

Adrianna Wallis (Japan)

Maja Bajević (Israel/Sarajevo)

## ALICE ANDERSON



From left to right DANSES TECHNOLOGIQUES, 2023, Anderson painting with a drone, © Amy Mc Neywa, and DANSES TECHNOLOGIQUES, 2021, Anderson painting with a GPS element (s-band ground station dish)

Born in 1972, Alice Anderson is a Franco-British artist. For fifteen years, Anderson has been performing using the intelligence of the body, alone and collectively, by dancing “with” objects and spaces. In these intuitive and gestural “Technological Dances”, the performer reactivates the strong link between the human and the nonhuman. Throughout this process lies the creation of immense paintings and sculptures, that memorise the objects and places of our Anthropocene epoch.

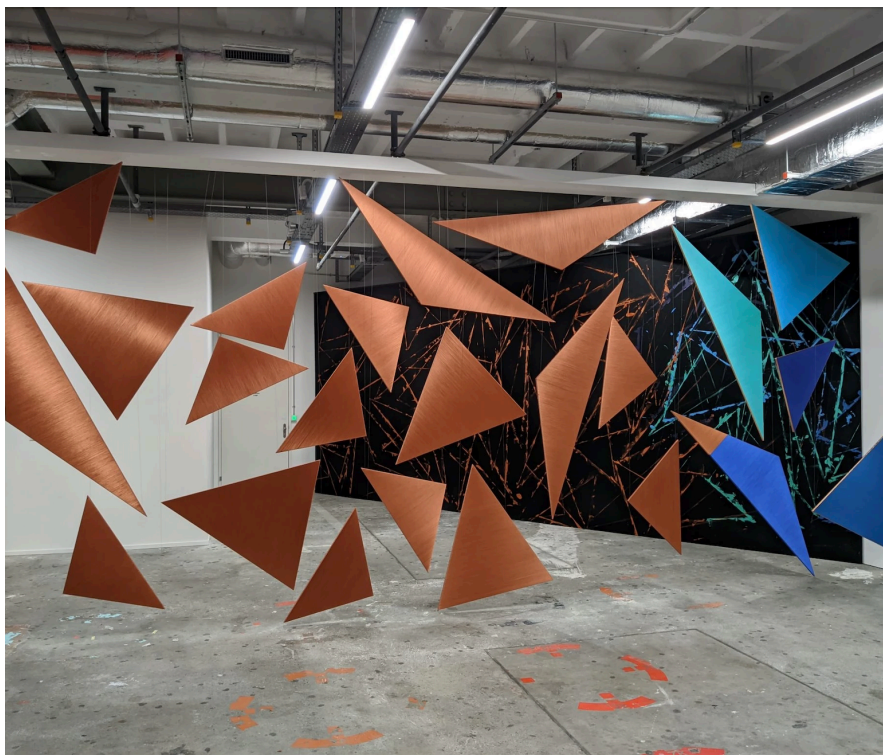
Anderson begins her performances by observing technological objects. She then spreads paint on those objects. Anderson does not paint with a brush but directly with an object coated in paint. These computers, drones, batteries, VR masks (etc) lead her into an intuitive dance of repetitive movements. Guided by hyper-ventilated breathing, the performer engages in a trance. Paint-coated objects hit the canvas on the ground and a poetic gesture is created. “Hitting” the ground as a call: A request to open towards an animist\* dimension of our environment and matter.

In Anderson’s practice, the technological objects memorised on the canvas with paint are then assembled and ‘crystallised’ with copper coloured wire (a material symbolising neuronal and technological connections of the internet debut) to become sculptures. Anderson speaks of crystallisation or memorisation to describe the gesture of encircling an object with wire. These machines, erected as “Spiritual Machines”, bear their name in reference to the book “The Age of the Spiritual Machines” published in 1999 by artificial intelligence pioneer, Ray Kurzweil.

Few past exhibitions include *Spiritual Urgency*, Stedelijk Museum, Schiedam, Netherlands (2023); *A Worlds of Networks*, Centre Pompidou Paris (2022); *Female Power Figures*, Musée of Modern Art Fontevraud (2021); *Les Nommés du Prix Marcel Duchamp*, Centre Pompidou Paris (2020); *Paintingscultures*, Atelier Calder Saché (2019); *Body itineraries*, La Patinoire Royale Brussels (2018); *Share permanent sculpture*, Palais des Italiens Paris (2017); *181 Kilometres*, Saatchi Gallery London (2016); *Data Space*, Espace Culturel Louis Vuitton Paris (2015); *Memory Movement Memory Objects*, Wellcome Collection (2014); *Albums*, Whitechapel Gallery London (2012).



Alice Anderson, DANSES TECHNOLOGIQUES / GPS, 2021, acrylic on canvas, raindrops, 4000 x 300 cm



Alice Anderson, ARCHITECTURE DATA, CALDER'S DOOR, 2022, responsible wire, dimensions vary according to space



# SAM PRIZE FOR CONTEMPORARY ART

Each year, SAM Art Projects awards a prize to a French or foreign artist living in France. The artist representing the French art scene must have a project that he or she wishes to carry out abroad, in a country outside Europe and North America. All modes of expression and disciplines in the visual and plastic arts are involved. The works produced for the Prix SAM enable artists to raise questions and present discoveries and research outside their everyday cultural perimeter.

The SAM Prize is endowed with 20,000 euros and is accompanied by an exhibition in Paris.

The selection criteria for the SAM Prize for Contemporary Art are:

- be a French artist or have lived in France for at least 2 years
- propose a project for a country outside Europe or North America
- be over 25 years of age

**Since its creation, the SAM Prize for Contemporary Art has enabled 14 artists to carry out their project in the country of their choice: Zineb Sedira in Algeria, Laurent Pernot in Brazil, Ivan Argote in Colombia, Angelika Markul in Chernobyl, Ukraine, Bouchra Khalili in Algeria, Loidgi Beltrame in Peru, Mel O'Callaghan in Borneo, Malaysia, Massinissa Selmani in Algeria and New Caledonia, Louis-Cyprien Rials in Uganda, Kevin Rouillard in Mexico, Laura Henno in the Comoros, Aïcha Snoussi in Benin, Tunis, Paris and Marseille, Dalila Dalléas-Bouzar in Algeria. Julian Charrière, the 2022 winner, is working on a project in Java, Indonesia, which will be exhibited at the Palais de Tokyo in 2024.**

## SAM Art Projects

Founded in 2009 by Sandra Hegedüs, SAM Art Projects is a non-profit organization that promotes artistic exchanges between North and South, East and West. SAM Art Projects provides financial and human support to contemporary artists based in France or in countries outside the major art markets. Support for production and the visibility of artists are at the heart of SAM Art Projects' commitment, whose action revolves around a prize awarded each year to a French artist. In 2018, Sandra Hegedüs received the 2018 Montblanc Arts and Culture Prize for France, rewarding her commitment on the occasion of SAM Art Projects' 10th anniversary. Sandra Hegedüs is vice president of the Friends of the Palais de Tokyo and president of the Villa Arson.

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