



Paris, December 7th 2022  
Press Release

## **JULIAN CHARRIÈRE** **awarded of the SAM Art Prize 2022**

**The 14th SAM Prize for Contemporary Art is awarded to Julian Charrière.** The artist was chosen on Wednesday 7 December following the deliberations of the 2022 Scientific Committee composed of Gaël Charbau, Guillaume Desanges, Emmanuelle de l'Ecotais, Sébastien Gokalp, Sandra Hegedüs, Mattieu Lelièvre, Jean-Hubert Martin and Jérôme Sans. Each of the 8 competing artists was proposed by one of the committee members. Julian Charrière was presented by Jérôme Sans.

Thanks to the SAM Prize, Julian Charriere will create **an installation inviting the visitor to enter an enchanting volcanic landscape drawn by a series of magmatic sculptures**, in which he will hear the primordial conversations of the Earth, thanks to an ambient sound installation. **For this new project *Stone Speaker* that will be presented at Palais de Tokyo in 2024, Julian Charrière will travel to Java, Indonesia**, to investigate the geothermal landscape of East Java, home to one of the most active volcanoes in the world.

Following his investigations of the relationship between mankind and nature, the artist Julian Charriere, winner of the SAM Prize for Contemporary Art 2022, **affirms with *Stone Speaker* his commitment to our ecosystems' preservation through the poetic force that characterizes his work.** Together with researchers and locals, he will collect various material to create an immersive space documenting the singular voices of volcanos. Connecting listening with emotional engagement, the project aims to explore what has yet to be discovered and learn from such mythical natural formations.

The *Stone Speaker* installation proposed for the SAM Prize questions the hierarchical relationship between our species and the natural world. This, in an age of debates about the rights of the Earth and the effervescence of materialism, opens new perspectives for understanding subjectivity beyond our species.

**The seven other artists competing for the SAM 2022 Prize, 14th edition, each for a project for a foreign country, were:**

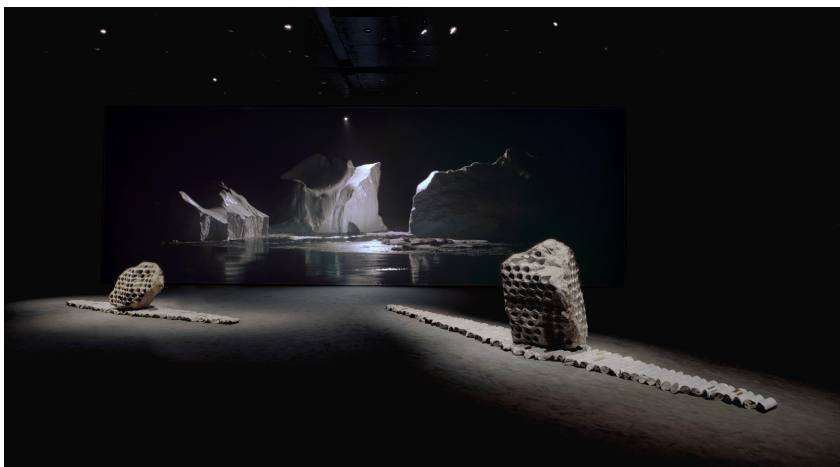
VICTOIRE INCHAUSPE (Japan)  
BROGNON ROLLIN (Ecuador)  
MARILOU PONCIN (Venezuela and Japan)  
ASSAF SHOSHAN (Mexico and South Africa)  
BRODBECK & DE BARBUAT (Ecuador and Peru)  
NEFELI PAPADIMOULI (French Polynesia)  
MARIE VOIGNIER (Cameroon)

## JULIAN CHARRIÈRE

Julian Charrière is a French-Swiss artist based in Berlin. A seminal voice in Contemporary Art today, marshalling performance, sculpture and photography, his projects often stem from remote fieldwork in liminal or discarded locations. By exploring places where acute geophysical identities have formed– from volcanos to icefields and radioactive sites–the public is invited to encounter alternative histories and gaze through speculative windows across deep geological time. A former student of Olafur Eliasson and participant in the Institute for Spatial Experiments, Charrière frequently collaborates with scientists, engineers, art historians and philosophers. Through artistic expeditions and immersive installations, he critically deconstructs humankind's ideas of nature from Romanticism to the Anthropocene. With the interventions of his ground-breaking practice both provoking and reflecting on the traditions of perceiving, representing and being-with the natural world, Charrière re-articulates planetary narratives for the 21st century.



Julian Charrière, *Controlled Burn*, 2022, copyright the artist



Julian Charrière, View from the installation *Not All Who Wander Are Lost* at SF MOMA, 2019, © Katherine Du Thiel

## THE SAM PRIZE

Created in 2009, the SAM Prize for Contemporary Art is awarded each year in December, after deliberation by the scientific committee, to a French artist working in the field of plastic and visual arts, and presenting a project for a foreign country (outside Europe and North America). **The prize is endowed with 20,000 euros and is accompanied by an exhibition at the Palais de Tokyo in the months following the trip.**

The artworks produced in the framework of the SAM Prize allow artists to raise issues and to present discoveries and research in less-known areas. Exhibiting them at the Palais de Tokyo confirms their notoriety amongst professionals from the art world and the public.

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

- to be a French artist or an artist residing in France for at least 2 years
- to propose a project destined for a country that is neither in Europe nor in North America
- be over 25 years old

Since its creation, the SAM Prize for Contemporary Art has allowed 13 artists to realize their project in the country of their choice: Zineb Sedira in Algeria, Laurent Pernot in Brazil, Ivan Argote in Colombia, Angelika Markul in Chernobyl in Ukraine, Bouchra Khalili in Algeria, Luidgi Beltrame in Peru, Mel O'Callaghan in Borneo in 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, and Dalila Dalléas-Bouzar, the 2021 winner in Algeria.

## 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.

# CONTACT

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