

## JURY RAPPORT BEST OF GRADUATES 2015

Once again, curator Radek Vadek and the team of Galerie Ron Mandos visited the various Dutch academies in search of art with high quality. Perhaps we can say that the 2015 result at most Dutch academies was less exciting than in previous years. The fact that some exhibitions were organized in office buildings did not always improve the quality. However, that has not prevented us from making another excellent selection for the Best of Graduates.

This year's prizes are awarded by Arjan van Helmond, artist and teacher at AKI ArtEZ. Before we proceed to the announcement of the RM Public's Choice Award and the RM Young Blood Award 2015, we would like to draw your attention to the Best of Graduates Photo Talent award. This prize was specially created for the Unseen Photo Fair, which takes place from the 18th to the 20th of September at the Westergasterrein in Amsterdam. The winner of the prize will receive a presentation at the fair in the exhibition stand of Galerie Ron Mandos.

The winner of the Best of Graduates Photo Talent 2015 knows how to capture urban space in an original and refreshing way. She analyzes the behavior of other people through the eye of an anonymous lens. At the same time, the photos recognize that their analysis contrasts with that of cold analytical eye that keeps an eye on everything in the name of our security. By which innocent flaneurs are reduced to objects of potential threat. The winner of the Best of Graduates Photo Talent 2015 is Esther Hovers.

During the exhibition, we ask visitors to vote for their favorite artist in the show. Each year, the artist with the most votes will receive the honorable Ron Mandos Public's Choice Award. This year, the winner of the RM Public's Choice Award is Esther Hovers.

## RON MANDOS YOUNG BLOOD AWARD 2015

The winner(s) of the Ron Mandos Young Blood Award 2015 this year is the artist duo: Wouter Paijmans and Juan De Porras-Isla Fernandez La Casta (Gerrit Rietveld Academy). They will be followed and coached with special attention by Galerie Ron Mandos for a year. Wouter Paijmans and Juan De Porras-Isla Fernandez La Casta, with a good understanding of modern art history, know how to process various contradictions in their work. Interestingly, their work is both flat and three-dimensional and sculptural as well as digital. Their work will be presented in Galerie Ron Mandos in the upcoming 2015-2016 season.

Finally, the gallery would like to highlight some of the artists who were among the last nominees of the Awards:

- Jonas Raps, previously won the Heden Start award with his promising talent. With verve and great gestures, he creates layered and organic paintings that create an impressive effect due to their size.

- Hilde Onis created an emotionally layered and above all surprising whole, made by a composition of individual works.

- Ivo van de Elzen - You are constantly being questioned about the striking work of Ivo van den Elzen. Are they images or objects? One thing is certain; no doubt they breathe the spirit of the present.

- Maud van den Beuken's work moves between performance and installation. With humor and a sense of precision she lets us see the world from a different angle.