



## **The Jameel Prize 2011**

### **Biographies of Patron and Judging Panel:**

#### **Patron of the Jameel Prize: Zaha Hadid, architect**

Zaha Hadid is widely regarded as one of the world's most innovative architects, consistently testing the boundaries of architecture, urbanism and design. She was awarded the Pritzker Prize in 2004, the prestigious 'Praemium Imperiale' from the Japan Art Association in 2009, and in 2010, the Stirling Prize, one of architecture's highest accolades, from the Royal Institute of British Architects. An aspect of Hadid's vision is her interest in the rigorous interface between architecture, landscape, and geology as she integrates natural topography and human-made systems that lead her to experiment with cutting-edge technologies. Such a process often results in unexpected and dynamic architectural forms. The MAXXI: National Museum of 21st Century Art in Rome and the Phaeno Science Center in Wolfsburg illustrate Hadid's quest for complex, dynamic and fluid space. Each of Hadid's seminal buildings, including the Rosenthal Center for Contemporary Art in Cincinnati, the BMW Central Building in Leipzig and the Nordpark Railway Stations in Innsbruck have also been hailed as architecture that transforms our vision of the future with new spatial concepts and bold, visionary forms.

#### **Chair of the Judges: Sir Mark Jones, Director of the V&A**

Sir Mark Jones was Director of the Victoria and Albert Museum for 10 years, starting in May 2001. This September he will become Master of St Cross College, Oxford, and role of Chair of the Judges passes to the V&A's new Director, Professor Martin Roth. Before joining the V&A, Sir Mark Jones was Director of the National Museums of Scotland (from 1992) and oversaw the opening of the award-winning new Museum of Scotland in 1998, the creation of the National War Museum of Scotland (Edinburgh Castle) and the Museum of Scottish Country Life at Kitchside in East Kilbride. Sir Mark Jones read Philosophy, Politics and Economics at Worcester College, Oxford and gained an MA at the Courtauld Institute of Art. Previous positions include Assistant Keeper of Coins and Medals, British Museum (1974-90) and Keeper of Coins and Medals, British Museum (1990-92). He is Honorary Professor at Edinburgh University, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh and has a Hon. D. Lit from Royal Holloway College (University of London) and an Honorary Doctorate of Arts from Abertay University, Dundee. He was Chairman of the National Museum Directors Conference (2006-09), and is a trustee of The National Trust, The Gilbert Trust for the Arts and The Pilgrim Trust, a director of Design Dundee Ltd and is a member of the Court and Council of the Royal College of Art. He is a consultant on the Art Museum Preparatory Committee at Tsinghua University in Beijing and a member of the International Advisory Board of the Russian Museum in St Petersburg. He was awarded a Knighthood in the 2010 New Year's Honours List.

## The Judging Panel

### **Navid Akhtar, Executive Director, Gazelle Media**

Navid Akhtar is an award winning documentary producer and the Executive Director and founder of Gazelle Media, an independent production company. He began his career as a documentary producer at the BBC, working on a broad range of arts and cultural programmes. In 2000 he organised the first BBC internal seminar on Muslim audiences and was appointed the Development Producer of the BBC's acclaimed *Islam UK* season (2001). He worked on *The Journey of a Lifetime* (2001), which followed UK Muslims to Mecca on the Hajj and produced programmes about the history of bookshops and coffee entitled *Inspired by Islam* (2001). He was a Senior Producer on Channel 4's *Hajj: Trip of a Lifetime* (2003). Akhtar has won a variety of awards as a producer and journalist - the Prix Europa for his radio programmes and the Al Bruni award for Media - Muslim News Awards for Excellence. In 2005, he was awarded the Sanford St Martins Award by the Church of England for his coverage of the Hajj in Mecca for the BBC World Service. Recent credits at Gazelle Media include *The Black Cube* (2009) for BBC Radio 3, which examines the relationship between abstract art and the metaphysics of The Ka'aba, the holiest shrine of Islam in Mecca; and a 6-part series *The Best of British Islam* (2010). Aside from his broadcast work, Akhtar has advised the CRE (Campaign for Racial Equality) and the British Council on Muslim issues. He has lectured on both media and Muslim issues in Berlin, Warsaw, and Copenhagen, Istanbul and Islamabad. He is also a Trustee of FAIR (Forum Against Islamophobia and Racism) a member of The Christian Muslim Forum, a board member of CCE, Creativity, Culture and Education and a Fellow of The Royal Society of Arts (FRSA).

### **Afroz Amighi, artist and winner of the Jameel Prize 2009**

Afroz Amighi lives and works in New York City. She was the winner of the first Jameel Prize in 2009 for her work *1001 Pages* (2008). Amighi has shown her work extensively in the United States including a solo exhibition *Cages* at Nicelle Beauchene Gallery (2010) and participating in the group exhibition *Light of the Sufis: The Mystical Arts of Islam* at the Museum of Fine Arts Houston (2010). Amighi held her first solo show in the UAE, *Angels in Combat*, at Gallery Isabelle van den Eynde in Dubai (2010). In 2006, Amighi was selected for EMERGE 7, a program for emerging artists sponsored by the Aljira Center for Contemporary Art, Newark, New Jersey. Amighi received her BA from Columbia University in 1997 and her MFA from New York University in 2007. She is represented by Nicelle Beauchene Gallery in New York and by Isabelle Van Den Eynd Gallery in Dubai. Her work is in the permanent collections of V&A, London, the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston, Texas and the Devi Institute in New Delhi, India.

**Wassan Al-Khudhairi, Director, Mathaf: Arab Museum of Modern Art, Qatar**

Wassan Al-Khudhairi joined Mathaf: Arab Museum of Modern Art, Qatar in 2007. She is currently the Director, responsible for developing the newly established institution and managing the development of the new building. She also oversees policy development, acquisitions and collections registration. As a curator she specialises in modern and contemporary art from the Arab world, with a particular emphasis on Iraq. Al-Khudhairi is of Iraqi origin and has lived in Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, the UK and the US, where she worked at the High Museum of Art in Atlanta and the Brooklyn Museum of Art in New York. Al-Khudhairi received her BA in Art History from Georgia State University and MA with distinction in Islamic Art and Architecture from the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) in London.

**Dina Bakhom, Conservation Programme Manager, The Aga Khan Trust for Culture, Egypt**

Dina Bakhom has been the Conservation Programme Manager at The Aga Khan Trust for Culture (AKTC) in Egypt since 2004. At AKTC, she is currently managing and coordinating conservation and restoration projects of medieval Islamic architecture in al-Darb al-Ahmar district, one of Cairo's most important and richest cultural heritage sites. Before joining AKTC she worked on several conservation projects in Cairo and in the Pharaonic Theban Necropolis in Luxor alongside prominent institutions in the field, such as the Centro Italo Egiziano per il Restauro e l'Archeologia, the American Research Center in Egypt, the Theban Mapping Project and the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York. Bakhom holds an MA in Islamic Art and Architecture and a BSc in Construction Engineering and Management, both from the American University in Cairo, where she is currently teaching courses in Islamic Architecture and the Conservation of the Built Heritage of Historic Cairo. Bakhom's passion for construction engineering, architecture, art, cultural heritage and development led her to work in the field of heritage conservation. She believes that the process of revitalising crafts, training young people and raising awareness among the local community is as important as the projects themselves.

## **The Curators of the Jameel Prize 2011**

### **Tim Stanley, Asian Department, V&A**

Tim Stanley is senior curator for the V&A's Middle Eastern collection. In this role, he was responsible for developing the Jameel Prize and for curating the exhibition that accompanied the first Prize in 2009. This exhibition, which included work by the nine finalists, was seen at the V&A in July - September 2009 and then toured to venues in Riyadh, Damascus, Beiteddine in Lebanon, Sharjah in the UAE, Istanbul and Casablanca from January 2010 to February 2011. For the Jameel Prize 2011, Tim has been joined by co-curator Salma Tuqan. Tim has worked at the V&A since 2002. He was responsible for the travelling exhibition *Palace and Mosque: Islamic Art from the V&A* (2004 - 6) and was principal author of the accompanying book. He took the curatorial lead for the Museum's new Jameel Gallery of Islamic Art and co-authored *The Making of the Jameel Gallery at the Victoria and Albert Museum* (2006). He was subsequently the lead curator from the Asian Department for the redevelopment of the V&A's new Ceramics Galleries, which opened in two phases in 2009 and 2010 and now house the world's most important collection of ceramics. He also curated the V&A touring exhibition *World Ceramics: Masterpieces from the V&A* at its venues in Damascus and Istanbul (2008 - 9). This was the first major V&A exhibition to travel to the region, and, in the case of Syria, the first exhibition of this standing to be seen in the country. Tim was previously deputy curator of the Khalili Collection in London, and he has published widely on Islamic manuscripts and decorative arts and on Ottoman culture.

### **Salma Tuqan, Asian Department, V&A**

Salma took up the post of Curator, Middle East, at the V&A in January 2011, with responsibility for contemporary art and design. She has also joined Tim Stanley in curating the Jameel Prize 2011. Salma Tuqan graduated from Cambridge University with a BA in History of Art. She worked at Art Dubai since its inauguration in 2007 as Head of Artists' Projects as well as Artistic Director of Contemporabilia. She curated exhibitions at Art Dubai including *Desperately Seeking Paradise* (2008) in collaboration with Salima Hashmi. She has contributed to many other projects as an independent curator and facilitator, including *Palestine c/o Venice* at the 53rd Venice Biennale (2009) and *Future Movements* at the Liverpool Biennial (2010). She is an active board member of ArtSchool Palestine, London and chair of the Young Committee for the Barakat Trust for Islamic Art, London.