



Sculptor and painter Helen Marten wins 2016 Turner Prize

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Part of Helen Marten's winning entry



The 2016 Turner Prize has been won by sculptor and painter Helen Marten.

She was presented with the award and £25,000 for work which was described by the judges as inviting the viewer to become "archaeologists of our own times."

The 31-year-old from Macclesfield won the prize for projects including "Lunar Nibs" at the 56th Venice Biennale and the solo exhibition "Eucalyptus Let Us In" at the Greene Naftali gallery in New York.



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Helen Marten accepting her award at Tate Britain

The judges said they admired her work's "poetic and enigmatic qualities which reflect the complexities and challenges of being in the world today."

And they said they believed she was making an "exceptional contribution to the continuing development of contemporary visual art."

Helen Marten, who is now based in London, divided her work into three sections, and used handmade and found objects from daily life including coins, cotton buds, shoe soles and eggs - as well as more unusual materials such as snakeskin - to create a collage.



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Helen Marten was the youngest of the four nominees

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Marten won the first-ever Hepworth Prize for sculpture last month, and said she would share the £30,000 award with the other four nominees because she did not agree with "the hierarchical position" of art prizes today.

She was the youngest of the four Turner nominees, and said she was not expecting to win.

The other shortlisted artists - Michael Dean, Anthea Hamilton and Josephine Pryde - each receive £5,000, and their work will be exhibited at Tate Britain until 2 January 2017.

Hamilton's series of installations included a giant golden pair of buttocks, while one of Dean's exhibits was made up of £20,435.99 in pennies.

One of Pryde's exhibits featured a train which moved on a track when it was displayed in San Francisco, but is stationary at the Tate.

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