**KABK Thesis Awards BA and MA 2020**

**Report of the jury**

Presented by the Lectorate Art, Theory & Practice of Prof. dr. Janneke Wesseling

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**KABK Thesis Awards jury 2020**

Joost Grootens, ACPA staff member, Leiden University (jury chair)

Astrid Vorstermans, founder Valiz Publishers, Amsterdam (external jury member)

Marina Otero, director of research, Het Nieuwe Instituut, Rotterdam (external jury member)

**BA Thesis Award Winner**

Name : Ashleigh Wilson

Department : Bachelor Photography

Title work : Of Song and Suffering.

The Jury finds the thesis very impressive, the writing is compelling and the thoughts developed are intriguing; the thesis is nuanced and grounded. The topic of the thesis is important and urgent. It addresses the post-conflict of Northern Ireland. The Jury admires how the author is able to link the personal history to the theoretical concepts, struggling with the meaning of ‘representation’. It is partly a first person record of a family history, partly analysis of the history of a country, partly a reflection on trauma, photography and violence, partly a collection of text fragments from popular culture. All of these seem to make the case that silence, burying the truth is not an option but instead speaking, singing, shouting, making images are the only way to come to grips with the trauma

**BA Thesis Award honourable mention**

Department : Bachelor Graphic Design

Name : Nicolai Schmelling

Title work: Hot Monster Compost

The jury found this thesis intelligent, funny and unique. The thesis touches upon subjects like subculture; gender; fantasy; porn. The thesis is also excellently written and has a very clear structure and language. The author achieves three things: he guides us into the world of erotic fan-art of animal-human hybrids, providing analysis and an insightful glossary. Through interviews with three of these fan-artists he reveals their motives. And thirdly, by using insights from a variety of sources manages to open an original interpretation. The only missed opportunity is the visual format of the thesis, especially for a Graphic Design student.

**MA Thesis Award Winner**

Name : Adele Dipasquale

Department : Master Artistic Research

Title work: All The Stories We Might Tell

The Jury finds the thesis wonderfully written it’s complex, layered, knowing, reflective. Using carefully chosen words to question language. They appreciate the high ambition of this thesis. It is a true master thesis in that it explores the own position in relation to the subject, the field and the world. The author explores questions that are relevant today. The author is trying to unpack terms and go beyond the general definitions, pushing definitions and contradictions. The Jurys was especially intrigued by ‘feminism’ in relation to ‘nature’.