

ZAHAR BONDAR WINS HEDEN START AWARD 2019

During the opening of KABK's Graduation Festival, the Heden Start Award 2019 was awarded to Zahar Bondar. The prize is aimed at coaching and guiding talented alumni of the KABK, and includes a solo exhibition at Heden and supervision for a year, as well as a production budget for creating new work.

It is with great enthusiasm and conviction that the jury has chosen Zahar Bondar as the winner of the Heden Start Award 2019.

From the jury report:

Zahar Bondar arouses curiosity with his personal and mysterious sculptures. It is impossible to ignore the acrobatic, dynamic figures; they are already looming in the doorway and demand their place in the room. Seemingly effortless Bondar transforms the space into an intriguing total installation. The placement of the sculptures in the room contributes to the very individual aesthetic that Bondar is able to create, and which refers to his background in the circus. Behind an alcove one can see a space that resembles a backstage setting or dressing room, and in the brightly coloured theatre lamps you find an inverted, almost alluring figure. This theatrical setting stimulates the senses, but also creates friction, as if the figures are doomed to an existence in the spotlights.

Bondar turns coarse, hard, classical materials such as metal, concrete, wood, plaster and bronze, into compositions that are light and graceful. The soft, supple, shimmering fabrics that fall loosely around the rough bodies provide an exciting contrast and invite the viewer to a closer inspection. The search for balance can be felt in Bondar's work, the former tightrope walker balances between extremes in his choice of materials, compositions and spatial interventions.

Heden is looking forward to the upcoming collaboration with Zahar Bondar and the presentation of his solo exhibition.

Former recipients of the award are:

kunrad, 2018

Lisa van Casand, 2017

Suzie van Staaveren, 2016

Jonas Raps, 2015