

Press

Release

Title	Nam June Paik Art Center announces award of the 8th Nam June Paik Prize 2024 to Joan Jonas
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Nam June Paik Art Center announces award of the 8th Nam June Paik Prize 2024 to Joan Jonas



Photo by Moira Ricci

Artist **Joan Jonas** (b. 1936, New York, NY)

■ The 8th Nam June Paik Prize 2024

- Recipient: Joan Jonas (b. 1936, New York, NY)
- Prize: KRW 50,000,000 and a trophy
- Hosted by Nam June Paik Art Center, Gyeonggi Cultural Foundation
- Funded by Gyeonggi Provincial Government

■ Prize Ceremony

- Date and time: November 28, 2024, 11 am
- Location: Nam June Paik Art Center 1F
- Accompanied by screening, commemorative pre-recorded lecture

*Please refer to the official website of the Nam June Paik Art Center and social media for the detailed schedule before visiting.

Nam June Paik Art Center announces that the 8th Nam June Paik Prize 2024 will be awarded to Joan Jonas. Jonas is a world-renowned artist who has had a significant influence on the development and diversity of contemporary art from the late 1960s to the present in a variety of media, including video, performance, sculpture, and installation. Her early works, which combined then-new technologies such as portable video cameras and television monitors with performance, questioned how people see, think, and act in the video age and raised questions that remain relevant. More recently, her work has challenged the dichotomies of civilization and nature and human and non-human, providing opportunities for critical reflection on anthropocentrism, and she continues to explore and deepen her artistic practice. Jonas was the representative artist for the United States Pavilion at the 56th Venice Biennale in 2015 and had a solo retrospective at the Museum of Modern Art in New York in early 2024.

Funded by the Gyeonggi-do Provincial Government and hosted by the Nam June Paik Art Center, the Nam June Paik Prize was launched in 2009 and awarded seven times as the "Nam June Paik Art Center Prize" until 2021. Over the past two years, the prize has been reorganized and the criteria used to select artists who have promoted mutual understanding and contributed to world peace through their art practice have been revised, augmenting the established criteria of creativity, experimentation, and innovation. In addition, the significance of holding a solo exhibition at the Nam June Paik Art Center, Korea, and the potential to spread values have served as key criteria. Jonas's award is thus an encouraging outcome of the reorganization of the prize and its renaming as the Nam June Paik Prize.

In 2024, the Nam June Paik Art Center appointed experts from around the world to administer the Nam June Paik Prize and focused on raising its global profile. The four-

member Executive Committee assembled the ten-members of the International Nominating Committee who nominated one artist or team each, and the five-member Jury reviewed the 10 nominees to select the final winner. The jury consisted of Namhee Park, Director of the Nam June Paik Art Center, as an ex-officio member and world-renowned art experts such as Frances Morris, a distinguished professor at Ewha Womans University and former director of Tate Modern, London, Sungwon Kim, the deputy director of the Leeum Museum of Art in Seoul, Rein Wolfs, director of the Stedelijk Museum in Amsterdam, and Mami Kataoka, the director of the Mori Art Museum in Tokyo.

Frances Morris, chair of the jury, observed that "Jonas not only played a key role in shaping early video and performance art but continues to explore urgent new terrain, most recently creating immersive installations that explore themes of ecology, landscape and kinship between humans and non-human species at a time of climate breakdown." Park Namhee, director of Nam June Paik Art Center attributed to Jonas's work "the power of art to promote understanding of difference and expand thought" and stated "We hope that the prize will encourage the rich interpretation and transmission of Joan Jonas's art in the current moment." As a pioneer in video and performance art, Jonas is now often referred to as an "artist's artist," and her receipt of the award will not only provide an important impetus for young artists to continue their practice but also help introduce her work to audiences that have been difficult to reach in Korea.

Responded to the news about the award, Jonas said "I am honored to receive this prize, especially to remember Nam June, a great artist. It will be a pleasure to work with the Nam June Paik Art Center on the show in 2025." The award ceremony will take place on Thursday, November 28, at 11 am at the Nam June Paik Art Center. It will be accompanied by a screening of Jonas's early video work and a commemorative lecture, and it is free and open to the public. Jonas will receive a prize of KRW 50,000,000 and a trophy. In November 2025, the Nam June Paik Art Center will host Jonas's first solo museum exhibition in Korea.

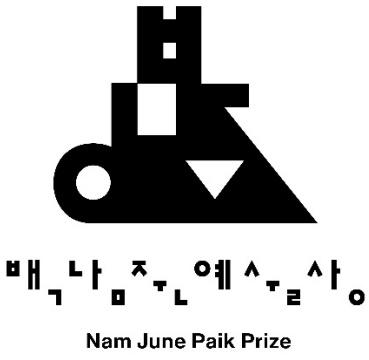
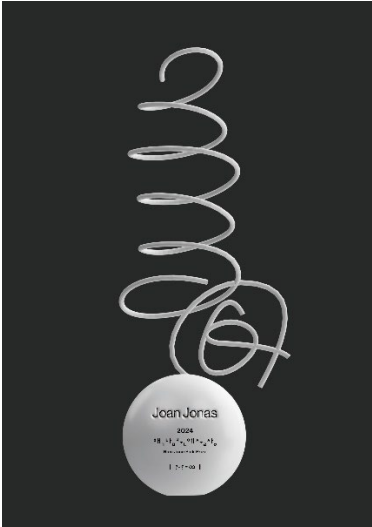
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■ About the Nam June Paik Prize

The Nam June Paik Prize, which is funded by the Gyeonggi Provincial Government and hosted by Nam June Paik Art Center, was formed to pay tribute to and promote the work of artists whose work resonates with the experimental and creative spirit of Nam June Paik, who transcended the boundaries of visual art. The aim of the prize is to demonstrate the contemporary significance of Paik's art, which combines images and sculpturer with music and technology and explores new ways of communication. In 2009, the prize was awarded to Lee Seung-taeck, Ahn Eun-me, Ceal Foyer, and Robert Adrian X, and the prize in 2010 was awarded to philosopher and sociologist Bruno Latour. Other recipients include Doug Aitken in 2012, Haroon Mirza in 2014, Blast Theory in 2016, Trevor Paglen in 2018, and CAMP in 2020. Since its launch in 2009, the prize has been awarded seven times under the name of "Nam June Paik Art Center Prize"; in 2024, after reorganization, it was renamed the Nam June Paik Prize.

■ About the graphic design and trophy for the prize

The new graphic design and trophy for the Nam June Paik Prize 2024 were designed by Ahn Sang-soo to pay homage to Nam June Paik and the recipient of the award. Ahn, a designer and typographer who creates his own language, dedicates the prize trophy, which was inspired by Paik's signature and drawings. The trophy's spiral curves and sphere, unlike typical trophies, reveal Paik's free-spirited identity and distinctive wit in an evocative sculptural form. Resembling an antenna, this trophy represents Paik's wish to meet across time and space.

	
<p>The Prize Identity Design</p>	<p>Trophy of Nam June Paik Prize 2024</p>

■ Biography of Joan Jonas

- Born in New York in 1936, Lives and works in New York



Photo by Toby Coulson

Joan Jonas (b. 1936, New York, NY) is a world-renowned artist whose work encompasses a wide range of media including video, performance, installation, sound, text, and sculpture. Jonas' experiments and productions in the late 1960s and early 1970s continue to be crucial to the development of many contemporary art genres, from performance and video to conceptual art and theatre. Since 1968, her practice has explored ways of seeing, the rhythms of rituals, and the authority of objects and gestures.

Jonas has exhibited, screened and performed her work at museums, galleries and large-scale group exhibitions throughout the world, such as: Documenta 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, and 13; the 28th Sao Paulo Biennale; the 5th Kochi-Muziris Biennale; and the 13th Shanghai Biennale. She has recently presented solo exhibitions at the Drawing Center, New York; United States Pavilion for the 56th Edition of the Venice Biennale; Tate Modern, London; Museu Serralves, Porto; Pinacoteca de São Paulo; Museo Thyssen-Bornemisza, Madrid; Dia Beacon; and the Haus der Kunst, Munich. Jonas has recently been the subject of a retrospective solo show at The Museum of Modern Art in New York. In 2018, she was awarded the prestigious Kyoto Prize, presented to those individuals who have contributed significantly to the scientific, cultural and spiritual betterment of mankind.

■ Representational works of Joan Jonas



Vertical Roll

1972, video, black & white with sound 19:38 min

In *Vertical Roll*, "I reveal the mechanics of illusion," notes Jonas. The work centers on the artist's manipulation of a glitch that occurs on television monitors when the receiving and transmitting frequencies are out of sync, creating a rolling horizontal black bar on the screen. The work was made with two cameras. One recorded Jonas's performance in the persona of Organic Honey and passed its image via live feed to a television monitor with the vertical roll effect. The second camera recorded this monitor's screen to produce the final video. Jonas separately recorded herself hitting a block of wood to make sound, which she then added to the video.



Volcano Saga

1985/1989/1994/2011, Video 28:30 min

Searching for new narrative methods, Jonas first developed *Volcano Saga* in 1985 after visiting Iceland with video artist Steina Vasulka. The performance is an interpretation of the Laxdaela Saga, a thirteenth-century Icelandic folktale about a woman and her four dreams. In 1989 Jonas adapted the story into a video featuring actors Tilda Swinton and Ron Vawter. In the video Swinton and Vawter appear superimposed over images of the Icelandic landscape—which itself becomes a kind of character. Subsequently developed into an installation, *Volcano Saga* was in Jonas's words, "the beginning of my synthesizing the development of the female character, the story as a mirror, and the volcanic landscapes as representation of narrative."



Moving off the Land II

2019, High-definition video (color, sound), 58:00 min, Installation dimensions variable

In *Moving Off the Land II*, Jonas pays tribute to the oceans and their creatures, biodiversity, and delicate ecology. Her new works dive deep into the ocean water, swim with the fish inhabiting it, and weave in literature and poetry by writers who have homed in on the liquid masses that cover two thirds of the planet. Following the methodology that has gained her lauded reputation, Jonas combines poetry and prose by writers like Emily Dickinson and Herman Melville with texts by Rachel Carson and Sy Montgomery, and with moving images filmed in aquariums and in Jamaica, where algae bloom and overfishing pose urgent threats to the environment.

■ Nam June Paik Prize 2024

8th Nam June Paik Prize 2024

Recipient: Joan Jonas

-Executive Committee

Park Namhee (Director, Nam June Paik Art Center) *ex-officio

Kim Seong Eun (Managing director, Buk-Seoul Museum of Art in northern Seoul)

Jade Keunhye Lim (General Director, ARKO Art Center)

Choi Dooeun (Art Director of Artlab at Hyundai Motor Company)

-Nomination Committee

Curatorial department of Nam June Paik Art Center *ex-officio

Ana Janevski (Curator, Department of Media and Performance, MoMA)

Solange Farkas (Director, Videobrasil)

Kay Watson (Head of Arts Technologies, Serpentine)

Mirjam Varadinis (Curator, Kunsthaus Zürich)

Christine Van Assche (Art historian)

Raq Media Collective (artists)

Yuko Hasegawa (Director, 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art)

Jang Un Kim (Director, Art Sonje Center)

Bae Myungji (Curator, National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Korea)

-Jury

Frances Morris (Distinguished Professor at Ewha Womans University, Former Tate Modern director) *chairperson

Park Namhee (Director, Nam June Paik Art Center) *ex-officio

Mami Kataoka (Director, Mori Art Museum)

Sungwon Kim (Deputy Director, Leeum museum of Art)

Rein Wolfs (Director, Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam)

Chronology of the Prize (2009-)

1st Nam June Paik Art Center Prize 2009

Winners: Lee Seung-taeck, Ahn Eun-me, Ceal Foyer and Robert Adrian X

Jury

-For International Artists

Hank Bull (Director, Center A, Vancouver)

Jeong Do-ryeon (Assistant Curator, Museum of Modern Art, New York)

Udo Kittelmann (Director, Old National Gallery, Berlin)

Tetsuo Kogawa (Artist, Professor, Ryutsu Keizai University)

Barbara Vanderlinden (Independent Curator)

-For Korean Artists

Choi Jeong Hwa (Artist, Director, Heart Visual Development Institute)

Kim Mi-kyung (Professor, College of Fine Arts, Kangnam University)

Lim Geun-jun (Art & Design Critic)

Hong Seong-min (Artist, Professor, College of Plastic Arts, Kaywon University of Art & Design)

Lee Young-cheol (Director, Nam June Paik Art Center)

2nd Nam June Paik Art Center Prize 2010

Winner: Bruno Latour (Professor, Sciences Po)

-Jury

Xavier Douroux (Director, Le Consortium)

Anne-Marie Duguet (Professor, Pantheon-Sorbonne University)

Wulf Herzogenrath (Director, Kunsthalle Bremen)

Seong Wan-kyung (Professor, Inha University, Former Director, Gwangju Biennale)

3rd Nam June Paik Art Center Prize 2012

Winner: Doug Aitken

-Nomination Committee

Stephanie Rosenthal (Chief Curator, Hayward Gallery)

Tobias Berger (Curator, M+)
Lee Suk-kyung (Curator, Tate Liverpool)
Beck Jee-sook (Director, Atelier Hermès)
Kim Sung-hee (Director, FestivalBo:m)

-Jury

Kang Tae-hee (Professor, Korea National University of Arts)
Hong Ra-young (Deputy Director, Leeum)
Bart De Baere (Director, Museum of Contemporary Art, Antwerp)

4th Nam June Paik Art Center Prize 2014

Winner: Haroon Mirza

-Nomination Committee

Kazunao Abe (Artistic Director, Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media)
David Joselit (Professor, Art History, Graduate Center of the City University of New York)
Kim Jang-eon (Chief Curator, National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art Korea)
Seo Hyun-seok (Artist, Professor, Graduate School of Communication & Arts, Yonsei University)
Ahn Kyunghwa (Chief Curator, Nam June Paik Art Center)

-Jury

Mike Stubbs (Director, FACT Liverpool)
Nobuo Nakamura (Director, CCA Kitakyushu)
Kim Sun-jung (Deputy Director, Art Sonje Center)
Ahn Gyu-cheol (Artist, Professor, Korea National University of Arts)
Park Manu (Director, Nam June Paik Art Center)

5th Nam June Paik Art Center Prize 2016

Winner: Blast Theory

-Nomination Committee

Fumihiko Sumitomo (Director, Arts Maebashi)
Catherine Wood (Senior Curator, Performances, Tate Modern)
Rudolf Frieling (Curator, Media Art, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art)

Lee Young-jun (Professor, Intermedia Art, Kaywon University of Art & Design)
Ahn Kyunghwa (Chief Curator, Nam June Paik Art Center)

-Jury

Suh Jinsuk (Director, Nam June Paik Art Center)
Bartomeu Marí Ribas (Director, National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art Korea)
Jeffrey Shaw (Dean of the School of Creative Medi, City University of Hong Kong)
Nicolas de Oliveira (Director of Research and Curatorial Projects, Montabonel & Partners)
Roh So-young (Director, Art Center Nabi)

6th Nam June Paik Art Center Prize 2018

Winner: Trevor Paglen

-Nomination Committee

Kim Sungwon (Artistic Director, ACC Creation)
Kim Haeju (Deputy Director, Art Sonje Center)
Tobias Berger (Artistic Director, Tai Kwun)
Alexie-Glass Kantor (Director, Art Space Sydney)
Mark B. N. Hansen (Professor, Literary and Cultural Studies, Duke University)
Philipp Ziegler (Chief Curator, ZKM Center for Art and Media)
Omar Kholief (Director, Collections and Senior Curator, the Sharjah Art Foundation)
Curatorial Team, Nam June Paik Art Center

-Jury

Kim Hong-hee (Art Historian, Former Director, Seoul Museum of Art)
Suh Jinsuk (Director, Nam June Paik Art Center)
Jonathan Watkins (Director, IKON Gallery)
Mami Kataoka (Chief Curator, Mori Art Museum)
Inke Arns (Director, Hartware MedienKunstVerein, Dortmund)

7th Nam June Paik Art Center Prize 2020

Winner: CAMP

-Nomination Committee

Bae Myungji (Curator, Performance and Video, MMCA Korea)

Natalie Bell (Curator, MIT List Visual Art Center, Cambridge MA)

Zoe Butt (Artistic Director, The Factory Contemporary Arts Center, Ho Chi Minh City)

Cho Seon Ryeong (Professor, Art Culture and Image, Pusan National University)

Stuart Comer (Chief Curator, Media and Performance, MoMA New York)

Michel Van Dartel (Director, V2 Institute for the Unstable Media, Rotterdam)

Patrick D. Flores (Curator, Jorge B. Vargas Museum, and Professor, Art Studies, The University of the Philippines, Manila)

Anselm Franke (Head of Visual Arts and Film, Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin)

Curatorial Team, Nam June Paik Art Center

-Jury

Beck Jee-sook (Director, Seoul Museum of Art)

Daniel Birnbaum (Director, Acute Art)

Dieter Daniels (Professor, Art History and Media Theory, Hochschule für Grafik und Buchkunst Leipzig)

Kim Seong Eun (Director, Nam June Paik Art Center)

Eugene Tan (Director, National Gallery Singapore and Singapore Art Museum)