The Guild of Medallic Art in Finland – Suomen Mitalitaiteen Kilta

ANNUAL ART MEDAL COMPETITION 2027

Competition program

The Guild of Medallic Art in Finland (The Guild) was founded in 1965, and in its 62nd year, it again organizes the 2027 annual medal design competition for Finnish artists and visual arts students living permanently in Finland. The purpose of this competition is to find the Guild's annual medal to be produced next year.

The topic of the competition is open, but it has an optional theme of Baltoscandia. The concept was introduced in 1928 by Mr Sten de Geer, the Swedish geographer, when he was identifying the common geographical and cultural features of the region formed by the Baltic and Scandinavian countries. Mr Kazys Pakštas, the Lithuanian geographer, expanded later the concept into a geopolitical vision, seeing co-operation between small countries as a way to strengthen their position among the great powers of Europe. This concept, nearly a century old, thus offers a current and yet open starting point for examining connections in the Baltic Sea region. The interpretation of the theme is free: the submissions can deal with regional issues from the perspective of culture, history, geopolitics, material heritage or personal connections. The theme choice is linked to the Baltic Medal Triennial, which has been a collaborative forum for medallic art in the Baltic Sea region since 1986. The project includes an international touring exhibition, which is planned to be organized in Finland in 2029.

The competition follows the rules of The Artists' Association of Finland and the following regulations:

1 The competition will be carried out as a general competition. In general, the medal is produced in bronze, but other materials are also possible, provided that the medal can be technically reproduced at a reasonable cost. The medal will not be produced as a struck medal. The proposal must be accompanied by an explanation of the material and manufacturing technique. The report should primarily be made using a pdf form, which can be printed from the Guild's website: https://mitalitaide.fi/wp-content/uploads/Explanation-of-the-manufacturing-technique-2027.pdf

2 In order to be taken into account in the competition, the entry must be unpublished. The submission must be made as a character model of reasonably durable material. Especially in the case of alternative materials, it is important to clarify the reproducibility of the proposal and how it will be implemented in detail with the chosen technology.

The proposal shall be submitted as one (1) two-sided copy (a/b) so that the front and back sides and the correct position of the medal are clearly marked. One-sided submissions are rejected. The maximum dimension of the submission shall not exceed 120 mm and it must therefore be within the limits of the maximum dimension given in any position. Proposals that exceed the dimensions are rejected.

3 The jury consists of three members appointed by the Board of The Guild of Medallic Art: Professor Anssi Joutsiniemi, sculptor Maria Hopia, FM Johanna Järviniemi, Acting Director of the Museum Kruunu and two judges appointed by The Artists' Association of Finland. Lic.Phil. Tapio Suominen serves as secretary. The Jury elects the chairman among its members.

The jury focuses in its evaluation on the artistic and technical merits of the submissions as well as the originality of the theme. The medal in this context refers to a tangible object of art that works as a whole, is serially manufactured, two-sided and may also include a text.

4 Each competition submission shall be labeled. A closed envelope bearing the same pseudonym containing the sculptor's contact information shall be included. Only the envelopes of the prize-winners are opened.

5 The following prizes will be awarded: I prize €2,400, II prize €1,300 and III prize €800. The unanimous jury may distribute the prize amount differently; however, the number of prizes shall be maintained. In addition, the award committee can decide on one purchase (€300). The maker of the submission of which the annual medal will be produced will also be compensated €300 for the supervision of the medal production, if he/she has to retouch the submission for technical reasons or to produce another copy of it.

6 The final decision to commission the work is made by the Board of The Guild of Medallic Art, which has the right to order the annual medal of any submission awarded in the competition.

7 The competition period ends on Fri 5th March 2027, which is also the last day of mailing. Proposals will be sent by post to

Suomen Mitalitaiteen Kilta ry
c/o Mikko Timisjärvi

Posti parcel locker
S-Market Torpparinmäki
Torpparinmäentie 1
00694 Helsinki

+358 40 761 8270 (phone number obligatory), talous.mitalikilta@gmail.com

They can also be brought to the Guild's office (Koroistentie 5 A, Helsinki) on Fri 5th March 2027 from 14:00 to 18:00. The proposals sent from abroad must be received on the closing date of the competition on Fri 5th March 2027.

8 The competition submissions are photographed. By participating in the competition, the artist authorizes the Guild to publish a picture of the submission in the Yearbook of Medallic Art and on the Guild's website. Only the names of the artists who have award-winning submissions will be made public.

9 The results of the competition will be published on Mon 5th April 2027. After the results have been announced, the competition submissions will be exhibited at the Guild's spring meeting, the date and place will be announced later. The competition submissions in the categories A and B, will also be presented in the Guild's online gallery. The submissions can be picked up in connection with The Guild's spring meeting 2027 or from The Guild's office (Koroistentie 5 A, Helsinki), the date will be announced later. After that, the submissions which have not been picked up, will be destroyed.

10 Competition programs are available at Galleria Sculptor (Eteläranta 12, Helsinki) and The Guild of Medallic Art. The competition program will also be published on The Guild's website www.mitalitaide.fi.

11 The contact person between the jury and the participants is the Guild's treasurer. For further information about this competition please contact talous.mitalikilta(at)gmail.com until Fri 19th Feb 2027. The answers are published on Fri 26th 2027 on the Guild's website http://mitalitaide.fi/vuosimitalikilpailu-2027/.

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