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Art Basel Hong **Kong Names** Finalists for 50K **Emerging Artist** Award

By <u>Elaine YJ Zhenq</u> Hong Kong 22 January 2025

Three artists are shortlisted for the newly established prize, which $includes\ an\ opportunity\ to\ exhibit\ in\ Macau.$



Kayode Ojo, Black Tongue New Year's Eve (New York) (2024). Courtesy the artist and Sweet

Art Basel Hong Kong's inaugural MGM Discoveries Prize will be The 50,000 USD award will be split between the artist and their gallery, and includes an opportunity to exhibit in Macau.

The three shortlisted artists are $\underline{Shin\ Min}$, Kayode Ojo, and Saju Kunhan.



Shin Min (represented by P21, Seoul) makes collages and sculptures about oppression, labour, and violence.

 $\underline{New\ York\text{-}based}\ artist\ Kayode\ Ojo\ (represented\ by\ Sweetwater,\ \underline{Berlin})$ makes photographs and sculptures that speak to contemporary culture and social aspirations; and Saju Kunhan (represented by Tarq, Mumbai) is a painter who is informed by familial migration histories.

Finalists were selected from the 22 galleries participating in the fair's Discoveries sector this year, a dedicated section for new solo projects by emerging artists





Saju Kunhan, 11th May 1980 Wedding Day #3 (2024). Courtesy the artist and TARQ.

The jury comprises art world directors including Aaron Cezar (Delfina Foundation), Antonia Carver (Art Jameel), Christopher K. Ho (Asia Art Archive), X Zhu-Nowell (Rockbund Art Museum), and Park Seungho (chairman of PARKSEOBO FOUNDATION).

The award is conceived with MGM China Holdings Limited, who owns casino and resort operations in the Greater China region, with two locations in Macau. The company has partnered with Art Basel Hong Kong since 2017. —[O]









