

# The Herald

SCOTLAND'S LEADING QUALITY DAILY NEWSPAPER



RICH TRADITION: Jolomo award finalist Jamie Primrose is inspired by the Scottish colourists. Picture: Richard Scott

## Nine in running for 'anti-Turner' prize

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NINE Scottish artists are in the running to win the inaugural award established by one of the country's most popular landscape artists - John Lowrie Morrison, also known as Jolomo.

Jolomo set up the £20,000 prize last year to encourage the art of traditional painting in Scotland, a kind of "anti-Turner Prize" to honour the skill involved in evoking the native landscape.

He said landscape painting, his speciality, was not taught enough in art schools and needed to be encouraged in a new generation of artists.

The entrants for the first Jolomo Lloyds TSB Scotland Awards had to live or work in Scotland and have studied in a Scottish college of art. They

were asked to produce up to 10 finished paintings and sketches. A winner from the final nine will be announced on June 21.

Entrants without formal qualifications had to be proposed and approved by a suitably qualified referee. One finalist, Jamie Hageman, comes into that category, being a self-taught painter.

He joins David Cook, Rebecca Firth, Ingrid Fraser, Willie Fulton, Helen Glassford, Anna King, Sian MacQueen and Jamie Primrose on the shortlist.

Yesterday, Jolomo said: "Everyone on the judging panel was very impressed with the quality and there was extremely lively debate on whittling down the 85 entries.

"I have no idea how long it is going to take us to come to

a decision on a winner and runners-up but I think there will be a lot of coffee involved."

Susan Rice, chief executive of Lloyds TSB Scotland, said: "With 85 very different expressions of the landscape, the awards appear to be reinvigorating interest in capturing Scotland's beauty in art."

Willie Fulton, at 61 the oldest of the finalists, is a graduate of Edinburgh College of Art and, following a career in teaching, took early retirement in 1998 to paint full-time. He lives and works on Harris.

He said: "In an ever-changing landscape, it never gets easier, but sometimes the right note is struck and that can give such joy and satisfaction that a return to the easel is inevitable."

Mr Hageman is 28 and lives and works in Glencoe.

"I am often awestruck in the mountains and would like the viewer to feel the same emotions when faced with my paintings," he said.

Another finalist, Jamie Primrose, 34, has been a professional artist for three years. He said: "I am inspired by the colourist tradition of rich Scottish landscape painting and I aim to capture the dramatic moods of the Scottish weather."

John Lowrie Morrison was born in Glasgow and trained at Glasgow School of Art. He worked in education for 25 years, resigning in 1997 to paint full-time, and lives and works in Argyll.

His work is included in collections held by Madonna, Sting and the Duke of Argyll, among others.

### Brushes with fame

● **David Cook, 49**, is a graduate of Duncan of Jordanstone College, Dundee, and winner of numerous painting prizes including the James Guthrie Prize at the Royal Scottish Academy. He lives near St Cyrus in Kincardineshire.

● **Rebecca Firth, 44**, studied social science at Aberdeen but went on to an MFA painting from Edinburgh College of Art. In 2003, she won the Sir Robin Philipson medal for painting. She lives and works in Edinburgh.

● **Ingrid Fraser, 22**, graduated from Gray's School of Art with a BA (hons) in fine art, specialising in painting. She lives and works in Moray.

● **Willie Fulton, 61**, is a graduate of Edinburgh College of Art and took early retirement from teaching in 1998, to paint full-time. He lives and works on Harris.

● **Helen Glassford, 30**, has a masters of fine art from Duncan of Jordanstone. She has exhibited throughout Scotland and England and works at the Wasps studios in Dundee.

● **Jamie Hageman, 28**, is a self-taught artist. In 2006 he was selected to exhibit at the Aspect prize exhibition at Paisley Museum and Art Gallery and has also shown work at Fort William's Mountain Film Festival. He lives and works in Glencoe.

● **Anna King, 23**, graduated with a BA in fine art from Duncan of Jordanstone after a sell-out degree show. She lives and works in the Scottish Borders.

● **Sian MacQueen, 34**, graduated from Glasgow School of Art with a first class BA (hons) in fine art. She initially studied sculpture and won the McGrigor Donald Award for Sculpture in 1994, she has been painting for the past three years in Kilmartin, Argyll.

● **Jamie Primrose, 34**, was born and brought up in Edinburgh and graduated BA (hons) in fine art from Newcastle University in 1994. Since 2003, he has been a full-time contemporary artist and has hosted eight solo exhibitions in Edinburgh and one in London. He lives and works in Edinburgh.