International Prize

Renoir

The Great Interpreter of Art

CANNES The California Conference Hall
Palais Croisette Hotel

September 12 2026

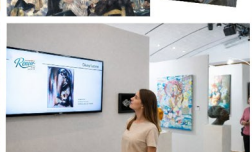
Curated by
Francesco Saverio Russo
and Salvatore Russo

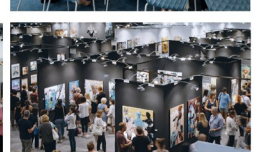
Cannes is much more than an iconic destination; it is a place where light becomes language and beauty becomes a universal language. The city's unique light, the Mediterranean landscape, its cosmopolitan balance between elegance and Mediterranean authenticity. The Côte d'Azur, with its golden silhouettes, villas away of tradition and timeless charm, Le Suquet, the historic heart, preserves a peninsula and that seems to emerge from an impressionist canvas. Here, every view is a composition, every sunset a statement of art. Cannes is also an international stage, attracting creatives, visionaries, and leading figures of contemporary culture. The renowned Film Festival has cemented its role as a global capital of visual imagination. Yet beyond cinema, Cannes lives and breathes art in all its forms. Galleries, curator, and cultural institutions have made the city a vibrant hub for contemporary art. The Palais Croisette hosts exhibitions, events, and fairs in all its evocative power. It is no coincidence that this land resonates with the spirit of Impressionism and the purest aesthetic research. Cannes thus becomes a symbolic space where art is not only exhibited, but truly lived. It is a city that celebrates beauty as a universal value and a shared language. Every detail, from the sea to the architecture, contributes to a visually compelling narrative. In this context, Cannes stands as the ideal frame to honor and interpret art on an international level.

WHERE LIGHT BECOMES ART — THE LEGACY OF RENOIR

The International Prize Renoir – The Great Interpreter of Art is conceived as a tribute to one of the most luminous figures in the history of art, Pierre-Auguste Renoir. Through his work, deeply rooted in the Mediterranean ethos, Renoir celebrated the joy of life through a painting rich in vibrant colors, light, and a profound sensitivity toward the human figure. From his origins in Limoges to his artistic maturity in Paris, his work transformed everyday life into poetic vision, making every moment timeless. His artistic journey was marked by continuous evolution. After participating in the first Impressionist exhibition in 1874, a journey to Italy led him toward a more classical and structured style, influenced by the Renaissance masters. However, his later years were significantly affected by severe arthritis. Renoir never stopped painting, demonstrating an absolute dedication to art. The land between Renoir and the French Riviera—particularly Cagnes-sur-Mer, just a short distance from Cannes—holds profound meaning. The final years of Renoir's life were spent in this area and the extraordinary Mediterranean light, he found in this region the perfect synthesis between his nature and art. That very light, a central element of his painting, still defines the visual identity of this territory today.

For this reason, Cannes has been chosen as the home of the International Prize Renoir. A city of extraordinary beauty and cultural depth, Cannes embodies the spirit of Renoir's legacy. The Mediterranean light, now a symbol of visual culture and contemporary imagination, Cannes represents a meeting point between art, speculation, and creativity, where tradition and modernity continuously interact.
The relationship between Pierre-Auguste Renoir and cinema is indirect yet deeply meaningful, thanks to his son Jean Renoir, one of the greatest film directors in history. The father's painterly sensibility—his attention to light, composition, and human emotion—profoundly influenced the cinematic language of his son, who sought to bridge between Impressionism and the seventh art. The International Prize Renoir – The Great Interpreter of Art is rooted in this legacy, celebrating artists capable of interpreting reality with sensitivity and vision, transforming light into emotion and art into a universal language. In the unique setting of Cannes, the prize affirms its international vocation, honoring a conception of art that continues to live, evolve, and inspire.





that characterizes the selected works of this edition. This exchange will represent a meaningful opportunity for cultural dialogue, bringing together diverse experiences, visions, and sensibilities.
The event will be attended by the curators, Francesco Saverio Russo, Salvatore Russo and the Artistic Director of Fondazione Effetto Arte, Sandro Benedetto, whose critical and curatorial contribution further enhances the authority and prestige of the prize.

The event is conceived as an important opportunity for meeting and networking among artists, critics, collectors, and art professionals, reinforcing the role of the Renoir Prize as a platform of excellence dedicated to the promotion, dissemination, and enhancement of contemporary art on a global level.

Through this initiative, the prize aims not only to celebrate talent, but also to promote a vision of art as a universal language, capable of transcending paragraphical and cultural boundaries, in full continuity with the spirit and legacy of Pierre-Auguste Renoir.

The catalog of The International Renoir – The Great Interpreter of Art will be produced in accordance with the finest typographic standards and the highest quality printing technique. Great care will be devoted to both design and materials, ensuring a publication of remarkable aesthetic and editorial value.

Each selected artist will be featured with a full-color dedicated page, allowing their work to be presented with clarity, impact, and proper recognition within an international context.

PRESENTATION OF THE WORKS
AT ARTSF MONACO 2026

All admitted works will be presented in video format at the international art fair ARTSF Monaco, at the Fondazione Effetto Arte stand, during the event to be held in the Principality of Monaco from September 11 to 13, 2026.

ARTSF Monaco is an international contemporary art fair held annually in the Principality of Monaco, at the Chapiteau de Fontvieille, one of the most iconic exhibition venues. It is part of the European ARTSF circuit, known for its open and accessible approach to contemporary art.

The fair brings together international artists and galleries, presenting thousands of works including painting, sculpture, photography, and mixed media. Its philosophy is to encourage direct interaction between artists and the public, breaking down traditional barriers of the art market and creating a welcoming, dynamic, and engaging atmosphere.

ARTSF Monaco attracts collectors, art professionals, and enthusiasts, offering an important international showcase within a context of great cultural and social prestige.
It represents a strategic event both for artists' visibility and for the promotion of contemporary art in one of the Mediterranean's most iconic locations.

Receiving an artistic recognition is much more than simply a plaque bearing one's name. It is a tribute to the talent, creativity, and dedication that permeate an artist's work. It is an experience that goes beyond the materiality of the award—it is the confirmation that one's contribution has been noticed and appreciated. The plaque becomes a tangible symbol of belonging to a community of creative minds, a recognition that fuels passion and encourages the pursuit of ever higher artistic achievements.

THE ARTISTIC PROJECT INVOLVES:

Full-page publication in the catalog of the International RENOIR Prize (format 21 × 24 cm).

Awarding of the "International RENOIR Prize", consisting of a prestigious personalized plaque bearing the artist's name.

One complimentary copy of the International RENOIR Prize catalog.

Video presentation of one artwork at ARTSF MONACO at the Fondazione Effetto Arte stand (September 11–13).

Digital invitation to the award ceremony.

CELEBRATING TRUE TALENT:
CANNES AS A STAGE FOR ART: THE INTERNATIONAL PRIZE RENOIR

On September 12, 2026, at the prestigious "The California Conference Hall – Juliana Cannes Hotel", the official ceremony of the International Prize Renoir – The Great Interpreter of Art will take place, a prize of international significance dedicated to the promotion and recognition of contemporary artistic excellence. Set within an elegant and exclusive environment, in the heart of Cannes' refined atmosphere—a city that stands as a symbol of visual culture and global imagination—the awards will be presented to the selected artists. These artists represent paths of research and experimentation capable of interpreting the universal values of art through contemporary language.
The choice of Cannes as the venue highlights the intention to position the prize within a highly prestigious setting, a crossroads of artistic languages and a meeting point between tradition and innovation.

During the ceremony, the awarded artists will be invited to share their creative journeys, offering the audience and guests a moment of reflection on the evolution of artistic language and the importance of the artistic research.

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The Effetto Arte Foundation's projects are conceived to give visibility to talented artists, fostering freedom of expression and the right to creativity.
Through the artwork contribution of participating artists, the Foundation makes it possible for everyone to take part in significant exhibition events, within a prestigious and collaborative setting.