



# Jameel Prize 5

Produced as part of *Jameel Prize 5*

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## MEHDI MOUTASHAR AND MARINA TABASSUM ANNOUNCED AS FIRST EVER JOINT WINNERS OF JAMEEL PRIZE 5

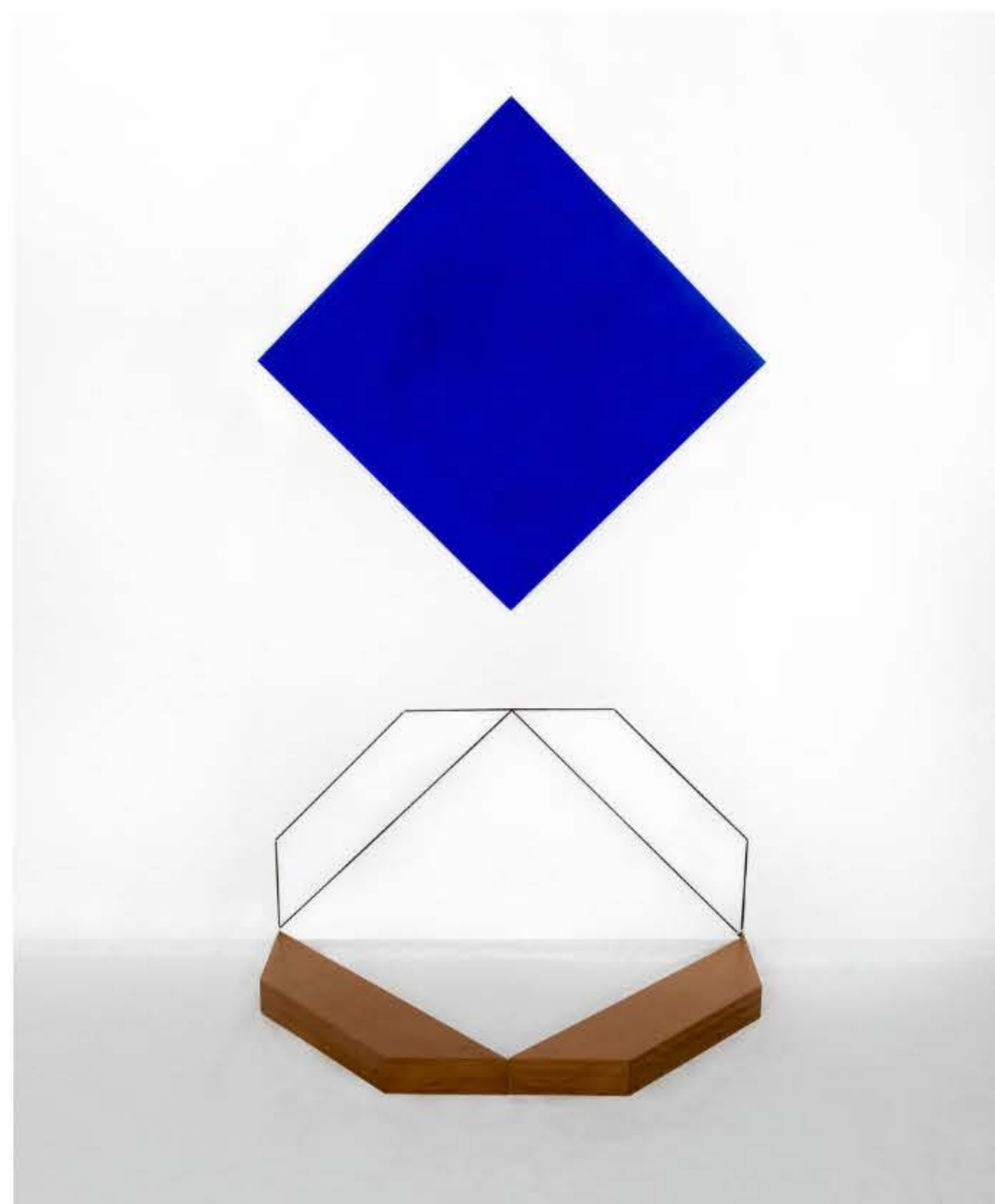
The artist Mehdi Moutashar and the architect Marina Tabassum have been announced as joint winners of the £25,000 Jameel Prize 5. This is the first time the prize has been awarded to two finalists. Fady Jameel, President of Art Jameel, presented Mehdi and Marina with the prize at an evening ceremony at the V&A on Wednesday 27 June 2018.

Mehdi received the award for his four bold works of minimalist abstraction rooted in Islamic geometry, and Marina for her visionary Bait ur Rouf mosque built in 2012 in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Both winners' achievement has been to produce work of outstanding quality and contemporary relevance while demonstrating a profound understanding of the cultures from which they come. The judges felt that although working in very different fields, the joint winners had both shown the same combination of lucidity and sophistication in drawing on Islamic tradition.

*This edition, selecting one winner proved extremely difficult, due to the very high standard of work in the exhibition. The joint Jameel Prize 5 winners are both in dialogue with contemporary global discourses on art and have produced exemplary work in two very different disciplines. They show an awareness of modernist practices of the 20th century, which have in turn drawn on traditions from around the world. At the same time, though, they are passionately rooted in and deeply learned about their own cultural legacies.*

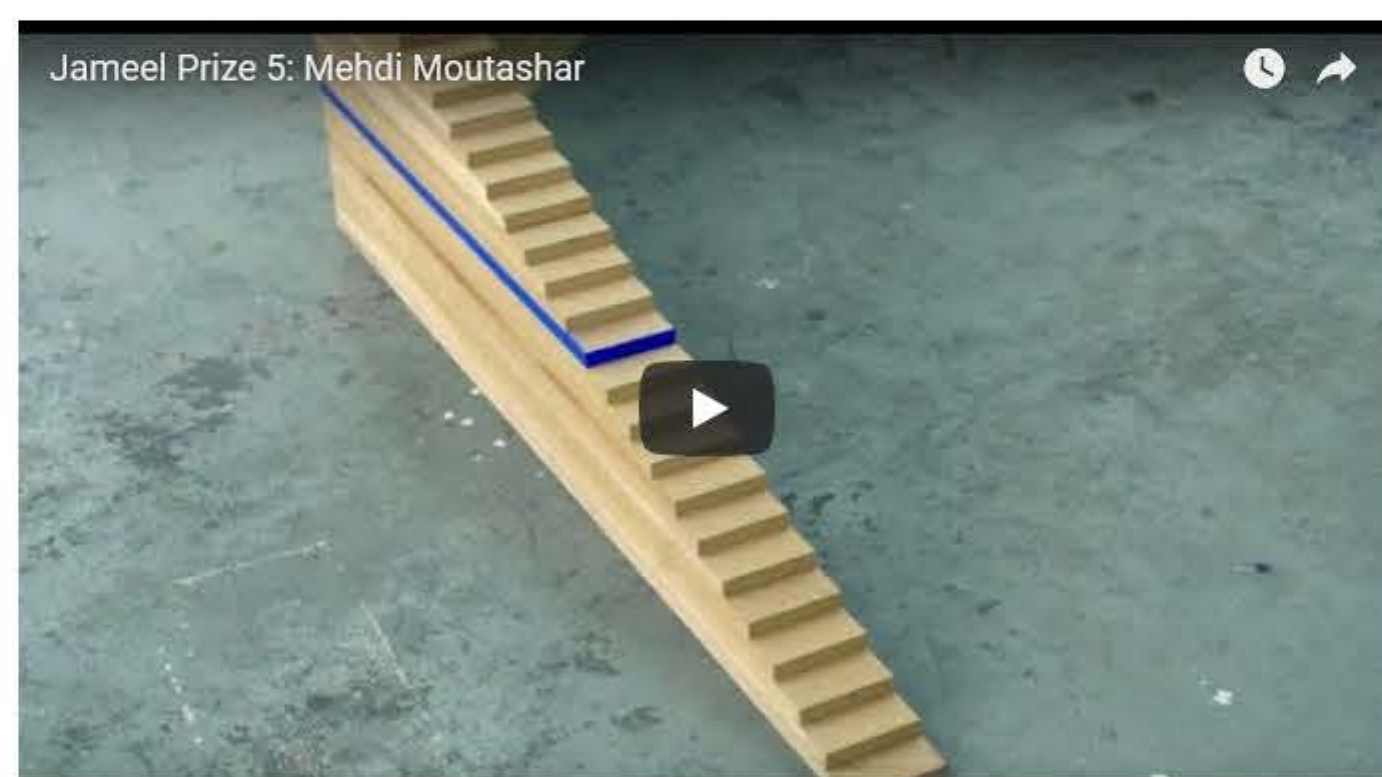
Tristram Hunt, Director of the V&A and chair of judging panel

## MEHDI MOUTASHAR – JOINT WINNER OF JAMEEL PRIZE 5



Mehdi Moutashar, Deux carrés dont un encadré (Two squares, one of them framed), 2017, wood, paint, elastic wire. Collection of the artist. Photo © Fabrice Leroux

Mehdi Moutashar (b. 1943, Iraq) lives and works in Arles, France. He graduated from the Institute of Fine Arts, Baghdad, Iraq in 1966 and the Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts, Paris, France in 1970. He was Professor at the Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Arts Décoratifs, Paris, from 1974 – 2008. Moutashar's art lies at the confluence of two artistic traditions, the western heritage of geometric abstraction and the Islamic aesthetic tradition of geometrical order and lines. His art is a radical, geometrical abstraction with figures that are never enclosed inside the limits of a contour but open, fragmentary and constantly shifting.

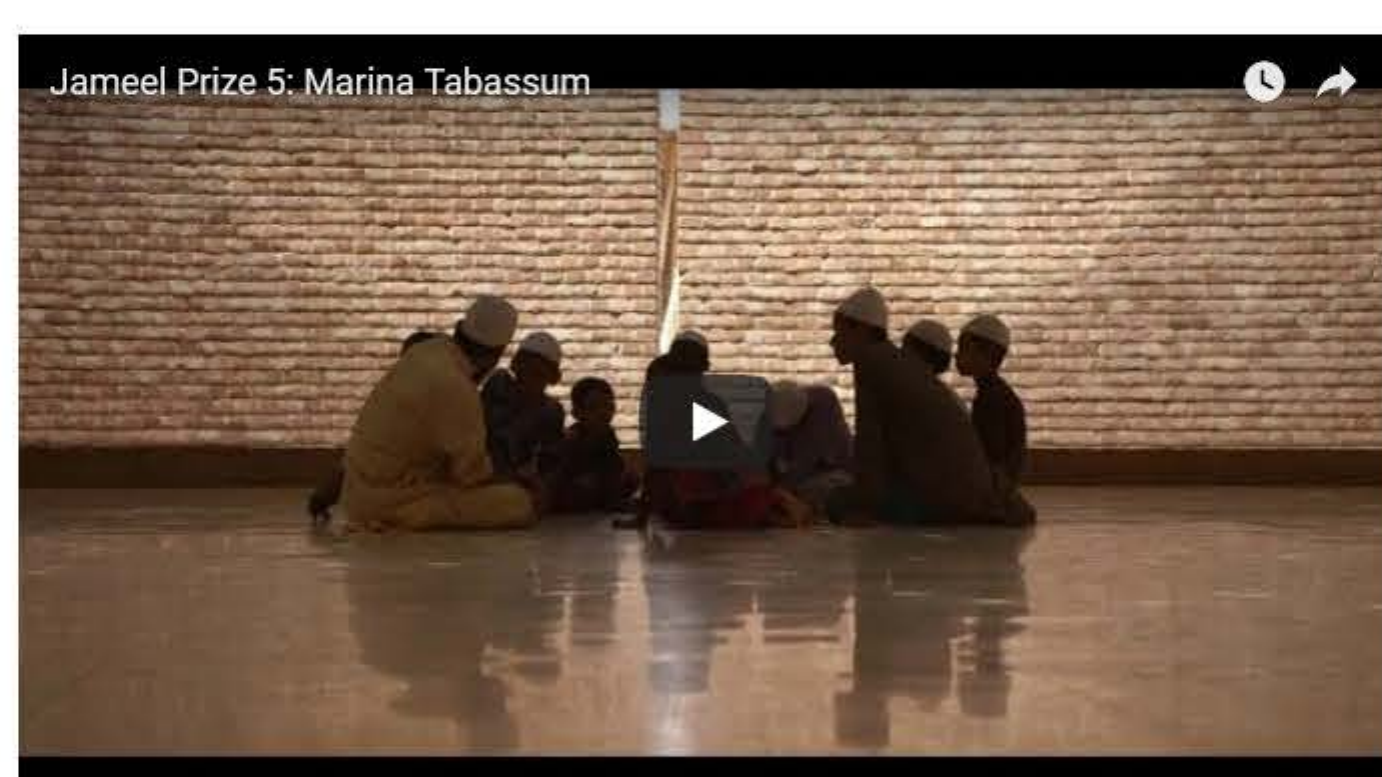


## MARINA TABASSUM – JOINT WINNER OF JAMEEL PRIZE 5



Marina Tabassum, Prayer Hall, Bait ur Rouf Mosque, Dhaka, Bangladesh, 2012. Photo: Sandro di Carlo Darsa. © MTA/Sandro di Carlo Darsa

Marina Tabassum (b. 1969, Dhaka, Bangladesh) lives and works in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Tabassum graduated with a B.Arch from Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology in 1994. She is the principal of Marina Tabassum Architects (MTA), a company which aims to establish a global language of architecture yet rooted to the place, putting climate, materials, site, culture and local history first. As a result, projects are carefully chosen and are limited in number per year. They range from Master Planning of Eco Resorts to twelve storied residential blocks. For Jameel Prize 5, she is shortlisted for her project Bait ur Rouf Mosque in Dhaka, Bangladesh for which she also received the Aga Khan Award for Architecture in 2014-2016.



The exhibition will be on display from 28 June – 25 November 2018.

## THE JUDGES

Tristram Hunt, Director of the V&A

Tanya Harrod, independent design historian

Salah Hassan, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York

November Paynter, Museum of Contemporary Art, Toronto

Ghulam Mohammad, artist and winner of Jameel Prize 4

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