

Press Release

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Images available here: https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/1RgFCATkE6BQ-Uef_UAxPCOtJ_2OvNTl2



Eyal Granit, 'Still Life Citrus' (Detail) New Covent Garden Market Vitrine Art Commission 2019.

VINCI St. Modwen and Art Night announce the winner of the 2019 New Covent Garden Market Vitrine Art Commission

New Covent Garden Market Vitrine Art Commission is a new three-year long public art initiative, funded by VINCI St. Modwen (VSM) in association with Covent Garden Market Authority and realised in collaboration with London's largest contemporary art festival Art Night. It aims to promote the work of artists of all career stages working within photography, painting, text or other two-dimensional medium.

The commissioned artwork is selected annually through a public open call with the help of an expert advisory board and is presented on the New Covent Garden Market building façade in Nine Elms Lane, London.

Artists are invited to apply with proposals of artworks inspired by fruit, vegetables and flowers, the key products of New Covent Garden Market – the UK’s largest and oldest fresh wholesale produce market – and consider the market’s physical context and communities.

For the New Covent Garden Market Vitrine Art Commission 2019 artist Eyal Granit (b.1979, Jerusalem, Israel) was chosen to create a new work titled 'Still Life Citrus' (2019) to be unveiled on 24 October, 2019 and on display until October 2020.

In his winning proposal the artist creates an image that reflects on the immortal nature of fruit. Reminiscent of the works of 16th and 17th-century painters and produced using the focus stacking technique, this hyper-realistic fantasy photograph glorifies the common objects of daily life. Inspired by 'Bodegones' by the Spanish master Juan Sánchez Cotán, which Granit came across while studying photography in Madrid, the image features an abundance of citrus fruits displayed on a large table in and around crystal glasses and vases, antique jars and trays, or hung from above, and complemented with arrangements of orchids and daffodils. Combining multiple images taken at different focus distances gives the resulting image a greater depth of field, creating this panoramic tableau outside the constraints of a single frame.

The judging panel for the New Covent Garden Market Vitrine Art Commission 2019 was chaired by Aida Esposito, Founder and Director of Creativethinking and Lead Creative Strategist for VINCI St Modwen, and comprised of Anna Skladmann, Visual Artist; Charlotte Brooks, Art Curator, RHS Lindley Library; Lynn Parker, Collection Curator, Kew Gardens and Zarina Rossheart, Director of Open Programme, Art Night. The selection process was held in consultation with representatives of VSM, Covent Garden Market Authority and market traders.

Rob Williams, Senior Director of Construction at St. Modwen, said:

"We are excited to have commissioned Eyal Granit's 'Still Life Citrus' to be on display on the border of the redevelopment of the market, giving passers by a unique insight into the impressive market operating behind this very facade. This commission builds on VSM's other community art projects based around the redevelopment area, including the acclaimed Edible Avenue on Thessaly Road and The Whale Wall at the nearby St. George's school by renowned artist Mr. Dane"

Eyal Granit said:

"Citrus for me is going back to childhood. With this work I reflect on the ideas of home, belonging, memory and personal history. I have been passionate about photography since an early age and I am truly humbled to have received such an incredible opportunity to present my work to a global audience in London, where the public can encounter and enjoy it every day. That's where artwork and real life connect, and this connection somehow brings the work to life."

Zarina Rossheart, Art Night Open Programme Director, said:

"It's an honour to have been invited by VINCI St. Modwen to curate and contribute to the development of this exciting new public art initiative for showcasing artworks celebrating New Covent Garden Market following a hugely successful collaboration during Art Night 2018.

I am proud to be working with Eyal Granit who presented a fascinating proposal for the Vitrine and especially thankful to the Advisory Board and market representatives for working with us on shortlisting the winning artist for this year's commission."

- ENDS -

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NOTES TO EDITORS

For more information please visit: <http://newcoventgardensites.com/community-news/2019-new-covent-garden-market-vitrine-art-commission/>

The regeneration of New Covent Garden Market

The joint venture of VINCI St. Modwen (VSM) in partnership with the Covent Garden Market Authority (CGMA) is delivering the redevelopment of new Covent Garden Market, a landmark multi-phased project and the largest scheme in the Nine Elms regeneration area on the South Bank of the River Thames.

New Covent Garden Market, London's original – and the UK's largest – fresh produce market, lies at the heart of Nine Elms. The market operated on three sites totalling 57 acres, and these are being consolidated onto a single, state-of-the-art 37 acre site releasing 20 acres of land for development.

These 20 acres will be transformed into new high quality residential-led mixed-use schemes, benefiting from riverside views and comprising approximately 3,000 new homes including 600 affordable homes, 135,000 sq ft of commercial accommodation and 100,000 sq ft of retail, leisure and new community facilities, including shops, cafés and restaurants. It will provide around 2,000 new jobs for this area of London's Nine Elms, in addition to the 2,500 retained jobs in the market.

Art Night

Art Night is London's largest free contemporary art festival, transforming the city annually for one unforgettable night. Each year, Art Night invites a leading cultural institution or curator to explore the history, culture and architecture of a different part of London, inspiring a series of new commissions, one off events and premieres by international and local artists from all stages of their careers. Alongside this, the Art Night Open programme offers local galleries, organisations, independent artists and curators the opportunity to take part in the festival - responding to the curatorial themes and cultural trail. Art Night contributes to the UK's art sector through its Legacy programme, which delivers co-commissions, acquisitions for public collections and prolonged display periods - enabling broader audiences to enjoy the programme, year round. The festival was conceived and is organised by UNLTD London, and founded by Ksenia Zemtsova and Philippine Nguyen.

In 2018 Art Night and VSM (VINCI St Modwen) partnered to activate the New Covent Garden Market Vitrine for the first time with 'Ghost In The Machine – Understanding The Language of Flowers' by artist Anna Skladmann as part of Art Night Open programme. The artist raised questions on botanical classifications systems exploring notions of nature and society, cultivation and the machine by juxtaposing the errors and ghosting of her scanning machine with the fragility of exotic botanical findings that she sourced at the market.

<http://artnight.london>

New Covent Garden Market

New Covent Garden Market is the largest fresh produce market in the UK. It typically has over 650 varieties of fresh fruit and vegetables available on the market at any one time and is unrivalled when it comes to sourcing of the best seasonal produce from the UK and around the world. Located in Battersea in South West London, the market sees tonnes of exceptional quality produce pass through the site each night, finally finding its way onto the plates of diners in some of the capital's top caterers. It is also London's original and finest fresh food market, dating all the way back to Medieval times when it first began on its original site where Covent Garden now stands in central London.

www.newcoventgardenmarket.com

St. Modwen

St. Modwen is a different kind of property partner taking a different view. More than thirty years' experience as an expert developer and regeneration specialist, dealing with complex and challenging sites, has taught us to look at things differently, challenge the norm and create new and sustainable solutions to benefit all those involved. Today, we continue to unlock value and deliver quality outcomes across a wide range of activities, from regeneration to the long-term planning and development of commercial and residential assets, as well as active asset management.

We combine end-to-end expertise - through our network of regional offices, our residential business and our central asset management team, and through joint ventures with public sector and industry leading partners - to deliver lasting results for all concerned. We create places where communities grow, businesses flourish and people can feel and be at home.

St. Modwen's £1.4bn national portfolio includes the regeneration of New Covent Garden Market, London; the transformation of Longbridge, Birmingham; and the on-going development of the £450 million Bay Campus for Swansea University. St. Modwen Homes is currently selling on 20 sites across the country and our asset management team pro-actively manages our £598 million income-producing portfolio.