

Press Release

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Winners of prestigious Marie Dyson Award announced

This year, the prestigious Reading Guild of Artists' Marie Dyson Award has been awarded to two artists. The names were released at the award ceremony on Friday 1 March at Reading Museum.

The joint winners are:

- Calina Lefter, for her multi-media piece entitled 'Breakfast'
- Chris Mercier, for his drawing entitled 'Victor Rows Out'

The Marie Dyson Award goes to a Reading Guild of Artist member whose work is judged to be of outstanding merit by an invited and independent assessor.

Calina Lefter, joint winner of The Marie Dyson Award, said: "It was the most wonderful surprise for me at the Sir John Madejski Gallery at Reading Museum! Even when I heard my name, I didn't understand exactly what had happened.

"I cannot express how grateful I am for being selected as joint winner of the Marie Dyson Award this year.

"Thank you to Diana Seidl for her wonderful words about my work, and to Reading Museum for this magnificent opportunity to be one of the exhibiting artists in their prestigious gallery. I would also like to add my warm thanks to the lovely artists of the Reading Guild, they welcomed me from the beginning."

Anthony Wilder, chairman of Reading Guild of Artists, said: "We always have an excellent field from which to choose the winner – and this year was no exception.

“Congratulations to Calina and Chris, who were such deserving joint winners. I am sure Diana had a hard time making her decision.”

Further information on the Reading Guild of Artists, can be found by visiting <http://www.rga-artists.org.uk/> or <https://www.facebook.com/ReadingGuildofArtists/>

For more information on the award, visit <http://www.rga-artists.org.uk/marie-dyson-award.html>

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Images attached:

Diana Seidl (left) with Calina Lefter, joint winner of this year's Marie Dyson Award.

Also attached is a picture of Calina's winning piece, 'Breakfast' and Chris Mercier's drawing 'Victor Rows Out'.

Note to Editors:

Information on the highly commended artists and their artwork can be found on the Reading Guild of Artists' website, <http://www.rga-artists.org.uk/marie-dyson-award.html>

The Reading Guild of Artists was founded in 1930. It has a membership of nearly 200 artists and plays an active role in the development of artists in Reading.