

CYNTHIA CORBETT GALLERY

Cynthia Valianti Corbett, Cynthia Corbett Gallery & Young Masters Art Prize



Cynthia Valianti Corbett is the Founder and Director of Cynthia Corbett Gallery, an international contemporary art gallery with an annual exhibition programme in London, Los Angeles and New York. American by birth, born in Massachusetts, she relocated to the United Kingdom in 1986.

Cynthia trained as an art historian at Christie's Education before launching her gallery in 2004. Prior to this, she had a high profile career as an international economist specialising in emerging markets, and was the architect and founder of the debt conversion plans for most of Sub-Saharan Africa in the 1980s. Cynthia was a regular commentator in the financial broadsheets of the time in both New York and London.

Cynthia Corbett has an MA from The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts and Harvard Universities, whose notable alumni include Lord Michael Dobbs (House of Cards fame), ambassadors from many countries, former Under-Secretary General of the United Nations, Shashi Tharoor and the President of the Juilliard School, Joseph Polisi. She still attends Tufts/Fletcher alumni reunions and events, and she is a 2020 Tufts University Alumni Award Winner with a Career Service Citation.

Like many high-flyers, Cynthia found the work place and international travel challenging to manage with a young daughter and in 2000 decided to focus on her family and retrain as an art historian and curator – eventually launching her own gallery in 2004.

Cynthia's original stable of artists have all established successful careers and she continues to enjoy the process of identifying trends and supporting fledging careers of emerging artists. In 2009, Cynthia established The Young Masters Art Prize. This unique not-for-profit competition is open to all international artists and celebrates artistic skill and innovation with awareness of the Old Masters, relevant cultural history and art of the past. Young Masters Maylis Grand Ceramics Prize was created in 2014 and an Emerging Woman Artist Award was introduced in 2017. The fifth edition and tenth Anniversary Exhibition of the Prize took place in October 2019. Young Masters is also a platform for curatorial invitational projects and in 2021 two exciting initiatives will be announced – Focus on the Female (FOTF) and a site-specific project in Notting Hill in association with The Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea in support of the Black Lives Matter Movement.

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Cynthia is a founding member of the Association of Women Art Dealers (AWAD), an AWITA member, supporter of many arts organisations including BFAMI, The Royal Academy of Art, The Tate, Serpentine Gallery, The Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in Boston Massachusetts and is both a Patron of the V & A Museum and an ArtAngel Angel. She is a member of The Arts Club (Dover Street) & The House of St Barnabas in London and The Norwood Club in New York.

Cynthia's other passions include theatre, walking, reading, travel and Jazz singing. She is married with one daughter and lives in Wimbledon, London.

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