

Media Release: June 14<sup>th</sup> 2022, Paris & London

**For the first time in its esteemed history, the Société Nationale des Beaux-Arts of France  
awards the prestigious *Puvis de Chavannes* art prize to an American-British artist,  
Jana Nicole**

The Société Nationale des Beaux-Arts (SNBA) announce that American artist and long time British resident Jana Nicole, will be awarded the prestigious Puvis de Chavannes prize at its 160th anniversary celebrations at The Salon de Beaux Arts Paris Exhibition (September 22<sup>nd</sup> – October 4<sup>th</sup> 2022) at the Orangery, Luxembourg Gardens in Paris, where she will be exhibiting an installation, created for the show as guest artist.



Figure 1 Salon Des Beaux Arts 2022 official poster featuring Jana Nicole's botanical artwork

In a statement released today:

**Michel King, President of the Société Nationale des Beaux Arts says:**

*The Puvis de Chavannes Prize is a grand prize awarded by the Société Nationale des Beaux Arts since 1925. An internal jury awards this distinction to an artist who has had a revealing career or who is a talented emerging artist... Jana Nicole digs beneath our feet and brings unusual perspectives to the surface, highlighting our connections to the living soil. Her artwork evolves around the transformation of paper, branches, moss, roots. She plays with living materials and cut paper to create imaginative landscapes, yet real. Jana Nicole untangles, entangles, mixes and get us into a meditative state. By awarding her the Puvis de Chavannes Prize, the SNBA rewards an ode to life, a look at a powerful, subtle, fragile, sublime ecosystem. In September 2022, Jana Nicole will affix her monumental, spring-like and light poetics to the architectural ensemble of the famous Luxembourg Gardens. By then, her lively work and the melody of the garden will become one."*

**Jana Nicole has responded** *"There is no question the honour bestowed upon me by the Société Nationale des Beaux Arts is the most prestigious of my career: The Société Nationale des Beaux Arts is undoubtedly one of the great art societies of the world and the Puvis de Chavannes prize, their greatest of honours. I am appreciative of their attentions and excited to be given the opportunity to exhibit as guest artist, at their 160th anniversary celebrations, this September at the Orangery, Luxembourg Gardens in Paris."*

## **The history of the Society and event**

Created in 1862 by an association of independent artists, the Salon de la Société Nationale des Beaux Arts has gone through history, and history has gone through it. The biggest names in painting, sculpture and engraving have exhibited there every year, and have been selected on the quality of their work by a commission of cultural professionals for 160 years. Artists include Pierre Puvis de Chavannes, Camille Claudel, Auguste Rodin, Édouard Manet and Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec.

Pierre Puvis de Chavannes (1824 –1898) was a French mural painter, who came to be known as "the painter for France". He became the co-founder and president of the Société Nationale des Beaux-Arts, and his work influenced many other artists.

The opening will take place on September 22<sup>nd</sup> 2022 at noon. The prize giving ceremony will take place 11am on October 1<sup>st</sup> 2022.

## **About the artist's installation**

For The Salon de Beaux Arts, Jana Nicole will be constructing one of her most ambitious works to date. Inspired by the orangery and Luxembourg gardens setting, she will create a unique 3m x 2m hand-cut Botanical work, to showcase her grand jury award winning botanical series, which will also be in display at the show.

## **Notes to Editors**

Jana Nicole is available to interview.

## **About the artist**

Over her illustrious career, Jana Nicole has elevated the art of collage.

Using a cacophony of thousands of photographic and hand drawn images, she creates fascinating images to represent the subjects she cares so deeply about:

With her award winning Botanical series, she represents the world of fauna, fungi and mycelium, both with scientific significance and stunning artistic beauty.

With her Portraits of the Self series, she interviews subjects before creating intimate portraits including their memories, thoughts and dreams. Most recent official commissions were of Norman Cook (aka Fatboy Slim) and the late Clash legendary frontman, Joe Strummer.

Now resident in the UK, she exhibits her works regularly in and around London and the South East as well as around the world, including her native Palm Springs, California.

Jana Nicole has had numerous solo shows throughout her career and past exhibitions include Sattachi's London Gallery, Saatchi's The Other Art Fairs in London, New York and Los Angeles, SDBA exhibiton at the Carousel De Louvre, Paris as well as Gavin Turk & Deborah Curtis' House of Fairy Tales.

## **More info Projects – Jana Nicole and @ jananicole\_studio on Instagram.**

Ends.