

Pewter Live 2017



New Pewter Live Chairman, Laila Zollinger

There will be eight Universities and Colleges with students entering; and a constantly expanding 'open competition' with 24 entries this year.



The new Chairman of Pewter Live, Laila Zollinger, said: "The challenge we have set this year is to produce an object, or range of objects, that would compliment a contemporary lifestyle, made of mixed materials, with at least 50% being constructed of pewter."

She expects that other media might include glass, wood, plastic, horn, leather, fabric, another metal, stone or perhaps, paper,. "The object could be for a domestic or office environment, it could be for personal adornment, either as a fashion accessory or jewellery, possibly a piece of furniture. The use might be for marine, architectural, horticultural or even agricultural applications.

"The criteria for judging include the quality, originality, suitability for purpose and marketability of each piece. That magical unquantifiable extra that catches the imagination is likely to sway the judges too."

This year, for the first time, other Livery Companies are welcome to enter the open competition.

The Association of British Pewter Craftsmen are, for the fourth year, putting up £250 for a 'Commercial' Prize. The objective of this prize is, each year, to reward the entrant with - in the judge's view - the most commercial reality.

Richard Abdy, Chairman of ABPC, said: We have been very impressed, over the first three years of our Prize, at the initiative and inventiveness of the entries. Some of them have gone into production, and that is, after all, our main goal - to encourage students to think commercially alongside their creativeness. We think that there will be exciting possibilities this year to expand on previous success given that the ABPC prize is now firmly established as part of Pewter Live."

Laila Zollinger again: "Pewter Live also provides members of the ABPC with the opportunity to work closely with participating colleges, universities and professional designers by arranging for them to visit pewter manufacturers to learn about the traditional processes and techniques involved in working with pewter. Over the past few years well over 30 new pewter products have been brought to the market as a direct result of the competition."

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Alex and Patricia Neish, Partners in Pewter and the City & Guilds all make an award too.

Laila is of course looking forward to her first Pewter Live. She wanted a last word: “Each Pewter Live event has an incubation period of a year and is made possible by a platoon of staff, volunteers and sponsors. The military precision with which the three days are run are all due to Eleanor Mason Brown. Thank you Eleanor.”

Alan Williams

Pewter Live takes place at Pewterers' Hall in Oat Lane in the City in May. The public open day is Wednesday 24th May between 10.00 and 12.00 and 14.30 and 17.30.

http://www.pewterers.org.uk/pewter_live/pewterlive2017.html

<http://britishpewter.com/component/content/article/2-uncategorised/21-abpc-commercial-prize>

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