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2022 WINNER OF THE MERCURY PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD



The People's Choice winning artwork: Martin Rek, *Deep Within*, carbon pencil, 80 x 80 cm

A remarkable drawing by Tasmanian artist Martin Rek has taken out this year's People's Choice in the Hadley's Art Prize for the second time, winning a \$2500 prize presented by The Mercury.

The drawing depicts a remote part of the southwest Tasmanian wilderness. Rek describes it as "a place of boundless inspiration. To me, this represents quintessential Tasmania and is a recurring theme in my work." Rek is a keen bushwalker and draws on personal experiences in rugged landscapes.

Voters described the work as "dreamy", "exquisite" and "very Tasmanian".

"Many people don't believe this artwork is a drawing," says Prize Curator Dr Amy Jackett. "It's a great work to see in person to marvel at the dedication and skill."

Rek's winning artwork is currently on display alongside the other artworks shortlisted as finalists in this year's Hadley's Art Prize.

This winner of this year's randomly-drawn voter's prize of an indulgence package at Hadley's Orient Hotel worth \$600 will be drawn and contacted today.

The last day of the exhibition is Sunday 21 August 2022 at Hadley's Orient Hotel, Hobart. Artworks are for sale and entry to the exhibition is free. Open 10am – 4pm daily. Visit hadleysartprize.com.au

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