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Winner of the Hadley's Art Prize People's Choice Award 2017

South Australian artist Thom Buchanan has taken out the *Mercury* People's Choice Award in the inaugural *Hadley's Art Prize, Hobart* which is believed to be the world's most lucrative landscape art award.

Selected from 41 finalists, Buchanan will receive \$5,000 for winning the People's Choice Award with his painting titled *Liminal*. The painting blends past and present through layered imagery of people, a ship and city scene. Buchanan explains, "This work reflects a fascination with time and the built environment."

Buchanan says he is "absolutely honoured to have the public recognise *Liminal* as a beautiful painting," and describes it as "The most heartfelt work I've created thus far."

Curator Dr Amy Jackett said there was a lot of interest in voting, with a late surge in the last week. "It's great that the prize generated so much interest and that people were able to have their say through this award," Dr Jackett said.

There was also a randomly-selected prize for one lucky voter will receive an overnight experience at Hadley's Orient Hotel, valued at nearly \$600.

The *Hadley's Art Prize, Hobart* is an annual, acquisitive art award for contemporary Australian landscape art. Entries for the 2018 prize will open on 5 January 2018. See the website for more information: hadleysartprize.com.au

The exhibition is open at Hadley's Orient Hotel between 10am and 4pm daily until August 25. There will be a special end of exhibition evening viewing until 7:00pm on Thursday 24 August.

