

SAATCHI  
ONLINE



The wait is over. We are excited to announce that internationally renowned artist **Barnaby Furnas** will be judging the final round of the In Living Color Showdown competition.



Barnaby Furnas is an American painter and former graffiti artist who currently lives and works in New York City. He studied at the School of Visual Arts in New York and received a BFA in 1995 before going on to study at Columbia University in New York, receiving an MFA in 2000. He makes his own paint from pigment mixed with urethane.

Barnaby's work has been exhibited internationally at galleries and museums such as the Baltic Centre for Contemporary Art in Gateshead in the UK; Kunststalle Wien in Austria; Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago; Galleria d'Arte Moderna in Bologna; The Whitney Museum of American Art in New York; and The Royal Academy in London.

He is represented by Marianne Boesky Gallery in New York.

### **How is Showdown Judged?**

Recently we've heard from some among our community expressing concerns about Showdown being a "popularity contest." We would like to address these concerns here, and further clarify any confusion as to what this contest is all about and how the winner is actually determined.

The way Showdown is judged has changed from how it used to be done previously. After the submission period ends, the first round of voting is done by the community as well as by curators at the Saatchi Gallery and Saatchi Online with 300 works advancing to the second round. Those 300 consist of 50 works with the highest average ranking from the Community Vote, plus 250 from the curators mentioned. The curators finalize their selections after the results of the Community Vote have been determined so as to ensure no overlap.

From this 300, a jury led by Rebecca Wilson, Director of the Saatchi Gallery, chooses 30 works to go through to the final round. The final round of judging is done by an internationally renowned artist, such as this Showdown's judge, Barnaby Furnas, who will choose a winner and a runner-up.

Showdown is not at all a popularity contest in terms of who can manipulate social media most effectively. What the Community Vote provides is a chance for the community to voice their opinions. Ultimately, the winner is determined by the judge who chooses works from among a highly-selected pool of art.

Many thanks to those who have submitted entries and all those who are participating in the Community Vote. Best of luck!