

LEXUS ANNOUNCES LIST OF JUDGES AND MENTORS FOR LEXUS DESIGN AWARD 2020

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TOKYO, Japan (September 12, 2019) – Lexus International announced the list of judges and mentors for the Lexus Design Award 2020. Now on its eight year, the international design competition aims to continuously nurture and support the up-and-coming designers who use design to build a better future.

This year, Jeanne Gang, named one of 2019's Most Influential People in the world by Time Magazine, joins other esteemed design leaders to form this year's panel of judges. Gang, whose projects include an expansion to the American Museum of Natural History in New York and the O'Hare Global Terminal in Chicago, has been recognized internationally for a design process that expands beyond architecture's conventional boundaries to foreground relationships between individuals, communities, and environments. Her work exemplifies Lexus Design Award's goal of "Design for a Better Tomorrow." Gang adds new perspective to the already richly diverse panel that includes luminaries Paola Antonelli, Senior Curator of Architecture & Design at The Museum of Modern Art, John Maeda, Technologist and Chief Experience Officer at Publicis Sapient, and Yoshihiro Sawa, President of Lexus International.

To mentor the six finalists who will be announced in January 2020, Lexus welcomes a stellar ensemble of creative pioneers from around the globe. Joe Doucet, designer, artist, entrepreneur, inventor and creative director, exhibits globally and has been honored with numerous international awards. Celebrated British designer Bethan Gray's distinctive furniture and furnishings are inspired by world cultures and made in collaboration with master craftspeople. British-Canadian Philippe Malouin is an award-winning architectural, interior, and product designer also known for his art objects and installations. Architect Shohei Shigematsu, who heads OMA New York, will again be bringing out the creative potential of young designers, as he did at last year's Lexus Design Award.

Inspired by these four world-renowned designers, the finalists will create prototypes of their design concepts. Prototyping begins with an intensive mentoring workshop at one of the world's most dynamic cultural hubs, Intersect by Lexus, NYC. Finalists will continue to enjoy interactive access to mentors as they work to prepare their prototypes for display and judging at Milan Design Week* on April 20, 2020.

Following prototype presentations by each finalist, Lexus Design Award 2020 culminates with the announcement of the Grand Prix winner on Milan Design Week's Press Day.

Lexus Design Award 2020 is currently accepting entries through October 14, 2019. Please visit LexusDesignAward.com for additional information.

Official Hashtag: #LexusDesignAward

* The world's largest design exhibition, also known as Salone Del Mobile, presents events and exhibits by brands and designers in many categories including furniture, fashion and textiles.

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