

# The shock of the new



Mother of Moonlight by Stuart Lorimer, who won the Stevenston award

**F**or an art school graduate there are few opportunities so lucrative as having their work shown in the Royal Scottish Academy's annual student exhibition. In the hotly contested scramble to purchase work by the stars of tomorrow on the cheap, it is keenly attended by collectors hoping to find the next Alison Watt or Callum Innes.

This year the RSA has expanded its student show to make it a large-scale curated exhibition, across all 12 RSA galleries, of the cream of emerging artists from the five art schools — including for the first time Moray School of Art in Elgin — and the six schools of architecture in Scotland. The works have been selected from the last degree shows by members of the RSA including Professor Will Maclean, Sandy Moffat and the RSA programme director Colin Greenslade. As well as showing pieces from their degree shows, the artists have been given the opportunity to

## PICK OF THE WEEK

**RSA NEW CONTEMPORARIES, THE ROYAL SCOTTISH ACADEMY, THE MOUND, EDINBURGH, UNTIL FEB 25**

showcase a selection of new work created in the last eight months including painting, sculpture, film-making and photography.

This year's winner of the prestigious Sir William Gillies Bequest award is Ashley Nieuwenhuizen of Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design in Dundee who will receive £2,000 for her installation Silver Rat, a taxidermy rat curled up in a silver dish. The new Stevenston award for painting, which comes with a £5,000 prize, was awarded to Stuart Lorimer, also of Duncan of Jordanstone, whose narrative paintings bear the influences of Max Ernst and Goya. Caroline Gallacher from Glasgow School of Art collected the prize for sculpture.

"We hope this exhibition will be one of the most important initiatives for emerging artists in Scotland each year," says Greenslade. "For everyone else it's a unique opportunity to see the best of Scotland's emerging talent under one roof."

Rachel Devine