

TEXPRINT®

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Texprint Paris prize presenter for 2011: Agnès B.

Texprint is delighted to announce that the iconic French fashion designer Agnès B will be this year's special prize presenter at Texprint Paris. The annual prize ceremony will take place at 3.30pm on Wednesday 21 September, 2011, at the Texprint village of Indigo, which is held as part of Première Vision Pluriel at Parc des Expositions, Paris.

Prior to the presentation, Agnès B will meet with the 24 new textile designers who have been chosen for their outstanding work from among this year's textile design course graduates from UK colleges and art schools. Each designer will be manning their own stand at Indigo – which is open to visitors September 20-22, 2011 - with the aim of creating new business contacts with a view to developing job offers and placements as well as commissions and to sell existing work.

"I have always loved British textile designs," asserts the designer (pictured right). "I often buy them for my collections. I find that the designers have a particular talent in renewing and rejuvenating designs."



portrait by Kazou Ohishi

Ms B has also be invited to help select the recipient of the first Woolmark Texprint Award in support of Campaign for Wool - a new prize recognising design excellence in fabrics created with 60% or more Merino wool - alongside judges Douglas Cordeaux, managing director of Fox Brothers & Co, and Keith Walker, managing director of Linton Tweeds.

As the owner of a global, lifestyle brand for more than 37 years, Agnès is well placed to offer her insight and advice to the fledgling designers. The agnès b. group runs 282 stores worldwide, two art galleries, a film company (Love Streams Production), a contemporary art publication (*Point d'Ironie*) and the Paris-based atelier. The company produces womenswear, skincare, maternity clothing, perfume, cosmetics, childrenswear and menswear - Agnès does it all. Her zest for life and design extend to every part of her far-reaching brand, conveying a luxurious, down-to-earth aesthetic that finds resonance with a truly multi-cultural audience.

She juggles her designer life with a number of charitable ventures. One of Agnès's projects is supporting Central St Martins by auctioning off student drawings exhibited at her Covent Garden shop this summer and printing 500 T-shirts to benefit the design school's move to its new building near King's Cross, London.

Texprint's chairman Barbara Kennington says: "We are delighted that Agnès will be this year's special prize presenter. We know she will encourage and inspire all 24 designers and bring her unique dynamism to the prize presentation. Come and join us in celebrating the best of UK-trained textile designers to graduate this year. And help us to thank Agnès for being with us at such a busy time in the fashion schedule."

For more information about Texprint, or to set up interviews with Agnès B, please contact GGHQ tel: 020 3002 3656.