



The Institute for Art and Olfaction Reveals Finalists for the 12th Annual Art and Olfaction Awards

**Los Angeles, CA — May 1, 2026** — [The Institute for Art and Olfaction](#) (IAO) is pleased to announce the finalists for the **12th Annual Art and Olfaction Awards**, an international celebration of independent, artisan, and experimental perfumery.

Each year, the Art and Olfaction Awards recognize excellence, innovation, and craftsmanship in fragrance across a diverse global community of creators. The awards are known for spotlighting work that pushes boundaries and expands the cultural conversation around scent.

Finalists are selected through a rigorous, three-stage, blind-judging process conducted by an international panel of experts, including perfumers, critics, artists, and industry professionals. Entries are evaluated solely on their artistic and technical merit, ensuring a fair and independent review.

“In our twelfth year, we are excited to continue to bring the Art and Olfaction Awards to global capitals with vibrant and exciting independent perfume scenes,” said Institute for Art and Olfaction founder Saskia Wilson-Brown. “The entire awards team, including our incredible roster of dedicated judges, is thrilled to celebrate global excellence in scent-making in the great city of Athens—one of the world’s important centers for philosophy, art, culture, and, increasingly, perfumery.”

## 2026 FINALISTS

### Independent Category

- **Chinese Calligraphy, d'Annam**, Anh Ngo (Perfumer) / Nick Hoang (CD)
- **Crème de Menthe Café**, Statik Olfactive, Hez Binkowitz (Perfumer) / Chris Martin (CD)
- **Deity**, Ataraxia, Sy Truong (Perfumer) / Tudor Ristea (CD)
- **Grounded Hills**, DAN LO, Kaiwei Hsieh (Perfumer) / Terrence Chen (CD)
- **Ici, le pas s'arrête**, TERRA•T, Kaiwei Hsieh (Perfumer) / Terrence Chen (CD)
- **Japanese Whiskey**, d'Annam, Anh Ngo (Perfumer) / Nick Hoang (CD)
- **Laban Arruz**, NBITOR, Miguel Matos (Perfumer) / Thomas Dennis & Raul Falcon (CD)
- **Nuit Élastique**, Première Peau, Ugo Charron (Perfumer) / Pierre Mergui (CD)
- **Torreja Sacra**, NBITOR, Miguel Matos (Perfumer) / Thomas Dennis & Raul Falcon (CDs)
- **Verdant**, Ilé Olomu, Andreas Wilhem (Perfumer) / Bawo Ijirigho (CD)



### Artisan Category

- **Aethi Opum**, Maya Njie, Maya Njie (Perfumer)
- **Ambrosia**, Aysha Hansen Fine Fragrances, Aysha Hansen (Perfumer)
- **Dandelion Butter**, Clue Perfumery, Laura Oberwetter (Perfumer)
- **Death By Vanity**, Rivendare, David Clarke (Perfumer)
- **DinoS'mores**, House of Mammoth, Benjamin Esposito (Perfumer)
- **Eclipse**, Ermetiche Fragranze, Raffaella Meccheri (Perfumer)
- **Hoàng Trà**, Maison de Nguyễn, Nguyen Do (Perfumer)
- **Hotteok**, KST Scent, James Miju Nguyen (Perfumer)
- **Snippid**, House of Mammoth, Benjamin Esposito (Perfumer)
- **Vanitas**, LVNEA Perfume, April Lea (Perfumer)

### Sadakichi Award for Experimental Work with Scent

- **El Espacio Vientre**, Delcy Morelos (Artist) / Nadjib Achaibou (Perfumer)
- **Goavve-Geabbil (Hyundai Commission)**, Máret Anne Sara (Artist) / Nadjib Achaibou (Perfumer)
- **Hang Our Gods**, Regina Mamou (Artist / Perfumer)
- **The Anemoia Device**, Cyrus Clarke (Artist / Perfumer)
- **Three Kings**, Sigrid Moses-Jacobsen (Artist / Perfumer)

### 12th Annual Art and Olfaction Awards

Winners in each category will be announced live at the **12th Annual Art and Olfaction Awards Ceremony** on **June 11, 2026** at Gazarte Cultural Center, in Athens. The event highlights the vibrancy and diversity of contemporary olfactory practice and offers a platform for emerging and established voices alike.

“We are planning a glamorous but friendly celebration of excellence in independent, artisan and experimental work with scent, in one of Athens’ most important cultural spaces, complete with a view of the Acropolis,” said Wilson-Brown. “The awards are for the community, and everyone is welcome.”

The awards are supported by a roster of partners, including presenting partner MANE, producing partners Vioryl, Luckyscent | Scentbar, Pochpac, Perfumer’s Apprentice, and Esxence, and community partners including 12Gods, Concepts, Tito’s Handmade Vodka, ÇaFleureBon, and Noted.

For more information about the 12th Annual Art and Olfaction Awards, visit <http://www.thegoldenpears.com>

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## **About the Institute for Art and Olfaction**

The Institute for Art and Olfaction fosters experimentation and access in the field of perfumery, olfactory art, and other expressions with scent. Founded in September 2012 in Los Angeles, The Institute for Art and Olfaction is a 501(c)3 non-profit devoted to advancing public access to scent. We do this by initiating and supporting experimental projects with scent, by providing accessible education in our laboratory as well as in partnership with institutions and community groups, by curating art exhibitions that incorporate scent in our gallery, and by raising visibility for independent, artisan and experimental and artistic practices with scent as a whole. Through these efforts, we extend the world of scent beyond its traditional boundaries of appreciation and use.

## **Media Contact**

Jenna Troyli, Noted Communications LLC  
jenna@noted.llc  
www.noted.llc