



## JURY REPORT JAN ROËDE AWARD 2024

13 June 2014 marked the 100th anniversary of the birth of visual artist Jan Roëde (1914-2007) from The Hague. To mark the occasion, the board of the Jan Roëde Foundation, founded to manage his artistic legacy, established that year in collaboration with the Royal Academy of Art the Jan Roëde Award, an annual incentive prize for a graduating artist from the KABK's Fine Arts department.

As a token of recognition, the prize aims to encourage the laureate to further develop his or her talents and skills after graduation and is being awarded for the eleventh time this year.

The jury for the Jan Roëde Prize 2024 consisted of Isa van Lier (visual artist), Louw van Sinderen, Dick Stapel, Huub van Wersch (all members of the Foundation Board) and Daphne Verberg (co-director of het resort).

On 28 June 2024, the jury assessed the 19 pieces of work and presentations by the students who graduated from the Fine Arts department this year and wanted to be considered for the prize. The jury faced a difficult task, as how to choose from very different projects, each with its own quality and eloquence? At the end of its deliberations, the jury decided to award this year's Jan Roëde Prize to:

### **Hara Athanasopoulou**

As her graduation project, Hara presented an installation that uses various materials and techniques to demonstrate her fascination with textiles. Her research into the craft of textile production penetrates the complexity of textile fabrics, but also focuses on the role women have played for centuries in designing and manufacturing these fabrics. Inspired by her grandmothers in Greece, who were the first to teach her the art of needlework, she tries to unravel the complex relationship between textile making and the significance women have had for it throughout history. Just as a fabric is built up layer by layer with angelic patience, so a drawing can be woven together stitch by stitch with great precision with a stunning visual result. With

reconstructions of the textile working process, Hara not only exposes the beauty of structures and patterns, but also highlights the resilience, creativity and artistic skill with which women from generation to generation sustained themselves with this. Hara's creations pay homage to this silent struggle that historians often overlook.

Hara's layered installation stood out for the jury because the artistic eloquence of her creations transcends the craft of the subject. She combines the precision, patience and attention inherent in craftsmanship with an inquisitive attitude with which she opens up to underlying stories. On closer inspection, these appear to be stories of strength, energy, resilience and pride.

The jury found this presentation very strong and is therefore pleased to award Hara a prize that can help her continue her research and artistic production. The intention to collect stories from women of her grandmother's generation and document them can further deepen the understanding of women's connection to textile forms. Such a follow-up step makes one curious about what Hara can uncover through this and what this can contribute to female empowerment.

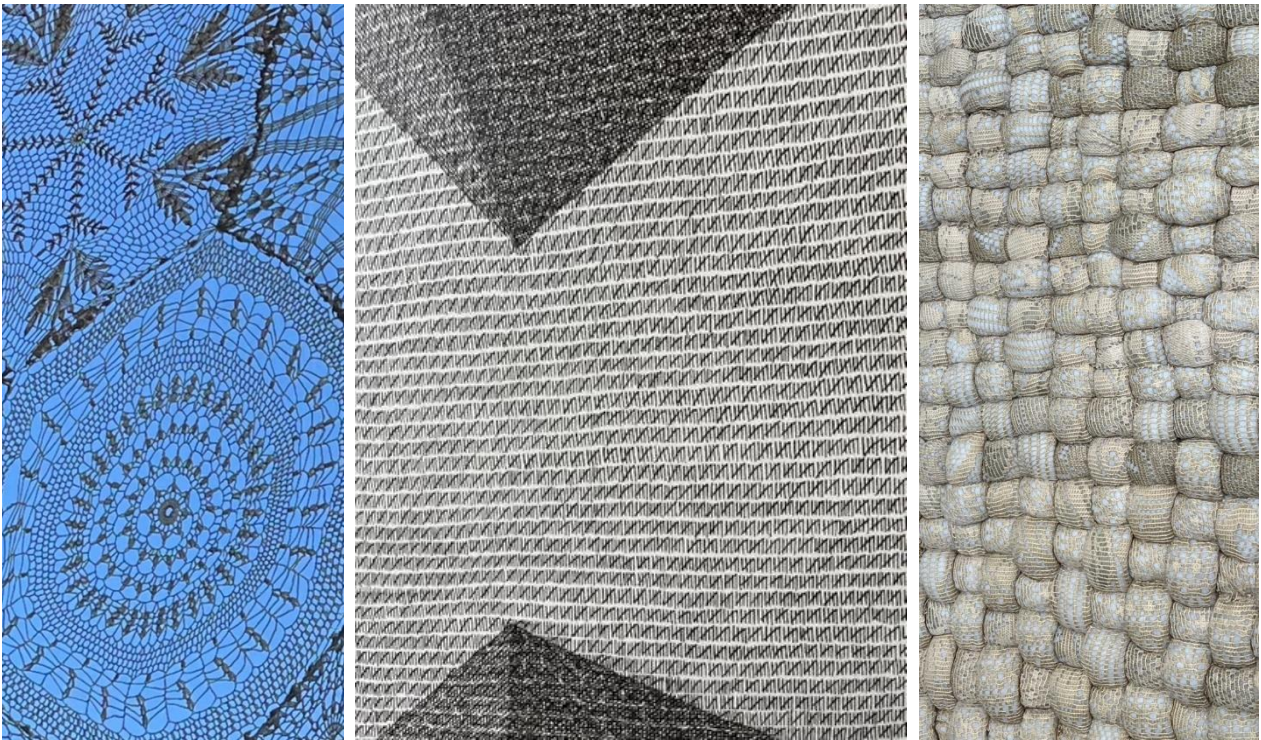
Huub van Wersch,  
jury chairman

The Hague, 1 July 2024

*The Jan Roëde Award 2024 consists of a sum of €3,000, intended as a donation of support to the artistic practice of the laureate. A certificate will also be presented to the laureate. The Jan Roëde Foundation will highlight the award ceremony and the artist who won the prize on its website ([www.janroede.nl](http://www.janroede.nl)).*



*L to R Dick Stapel, Huub van Wersch, Hara Athanasopoulou, Daphne Verberg, Louw van Sinderen en Olga van Hulsen*



*fragments from the prizewinning installation Threads of Timeless Tales by Anna Athanasopoulou*