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FOR: DIGITAL GRAFFITI AT ALYS BEACH

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“SON LUX- CHANGE IS EVERYTHING” NAMED “BEST OF SHOW” AT DIGITAL GRAFFITI

The winners for the ninth annual Digital Graffiti at Alys Beach festival were announced Saturday, May 14, 2016

(May 19, 2016, ALYS BEACH, FL) On Saturday, May 14, Digital Graffiti Festival at Alys Beach announced “Son Lux - Change is Everything” by Los Angeles-based artist Nathan Johnson of The Made Shop as “Best of Show”. The projection art festival welcomed artists from around the world to Northwest Florida’s Scenic Highway 30A in South Walton County to showcase original digital art pieces on Alys Beach’s vivid white walls.

The list of winners includes:

- Best of Show (\$5,000 prize): Son Lux-Change is Everything, The Made Shop/Nathan Johnson (Los Angeles, California)
- Curator’s Choice (\$2,000 prize): ...what is seen was not made out of what was visible, Jinku Kim (Walpole, Massachusetts)
- Special Recognition (\$750 prize): MMPI, Katina Bitsicas (Columbia, Missouri)
- Special Recognition (\$750 prize): Green, Jiyeon Lee (Seoul, South Korea)
- Special Recognition (\$750 prize): Yonder, Emilia Forstreuter (Berlin, Germany)
- Special Recognition (\$750 prize): 1/1500, Yandell Walton (Melbourne, Australia)

“Winning Digital Graffiti completely caught me off guard,” says Johnson. “When I first heard about the festival, I was so excited to be selected, and it sounded like a dream event. It is really encouraging as a visual artist to have a festival like this that exists to shine a spotlight on our work. In many cases, these pieces are created alone, for weeks in dark rooms, so it’s incredibly meaningful to have such a great environment to bring all these people together. My wife and I basically locked ourselves in a little studio for weeks with nothing but push pins and thread to create the Son Lux piece. There were definitely some dark days when we weren’t sure it was even going to work at all, so this feels like a much-appreciated answer to those doubts!”

A panel of art and industry experts led by curator Brett Phares served as the jury for the festival and selected the winners. The panel included Research Associate at Florida State University College of Communication Lucia Fishburne, Alys Beach Town Architect Marianne Khoury-Vogt, urban planner Mark Schnell, and Seattle-based creative professional Steve Farrell.

“From social and environmental awareness, to the beautifully formal and incredibly expressive, the range of work for Digital Graffiti 2016 made for a visually and audibly exciting event, and made the judging of the work decidedly more challenging than years past,” says Phares. “The award for Best of Show to Nathan Johnson of The Made Shop for their contributions to the music video ‘Change is Everything’ by Son Lux was a unanimous choice for the judges: the mastery in stop action, the range of super-short narratives threaded together by a highly expressive audio track, all contributed to the popularly received work.”

In addition to the juried competition, a select group of artists were invited to project at Digital Graffiti. Participants in the 2015 [Digital Graffiti Artist Residency Program](#) projected their site specific works at the festival including [Yandell Walton](#), Digital Graffiti 2015 Best of Show winner, of Melbourne, Australia, [Keaton Fox](#) of Detroit, Michigan, and [Sean Capone](#) of New York, New York. In addition, digital studio [Nota Bene](#) from Istanbul showcased their recent work [“In Order to Control”](#).

Digital Graffiti was held May 13-15, 2016 at Alys Beach. In 2017 the festival will celebrate its 10th anniversary and is scheduled for May 19-21. For more information about the festival, please visit digitalgraffiti.com.

ABOUT DIGITAL GRAFFITI:

Digital Graffiti at Alys Beach is an innovative and dynamic event that celebrates the many possibilities found at the intersection of art and architecture. During the three-day event, dozens of digital artist finalists from around the globe are invited to showcase their original work and vie for cash prize awards in a juried art competition. Utilizing the latest technologies, the finalists’ art is projected throughout the town on its iconic white walls, transforming Alys Beach into a vibrant canvas of light. For more information, visit digitalgraffiti.com.

ABOUT ALYS BEACH

Founded in 2004, Alys Beach is an emerging community located in Northwest Florida on Scenic Highway 30A. Designed by Miami-based Duany Plater-Zyberk and Company, Alys Beach provides a variety of experiences, from urban to rural, in a single, 158-acre beachside town. As the first Fortified for Safer Living community in the world, all homes are built to Florida's Green Home Designation Standard and designed to withstand the elements. When complete, a short walk through town will take one from the southerly 1,500-foot stretch of white sand and emerald waters, past a private beach club, through a thriving town center filled with a variety of shops and restaurants, along pathways lined with neighborhood parks, pools, and event spaces, and culminate on a 20-acre nature preserve to the north, with trails and boardwalks winding through cypress wetlands. The community is comprised of 600 home sites including free standing villas and attached courtyard residences.

For more information, please visit alysbeach.com.

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