

For immediate release

## Winners of 2016 Eyebeam Awards for Creativity and Courage Announced

Brooklyn, NY, April 10, 2016 —Eyebeam is announcing the winners of the 2016 Eyebeam Award: seminal curator of new media **Barbara London**, and artist-activist collective **Not An Alternative**.

“Though both winners work in very different fields, they have consistently and courageously reinvented their respective fields of practice,” stated Roderick Schrock, Director of Eyebeam. The ceremony and trophy unveiling will take place during the Second Eyebeam Awards Benefit, a distinguished event including a curated experience of work by Eyebeam alums, the publication of the *Eyebeam Book of Ideas*, and the unveiling of an alum-designed, 3D-printed trophy on May 10 at Industry City Distillery.

**Not An Alternative** was selected “for their grassroots, agile work, addressing contemporary social topics as they arise,” as Eyebeam alum and Selection Committee Chair Mouna Andraos explained. From the beginning, Not An Alternative has been closely linked to Eyebeam, meeting in the iconic Chelsea space and holding residencies individually and collectively. They have recently been successful in forcing David Koch off the board of the American Museum of Natural History through their arts activism project *The Natural History Museum*.

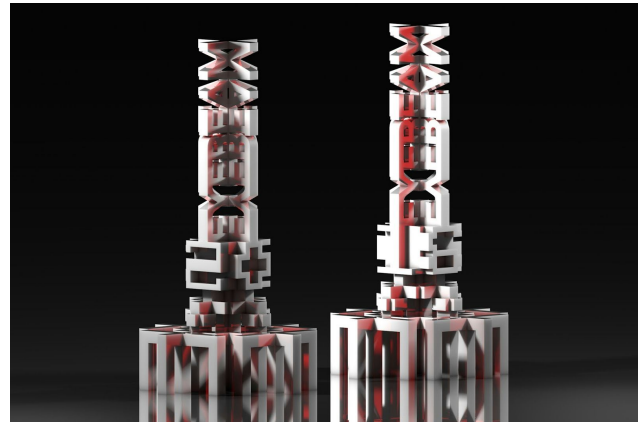


**Barbara London** was selected for her tireless support of artists, as both a curator at Museum of Modern Art and an independent scholar. Lisa Dent of the jury explains that “without pressure or provocation, her exhibitions and collection strategy included the work of women, people of color and the queer community, marking an inclusive and holistic complexity unseen in most institutions.” Her new work after a retirement without fanfare from MoMA promises to continue shifting our understanding of artistic practice.



## Selection Process

The Selection Committee was comprised of Lisa Dent ([Creative Capital](#)), Allyson Kapin ([RadCampaign](#)), Trevor Paglen (artist and Eyebeam alum) and the Chair Mouna Andraos ([Daily tous les jours](#), and also an alum). Last year, the award was given to Trevor Paglen, critical geographer and artist, and Ayah Bdeir, open hardware advocate and founder of [littleBits](#). Only Eyebeam's community of 358 alums are allowed to nominate candidates.



The award trophy is designed by alums [MSHR](#), an artist collaborative of Birch Cooper and Brenna Murphy. In comparison to the sculptural approach that painter Lilian Kreutzberger took last year, this award “reflects a new approach to digital sculpture”, in MSHR’s words, and will be 3D printed in polished nickel-plated steel with the support of [Shapeways](#).

## About the Winners

**Barbara London** is a New York-based curator, writer, and consultant who pioneered the development of media art from its raw beginnings, and has guided the field to its current position as a seriously collected, sophisticated form of expression. During her tenure at MoMA, she oversaw the acquisition of more than 500 media art works, including installations, single-channel videotapes, and music videos. Among her exhibitions are *Soundings: A Contemporary Score* (2013); *Looking at Music* (2008-11), *Automatic Update* (2007); and the groundbreaking curatorial Web projects, *Stir-fry*, *InterNyet*, and *dot.jp*. Currently she teaches at Yale in the School of Art, is a consultant with the Kadist Foundation, and is a scholar at the Getty Research Institute developing a book.

**Not An Alternative** is a NY-based collective that works at the intersection of art, activism, and pedagogy. The group’s installations, performances, and presentations have been featured within art institutions such as Guggenheim, PS1/MOMA, Brooklyn Museum, Tate Modern, and more. Their project [The Natural History Museum](#) is a mobile, pop-up museum that highlights the socio-political forces that shape nature, yet are excluded from traditional natural history museums: such as the “fossil fuel ecosystem”. Last year, the museum [released a letter](#) signed by 150 of the world’s top scientists, including Nobel laureates, that urged science museums to cut ties to fossil fuel interests, which [went viral](#) and forced [multiple official responses](#).

# EYEBEAM

**Press Contact** David Borgonjon  
david.borgonjon@eyebeam.org  
+1 401 749 7309

**Eyebeam** is a nonprofit studio for collaborative experiments with technology toward a more imaginative and just world. By providing generous support to artists for research, production and education, Eyebeam makes ideas real.

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34 35th Street 5th Fl, Unit 26  
Brooklyn, NY 11232  
[www.eyebeam.org](http://www.eyebeam.org)  
@eyebeamnyc