

NEW TECH: BATTERIES OF THE FUTURE

SAIL

2019 **SAIL** BEST BOATS
NOMINEES

30 NEW BOATS

FIRST LOOK

AT THE LATEST CRUISERS, RACERS,
DAYSAILERS & MULTIHULLS

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BEST BOATS

2019 **SAIL** BEST BOATS NOMINEES

As we approach the upcoming fall boat shows, perhaps the best word to describe the boatbuilding industry's latest crop of new designs is "convergence." Specifically, in recent months we've seen a number of innovations introduced in years past continue to work their way up and down the various product lines. Examples include Hanse's composite teak decks; Jeanneau's sloped decks; the expansion of X-Yacht's new Range; the continued growth in lounging area aboard today's racing multihulls; and the increasing use of twin rudders aboard cruising boats. It is not to say there's nothing new out there; just that the radical foils aboard Beneteau's new Figaro 3. It's also nice to see a number of builders, including Tartan, Island Packet, Wauquiez, Hylas and CWB, still keeping in touch with some of the tried-and-true aesthetic and design features of old: although you might not be fooled, these are thoroughly modern boats in every sense of the word. What follows is a list of the boats that SAIL's readers will be examining as part of this year's "Best Boats" contest. Be sure to check out our December issue to find out which ones were chosen as winners.

Bavaria Nautitech 40 Open

2019



Seawind 1260



Figaro Beneteau 3



Wauquiez Pilot Saloon 42



Jeanneau Sun Odyssey 410

WHERE TO SEE THEM
Newport International Boat Show
 Sept. 13-16, newportboatshow.com
Annapolis Boat Show
 Oct. 4-8, annapolisboatshows.com

On the web
 Check out our Facebook page and website to get the latest on all our Best Boats nominees:
facebook.com/sailmag
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Hanse 418



Seascope 14

MONOHULLS CRUISING

Beneteau Oceanis 46.1



Dufour Grand Large 360



Hanse 388



Hanse 418



Hanse 458



BENETEAU OCEANIS 46.1

An offshoot of last year's Oceanis 51.1, the Beneteau Oceanis 46.1 offers the same "stepped hull" as its predecessor, as seen in the chine running all the way forward. This, in turn, allowed designer Finot-Conq to maximize accommodation space in the bow while retaining a fine entry. Topsides, the Oceanis 46.1 boasts a complicated deck molding that incorporates a spacious twin-helm cockpit with easy access to the massive drop-down swim platform and an attractively drawn cabintrunk. Forward, a combination sprit/anchor roller will help keep the gelcoat safe when dropping or weighing the hook, while twin rudders ensure control in a blow. A "First Line" performance version of the boat is also available. **Beneteau, beneteau.com/us**

DUFOUR GRAND LARGE 360

The Dufour Grand Large 360 packs a lot of boat into its 33ft of LOA (36ft if you add in the combination anchor roller and sprit), including twin helms and chines to increase both stability and interior volume. Aft, the helm station features a pair of sleek steering columns and consoles that have been placed in close proximity to the winches to facilitate sailhandling when shorthanded. Even farther aft, there's an outside galley equipped with a barbecue and a sink concealed in the seats. **Dufour Yachts, dufour-yachts.com**

HANSE 388

Germany's Hanse has been on a roll of late, with a steady stream of new designs featuring the line's purposeful angular look and solid build quality. Like all Hanses, ease of handling is part of the Hanse 388's DNA, with all sail controls running aft to the helm, and a self-tacking headsail and German mainsheet system providing stress-free trimming on either tack. Designed by Judel/Vrolijk, the hull is easily driven and a wealth of interior options are available, allowing you to create just the right boat for you. Plumb ends ensure the longest sailing length possible. "Fast Cruising" laminate sails are available as an option for those in search of even more get-up-and-go. **Hanse Yachts, hanseyachts.com**

HANSE 418

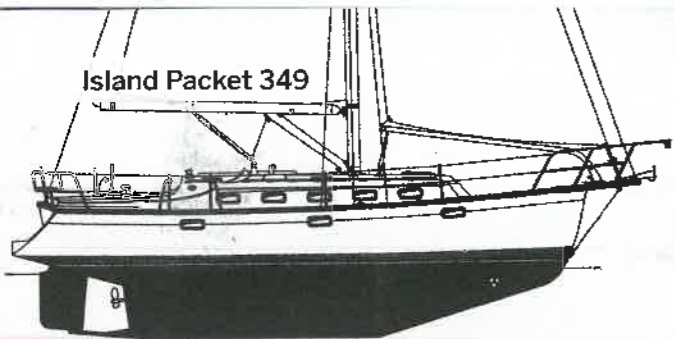
Another one of the many new Hanses to hit the market over the past year or so, the Hanse 418 is pure Hanse through-and-through: whether it's in the boat's angular lines topside (long a company trademark) or its easy-to-handle rig, complete with self-tacking headsail and the company's one-rope reefing system. Twin wheels (and a pair of flip-up helm seats) provide clear sightlines forward and easy access to the huge swim step aft—another Hanse trademark. A plethora of hatches and hull windows admit an abundance of natural light belowdecks and also provide excellent ventilation, either underway or in a stuffy anchorage. **Hanse Yachts, hanseyachts.com**

HANSE 458

One of the newest arrivals in Hanse's "8" series, the Hanse 458 is designed by Judel/Vrolijk, and couples a powerful, semi-balanced spade rudder with plenty of waterline length and a self-tacking jib to provide a combination of speed and ease of use. (A reaching sailing can also be tacked onto the combination anchor roller/ fixed sprit for additional power off the wind.) Aesthetically, the boat appears to have hit a real sweet spot thanks to the way the minimal sheer and cabintrunk are set off by the plumb bow and stern. For the epicures in the audience, an integrated BBQ can be found hidden in one of the twin helm stations aft. **Hanse Yachts, hanseyachts.com**

MONOHULLS CRUISING

Island Packet 349



ISLAND PACKET 349

After having been a bit on the quiet side the last couple of years, iconic Island Packet is under new ownership and back in the game with its fully revamped Island Packet 349. Features include a fully battened mainsail equipped with a low-friction Battcar system that drops easily into a pocket boom with an integral cover and lazy jack system; a highly customizable interior; and hull side ports for increased ambient light belowdecks. Three things that haven't changed are the boat's trademark full-keel, a self-tending Hoyt Boom for the working jib, and IP's rock-solid build quality. Looking forward to seeing more of IP in its latest guise! **Island Packet Yachts, ipy.com**

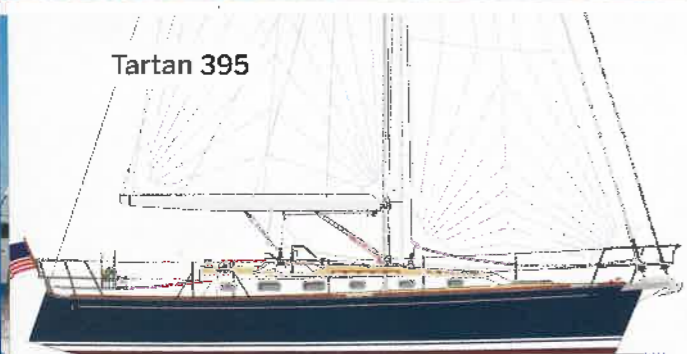
Wauquiez Pilot Saloon 42



WAUQUIEZ PILOT SALOON 42

Drawn by Berret Racoupeau Yacht Design, the Wauquiez Pilot Saloon 42 combines a sophisticated bluewater hull form with a raised-saloon configuration to provide both good performance under sail and superb comfort (and great views of the outside world!) when belowdecks. A plumb stem and nearly plumb transom maximize the boat's sailing length, while chines and a broad run aft create additional power and sail-carrying ability. Completing the hull package are twin helms and rudders to ensure control even when the boat is on its ear. As has long been the case with Wauquiez, joinerywork is impeccable throughout. **Wauquiez Boats, wauquiez.com**

Tartan 395



TARTAN 395

The storied U.S. builder Tartan is back on the scene with a new sloop from the drawing board of the company's long-time designer Tim Jackett. Conceived as a sporty cruiser that will work equally well daysailing, coastal cruising or crossing oceans, the Tartan 395 boasts an infused epoxy and vinylester hull along with a double-headsail rig of the kind long favored by veteran passagemakers. Three different keel options are available, all cast in lead for better righting moment. Best of all, Jackett has eschewed the Euro fashion du jour and instead created a contemporary iteration of the "American" yacht—hard as that look may be to actually define—that will remain attractive for generations to come. **Tartan Yachts, tartanyachts.com**

BE Figaro Beneteau 3



MONOHULLS PERFORMANCE

FIGARO BENETEAU 3

Two years after Beneteau unveiled its Figaro 3 concept, the world's first "production foiling one-design monohull" is now not only available to the general public, but coming to U.S. shores for one and all to see at this fall's boat shows. The key to the boat's revolutionary performance is a pair of radically curved foils that project from the side of the hull and provide the necessary righting moment for the boat to stand up to a press of sail in a blow. Other features drawn for Beneteau by naval architects VPLP include twin rudders, a sprit from which to fly a large A-sail, a hull with chines and a bow that looks optimized for blast-reaching straight out of the IMOCA 60 play book. Talk about cool! **Beneteau, beneteau.com/us**

X-Yachts X4.9



X-YACHTS X4.9

The latest installment in X-Yachts' "X" Range of "contemporary performance cruisers," the X4.9 is marked by quality design and construction throughout. The hull is vacuum infused in epoxy, while the keel includes a lead bulb in the interest of lowering the center of gravity and increasing righting moment. Multiple sprit/anchor roller options are available to match a range of sailing styles, and rod rigging comes standard. Belowdecks the modern, stylish interior is impeccably crafted to provide comfort and safety whether on the hook or on-passage. Dual helms provide easy access to the electrically operated swim step and a dinghy garage aft. **X-Yachts, x-yachts.com**