



Rebecca Horn is awarded the Wilhelm Lehmbruck Prize of the City of Duisburg for lifetime achievement

The City of Duisburg and the Wilhelm Lehmbruck Museum Foundation are pleased to announce that an international jury has awarded the Wilhelm Lehmbruck Prize of the City of Duisburg to artist Rebecca Horn. The Wilhelm Lehmbruck Prize, one of the most renowned international awards for sculptors, is awarded to Rebecca Horn in recognition of her life's work which had a major influence on shaping 20th and 21st century sculpture.

As a sculptor, draughtswoman, literary figure, filmmaker, video, installation and performance artist, Rebecca Horn has over the past decades formulated her own unique poetry of the mechanical in an extensive and rigorous body of work. The jury, presided over by Prof. Jochen Gerz, honoured Rebecca Horn as "one of the most original, innovative and experimental artists in Germany whose work enjoys international recognition. From the 1960s until today she has created an equally complex and distinctive body of work in which she addresses the existential human condition. It is the transitions from the physical to the spiritual that reveal her spiritual kinship with Wilhelm Lehmbruck after whom this prize was named. We look forward with anticipation to the exhibition of her works at the Lehmbruck Museum."

"I am delighted and proud that the Wilhelm Lehmbruck Prize has found such broad civic support and will now be awarded again after an interruption of ten years", says Lord Mayor of Duisburg and chairman of the board of trustees of the Wilhelm Lehmbruck Museum Foundation, Sören Link. Duisburg's head of cultural affairs, Thomas Krützberg, adds: "Our thanks go to the Sparkasse Duisburg and its CEO, Dr. Joachim Bonn, who made a vital contribution to the revival of this award by donating the prize money. Mr. Stephan Böninger and his family, who have close ties to the Museum and the City of Duisburg, have provided crucial support to making the exhibition that accompanies the prize possible."

The Wilhelm Lehmbruck Museum Foundation and the City of Duisburg thank the following persons for the continuing and passionate support with which they promoted the revival of this award: Dr. Thomas Ludwig as chairman of the board of the Freundeskreis of the Wilhelm Lehmbruck Museum Foundation, Dr. Doris König and Dr. Otmar Franz as vice chairpersons of the Freundeskreis, Paul Köser and Dr. Reimund Göbel as friends of the museum as well as all supporters who wish to remain anonymous.

The Wilhelm Lehmbruck Prize, which is endowed with 10,000 Euros, was awarded by expert juries every five years from 1966 to 2006 to keep alive the works of the sculptor Wilhelm Lehmbruck (1881-1919), a native of Duisburg, and to honour the lifetime achievement of contemporary, internationally renowned sculptors. Among the winners of the Wilhelm Lehmbruck Prize are Eduardo Chillida, Norberg Kricke, Jean Tinguely, Claes Oldenburg, Joseph Beuys, Richard Serra, Richard Long, Nam June Paik and most recently, in 2006, Reiner Ruthenbeck, all of whom have earned a place in art history with their works.

Dr. Dinkla, director of the Lehmbruck Museum, applauds the jury's decision: "It is a great honour and an important step for our museum that after 50 years a female artist has been added to the series of renowned artists who were awarded the Wilhelm Lehmbruck Prize so far. Rebecca Horn's work has taken another surprising new turn in the past few years. Her poetic works represent the human condition, the vulnerability of human beings and the delicate balance of social coexistence."

The jury

Members of the jury, who met to award the Wilhelm Lehmbruck Prize of the City of Duisburg at the Lehmbruck Museum, were, in addition to Dr. Söke Dinkla, director of the Wilhelm Lehmbruck Museum, Georg Elben, director of the Museum of Sculpture Glaskasten (Marl), Prof. Jochen Gerz, artist (Dublin), Prof. Dr. Georg Imdahl, art critic (Cologne), Thomas Krützberg, head of cultural affairs of the City of Duisburg, Dr. Günter Okon, member of the board of the Wilhelm Lehmbruck Museum, Dr. Lynette Roth, curator at the Busch-Reisinger Museum, Harvard Art Museums, (Cambridge), Dr. Achim Sommer, director of the LVR Max Ernst Museum Brühl, and Udo Vohl, city councillor and chairman of the cultural affairs committee of the City of Duisburg.

The artist

Rebecca Horn was born in Michelstadt, Germany, in 1944. She lives and works in Berlin, Paris and Bad König. She had numerous solo shows in major international museums, most recently at the Tate Modern in London in 2016. She took part in many of the most important exhibitions of the past decades, from the documenta in Kassel (1972, 1977, 1982 and 1992) to the Venice Biennale (1980, 1986 and 1997). Her works can be found in the collections of the most renowned museums, including the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum in New York, the Tate Gallery, London, the Musée d'Art Moderne, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, and the Berliner Nationalgalerie (Staatliche Museen zu Berlin, Preußischer Kulturbesitz).

In September 2016 Rebecca Horn became a member of the "Orden Pour le Mérite für Wissenschaften und Künste", which constitutes the highest distinction conferred on artists and scientists by the Federal Republic of Germany.

Image free for publication with credits: The members of the jury (l. to r.: Dr. Günter Okon, Dr. Söke Dinkla, Udo Vohl, Prof. Jochen Gerz, Dr. Achim Sommer, Thomas Krützberg, Dr. Lynette Roth, Georg Elben, Prof. Dr. Georg Imdahl).

Source: Museum

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