

# *Roswitha Haftmann Stiftung*

## **Press Release**

**Zurich, 8 May 2008**

**Video artist Douglas Gordon receives the Roswitha Haftmann Prize today.**

**Today the Scottish video artist Douglas Gordon will receive Europe's most prestigious art prize. The award ceremony will take place in the presence of Members of the Zürcher Kunstgesellschaft and guests at Kunsthaus Zürich.**

In recognition of his extraordinary artistic achievements, in January 2008 the Board of the Roswitha Haftmann Foundation chose the Scottish video artist Douglas Gordon as the latest recipient of the Roswitha Haftmann Prize, valued at CHF 150,000.-

Born in Glasgow in 1966 and a graduate of Glasgow School of Art and the Slade School of Art in London, Gordon now lives and works in New York. Since his early days as a photographer, in his videos and film installations Gordon has developed an artistic language that is all his own. Alongside Doug Aitken and Stan Douglas, he is the leading exponent of video art in the mid-generation. In 1996 he was awarded the Turner Prize. Since then he has demonstrated his talent in other genres besides media art.

The award ceremony will take place at 6.30 p.m. in Kunsthaus Zürich. The laudation will be delivered by Dr Bernhart Schwenk, Director of the Collection of Contemporary Art at the Pinakothek der Moderne in Munich. Dr Christoph Becker, President of the Roswitha Haftmann Foundation, will present the award. Following this there will be an Apéro with music by the Telaphones.

## **FOUNDATION AND PRIZEWINNERS**

Douglas Gordon is the latest in a line of outstanding artists who have received this most prestigious award since its relatively recent establishment by the gallerist Roswitha Haftmann (1927–1998). Financed by a trust fund, this prize was first awarded in 2001 to Walter de Maria. Subsequent prizewinners have been Maria Lassnig, Jeff Wall, Mona Hatoum, Robert Ryman, Peter Fischli and David Weiss, and Richard Artschwager.

Further information on the patron Roswitha Haftmann, the jury, the prize and the prizewinners will be found at [www.roswithahaftmann-foundation.com](http://www.roswithahaftmann-foundation.com). The website will be updated after the ceremony.

For further information and visual materials, please contact

Björn Quellenberg

+41 (0)44 253 84 11

[bjoern.quellenberg@kunsthaus.ch](mailto:bjoern.quellenberg@kunsthaus.ch)

c/o Kunsthaus Zürich  
Winkelwiese 4  
Postfach  
CH-8024 Zürich

Tel. 044 253 84 84  
Fax 044 253 84 33