

Roswitha Haftmann Stiftung

Press release

Zurich, 11 May 2016

Presentation of the Roswitha Haftmann Prize to Heimo Zobernig

On 12 May 2016 at the Kunsthaus Zürich, Heimo Zobernig (b. 1958) receives Europe's best endowed art award, worth CHF 150,000, from the Roswitha Haftmann Foundation.

As announced by the Roswitha Haftmann Foundation on 12 November 2015, Heimo Zobernig becomes the sixteenth artist to be honoured with Europe's best endowed art award. The presentation takes place at 6.30 p.m. on 12 May in the Kunsthaus Zürich. Board member Karola Kraus will deliver an address in praise of the Austrian artist, who works in a variety of media including sculpture, painting, video and performance, before an audience of some 300 members of the Zürcher Kunstgesellschaft and in the presence of friends of the artist as well as the Foundation Board.

THE FOUNDATION AND ITS BOARD

Following the presentation, the Board bids farewell to Dr. Katharina Schmidt, the former Director of the Kunstmuseum Basel who is stepping down from the position of Deputy Chair which she has occupied since the Board was constituted, and in which she has played a key role in the nomination and selection of the award winners. Katharina Schmidt was personally acquainted with gallery owner Roswitha Haftmann (1924–1998), on whose initiative the Prize was created. The Foundation, which was set up after Roswitha Haftmann's death in accordance with her wishes, has presented the Prize since 2001 to living artists who have created an oeuvre of outstanding quality. The winner is chosen by the Foundation Board, which includes the Directors of the Kunstmuseum Bern, the Kunstmuseum Basel, the Museum Ludwig in Cologne and the Kunsthaus Zürich as well as other members co-opted by the Board.

Information on the life and work of Heimo Zobernig as well as further details on the Roswitha Haftmann Foundation can be found at www.roswithahaftmann-foundation.com.

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