

Roswitha Haftmann Stiftung

Press release

Zurich, 5 May 2011

Carl Andre to be presented with Roswitha Haftmann Prize; special prize for Trisha Brown.

The first Minimalist sculptor, Carl Andre, is today being presented with the Roswitha Haftmann Prize, Europe's best-endowed art award. Additionally, choreographer and visual artist Trisha Brown receives a special prize.

In August last year the Board of the Roswitha Haftmann Foundation announced that the 2011 award, worth 150,000 Swiss francs, would be presented to the American artist Carl Andre (born 1935). Andre is the eleventh artist to be honoured with Europe's best-endowed prize for art. At the presentation ceremony, which takes place at 6.30 p.m. today in the Kunsthaus Zürich, Andre will be represented by his partner Melissa Kretschmer, who will accept the award on his behalf from Christoph Becker, Chairman of the Board of the Roswitha Haftmann Foundation. The encomium will be given by Dr. Philip Ursprung, Professor of the History of Art and Architecture at the Institute for the History and Theory of Architecture, ETH Zurich.

The Prize was originally the initiative of Roswitha Haftmann (1924-1998), whose foundation has awarded it since 2001 to a living artist who has created an oeuvre of outstanding quality. The deed of foundation provides for the jury to award special prizes at its discretion. The latest recipient is the American choreographer and artist Trisha Brown (born 1936), who will receive a special prize worth 75,000 Swiss francs.

At the invitation of the Foundation Board, some 400 guests from the worlds of art and culture both in Switzerland and abroad are expected to attend the ceremony in the lecture hall of the Kunsthaus Zürich. The event concludes with a concert by Ania Losinger and Mats Eser entitled 'XALA – Danced Soundsculptures'.

For further information on the prize winners, the founder, the jury and the prize itself, please see www.roswithahaftmann-foundation.com.

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