

Photography ‘between poetry and disenchantment’ The 2018 Goslar Kaiserring is awarded to Wolfgang Tillmans

Goslar: Wolfgang Tillmans is to receive the Goslar Kaiserring for 2018, one of the most highly acclaimed contemporary art prizes. The mayor of Goslar, Dr Oliver Junk, made the announcement today at the traditional New Year reception in the city’s Kaiserpfalz. Tillmans is a leading contemporary artist, and spends his time between Berlin and London. ‘It is a special feeling to receive the Kaiserring myself, having followed its story with interest for the past 25 years. I should like to express my cordial thanks to the jury and to the city of Goslar,’ said Tillmans. Wolfgang Tillmans will receive the Kaiserring in Goslar on 29 September 2018.

There follows an excerpt from the Kaiserring jury’s declaration of its reasons for the award. ‘Wolfgang Tillmans has already created a densely packed, many-layered life’s work which has enjoyed an intense reception at international level. His work was driven by the great questions: of truth (and not least the truth of the picture), of expansion of knowledge, of the perception of the stars, of the documentation of the abundance and transitoriness of immediate life, of beauty, of friendship, of freedom. ... The camera was the instrument by his side on numerous journeys in order to capture not only the diversity of phenomena in our globalized world but also the uniqueness of individual places. ... The analysis of the medium of photography, the plumbing of its limits, and the balancing of poetry with disillusionment make Wolfgang Tillmans one of the most significant photographers of our age.’

Wolfgang Tillmans

Wolfgang Tillmans was born in Remscheid in 1968. From 1990 to 1992 he studied at the Bournemouth & Poole College of Art and Design. In 2000 he became the first photographer, and the first non-British artist, to win the Turner Prize. In 2013 he became a member of the Royal Academy of Arts. In 2015 he received the Hasselblad Award.

Wolfgang Tillmans became well-known in the early 1990s with his style-setting photographs of youth and popular culture. Since then, his work has expanded to include a whole variety of genres and photographic practices. In addition to, for example, still lifes, portraits, landscapes and astrophotography, he has created a variety of abstract photographic works addressing the theme of the medium and the exposure process itself. For his exhibitions, he has developed a non-hierarchical style by bringing together photographs of different size and texture in precisely conceived and composed all-over installations.

Of great importance for Tillmans’s creative oeuvre is his work with printed materials such as his own regularly appearing publications and magazine articles. Since 2016 he has increasingly devoted his attention to the theme of music by making videos, producing music himself, and acting as a DJ.

In recent years, his works have been shown in major solo exhibitions at leading museums, such as Moderna Museet in Stockholm (2012/2013), K21 in Düsseldorf (2013), the National Museum of Art in Osaka (2015), the Serralves Museum in Porto (2016), Tate Modern in London (2017). and the Fondation Beyeler in Basel (2017), where a major retrospective of his oeuvre over more than 30 years has recently closed. From 2018, in co-operation with the ifa, he will stage an exhibition series scheduled to last for for a number of years in Africa and Asia. In February, Tillmans will open a silver jubilee exhibition at the Galerie Buchholz in Cologne, where he first showed his works in a gallery context 25 years ago. Since 2006 he has run the non-for-profit exhibition room ‘Between Bridges’, first in London, and from 2014 in Berlin.

Presseinformation Öffentlichkeitsarbeit



Stadt Goslar
Der Oberbürgermeister

Kaiserring Goslar

The Goslar Kaiserring is one of the most highly acclaimed prizes for modern art worldwide. It has been awarded since 1975. The first winners were Henry Moore, Max Ernst and Alexander Calder. They were followed by pioneers of contemporary art such as Joseph Beuys, Gerhard Richter, Nam June Paik, Christo, Cindy Sherman and Jenny Holzer. In recent years, the award has gone to, among others, Andreas Gursky, Bridget Riley, David Lynch, Olafur Eliasson, Boris Mikhailov and most recently to Isa Genzken.

Contact:

Further information can be found on the websites of the Mönchehaus Museum (www.moenchehaus.de) and the city of Goslar (www.goslar.de). The city's press and public-relations team are available to answer questions and provide additional pictorial material, tel. 0049 5321 704-226. Information can also be had from the director of the Mönchehaus Museum, Dr Bettina Ruhrberg, tel. 0044 5321-4948, ruhrberg@moenchehaus.de

Photos:

Wolfgang Tillmans, photographer Karl Kolbitz
Captions Kaiserring Goslar
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