

Launch of the 26th Jindřich Chalupecký Award

Czech Republic's most prestigious art award, Jindřich Chalupecký Award, enters its 26th edition. Artists can submit their applications until March 2, 2015. The five finalists will be selected by the jury in March, the final exhibition and the award ceremony will be held in Brno in cooperation with the Moravian Gallery in Brno in the next year.

The 26th Jindřich Chalupecký Award will celebrate two significant anniversaries; 25 years since the passing of visual and literary theorist Jindřich Chalupecký and since the foundation of the prestigious award. All the significant events will take place in the Moravian metropolis in cooperation with the Moravian Gallery in Brno. *"After many years of holding final exhibitions and award ceremonies in various institutions, we have finally managed to establish a meaningful alternation between Prague and Brno thanks to a firmly negotiated cooperation between two leading institutions; the Moravian Gallery in Brno and the National Gallery in Prague. Thus the award should be anchored for the next six years; in our experience, this model is popular with the artists as well as the viewers,"* says Lenka Lindaurová, director of Jindřich Chalupecký Society.

Those who are interested in participating in Jindřich Chalupecký Award can submit their application from today until March 2, 2015; the application is available on the website of Jindřich Chalupecký Society. At the same time, artists recommended by respected personalities of the Czech art scene will be nominated for the award and addressed by the Jindřich Chalupecký Society.

The five finalists will be selected in March by a 7-member international jury composed of leading experts in the field of art. With one exception, the jury is the same as in the past edition. Art historian Milena Bartlová, whose three-year mandate has expired, will be substituted by art critic and curator Marek Pokorný, art manager of the PLATO platform of the Gallery of Ostrava and ex-director of the Moravian Gallery in Brno. The jury further includes Holly Block, renowned curator and director of the Bronx Museum of the Arts in New York; visual artist Jiří Kovanda; art theorist and director of the Slovak National Gallery Alexandra Kusá; director of the Astrup Fearnley Museum of Modern Art in Oslo, Iceland's Gunnar B. Kvaran; art theorist and curator Pavlína Morganová; and Marina Shcherbenko, curator and specialist adviser at Bottega Gallery and Shcherbenko Art Centre in Kiev.

In the fall of the next year, the finalists of JCHA 2015 will introduce their works at a collective final exhibition in the Pražák Palace of the Moravian Gallery in Brno. The exhibition will see a significant novelty of the next edition of the award. *"All of the finalists will receive the same sum for the realization of the exhibition; 50 000 CZK they can use freely. In the past years, a financial limit would be set and changed in the course of the years,"* Lenka Lindaurová explains.

The winner of the final competition will be announced by the jury during the award ceremony held in Brno in the fall. Besides 100 000 CZK for the realization of an exhibition and a 6-week residency in New York, the winner will also receive a material award in the form of a brass cylinder designed by Maxim Velčovský.

The 26th edition of Jindřich Chalupecký Award will traditionally offer a rich variety of related events introducing all of the five finalists. Next year's related events will also include a professional colloquium held in the Moravian Gallery in Brno.

For more information on the application, go to www.cjch.cz/en.
The application form is available at <http://www.cjch.cz/en/article/prihlaska>.

General Partner: J&T Bank
Co-organizer: Moravian Gallery in Brno

Main Media Partner: Czech Television

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