



BERLINISCHE GALERIE

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KUNST, FOTOGRAFIE UND ARCHITEKTUR
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Bernard Frize to receive Fred Thieler Prize for Painting 2011

The Fred Thieler Prize for Painting 2011 will be awarded to the artist Bernard Frize (*1949 near Paris), who has dedicated himself to abstract painting since the 1970s. By selecting Frize, the jury decided in favour of an artist who represents one of the most important contemporary positions internationally.

Abstraction is founded on a reduction to the consistency of paint and its colours. Bernard Frize understands painting as a process that is dependent on the behaviour of the paint during application. In this way, every work emerges according to its own logic and system, making its compositional structure comprehensible. Coincidence and the technically determined paint application process become the subject of the works, which are conceived as work groups and express a tremendous spectrum of variations.

The method of handling paint defines the artistic outcome; the structure of the process determines the diversity of possibilities. It is essential to any understanding of these paintings that their genesis is visualised within them. The artist wishes to convey the “basics behind the experience of painting”, to show the relation between his thoughts and actions.

Patron of the exhibition (18.03. – 06.06.2011) is the Ambassador of the Republic of France.

Endowed with 10,000 euros, the art prize is presented in the Berlinische Galerie every two years. The artists receiving the award are always based in Germany, but their creative work can be said to have an international impact.

Prize-winners from 1992 to 2009: Eugen Schönebeck, Peter Bömmels, Lothar Böhme, Andreas Brandt, Reinhardt Pods, Jan Kotík +, K. H. Hödicke, Walter Libuda, A. K. Dolven, Peter Herrmann, Marwan, Katharine Grosse, Cornelia Schleime, Günter Umberg, Bernd Koberling, Gerwald Rockenschaub and Pia Fries.

Members of the jury: Prof. Frank Badur, member of the Fine Art Section of the Academy of the Arts, Berlin; Udo Kittelmann, director of the Nationalgalerie, Berlin; Dr. Thomas Köhler, director of the Berlinische Galerie, Berlin; Prof. Karin Sander, artist, Berlin; Trak Wendisch, artist, Berlin

Press conference: 17.03.2011, 11 am, opening / award ceremony: 17.03.2011, 7 pm