

GRA AWARDS 2010

Each year we award two of our best graduating students. This year, 2010, we awarded three! This year we will not only grant those students who made remarkable art-works, but we will also award the best thesis written by one of our students.

For all awards we invited an independent jury coming from the field of fine arts and design. Members of the jury in the category of Autonomous Arts and Applied Arts are:

Maria Hlavajova from BAK Utrecht
Fons Welters from Gallery Fons Welters
Gianni Cito from DOK architects
Helen van Ruiten from Gallery Binnen

The jury of the Rietveld Thesis prize :

Domeniek Ruyters, editor in chief of Metropolis M
Marloes van der Hoek, editor in chief of HTV de IJsberg
Jeroen Boomgaard, lector Art and Public Space at the Rietveld Academie

The nominees for the GRA Awards 2010 in the category of the Autonomous Arts were.....

Ruta Butkute (ceramics)

Ruta gives the Ceramics a new impuls. Her works turn into sculptures in a very exciting way. In her work she uses old furniture and asks under what circumstances this old furniture can be seen as contemporary. How can it be meaningful for us nowadays?

As she puts it herself very striking: 'When does an existing form lose its functionality and become a memoir?'

Sara Campos (fine arts)

Sara's multilayered work contributes to the discussion about art and communication in a very strong way. Her performance shows us that to use art as a tool for communication isn't that obvious as we all would like to believe. How can the meaning of art be communicated? Can it be communicated? The way she shows us the impossibility of this matter made a deep impression on our members of the jury.

Suzanne Posthumus (photography)

Suzanne made a very funny documentary in which she ridicules the art-world. She shows us in a playful way how much art is part of our contemporary society and what the role of the female artist is in this debate. She unravels the clichés that are still strong and shows us the painful truth that art might not have this important role in today's society as we all hope it has....

Isfrid Angard Siljehaug (fine arts)

The drawing on the wall of this artist had attracted our jury. Isfrid plays with the vocabulary of contemporary painting. This work shows us that art can shed a new light on current issues. Therefore, our members of the jury were impressed.

Asli Toy (vav)

Asli's work refers in an interesting way to Turkish cinema. Our members of the jury were impressed by the way she literally follows the female characters in the film. She erases the women and the erosion stresses even more that there is a woman figure. She connects us in a creative way to Turkish cinema. She must have a great deal of knowledge on the Turkish cinema...

The Rietveld Award 2010 in the category of the Autonomous Arts: Sara Campos of the Fine Arts department!

The nominees for the GRA Awards 2010 in the category of the Applied Arts are.....

Marius Lindgard (graphic design)

Marius makes the applied graphic design almost autonomous. His silc-screens (= zeefdruk?) were remarkably beautiful. He did a material-research within the field of graphic design. His craftsmanship had impressed our members of the jury.

Kristin Maurer (architectural design)

Kristin Maurer's installation outside is a whole new interpretation of space. Space can be created by shadows as well as materials. This is what struck our jury-members. Next to this the technical realization of the work is stunning and therefore our members of the jury wanted to celebrate this piece of work.

Mi-ah Roediger

Mi-ah's research impressed the jury. Her work creates a high feeling of comfort. It makes you feel at ease is the conclusion of our jury. She brings a new interpretation of the jewellery. Especially the head-phone was stunning...

Passama Sanpatchayapong (jewellery)

Passama (noon)'s work consists of ordinary objects (for example an iron, or a door-handle) which she turns into something extraordinary. She decorates them with hair. It seems as if the inspiration for the hair comes from different noticeable hair-do's of fellow students.... Her collection is esthetically very precise and beautiful. Members of the jury were impressed

Aline Weyel

Aline's work adds a new layer to graphic design. It's a well done research en the presentation of the whole was remarkable. Our members of the jury found out that last year Aline had to re-do the final year and would like to emphasize in this report that Aline worked very hard this year and therefore made a remarkable revanche! Congratulations for that Aline!

The Rietveld Award 2010 in the category of the Applied Arts: Noon Passama of the Jewellery department!

The Rietveld Thesis award:

In general the jury was very enthusiastic about the level of the texts it received. All were very well written, most showed good quality of research and almost all testified to a high degree of 'urgency', which means that the writers really wanted to find answers to their questions.

The jury was specially impressed by the works of Liam Tickner – a very well written, hilarious text about working in a gallery -, Fleur Thio – because of her personal journey into the wonderful world of sustainable design -, Sarah Kaaman, - a short but precise analysis of the difference between art manifestos and design manifestos-, and Yvette Zub a.k.a. Mrova for her very elaborate theoretical reflection on the notions of interactivity and interpassivity.

The jury however was unanimous in its decision that there was only one thesis that really deserves this prize:

Because it is a thesis that involves the reader in an interplay between form and content in an amazing way.

Because it is very well written, keeping a careful balance between the personal and the objective, between anecdotal and philosophical, between thinking and doing.

Because it shows that it is possible to deal with a very complex theoretical problem in a very light way.

It might be called a special coincidence that this thesis and its excellent understanding of the philosophy of Henri Bergson has been written in the spirit of our theory teacher Raoul Teulings, who we all miss very much, and in whose memory this first Prize for Best Thesis is given. The Rietveld Prize for Best Thesis 2010, consisting of an amount of 1500 euro and publication of the thesis in *HTV de IJssberg*, goes to *Being Motion* of **Charlotte ten Raa** of the Textile Department.