



Press release / Social Sculpture Award / 11 November 2019

Joseph Beuys up-to-date

Social Sculpture Award for Johannes Stüttgen and Utopia City

Following the idea of the Social Sculpture by Joseph Beuys, the SSC Social Sculpture awards the following prizes. Corporation won the Social Sculpture Award for the first time in November 2019. The prize is an award for exemplary commitment to shaping society in the sense of social justice, environmental protection, Responsibility, successful cooperation and participation. The goal of the SSC is the dissemination and implementation of good ideas for social transformation. The work of the Düsseldorf-based non-profit organization is based on Joseph Beuys' expanded concept of art, which aims to transform society into a whole work of art in the sense of a Social Sculpture or Social Sculpture. It depends on each individual, because the creativity of all people is needed for the comprehensive changes that are currently imminent. Against this backdrop, the Social Sculpture Award refers to the visionary power of Joseph Beuys and brings to the table the exceptional artist from the museum into the present.

Half of the € 20,000 award goes to Beuys student **Johannes Stüttgen** and the project **Utopia City** in Wuppertal.

The Düsseldorf artist Johannes Stüttgen is honoured for his life's work in spreading, deepening and continuing the idea of Joseph Beuys' extended concept of art and for precision and clarity by showing the facets of the idea of Social Sculpture with regard to economic justice, political participation, cultural diversity and freedom. Utopia City is honoured as an ecological-social model project, which led the former railway station Mirker Bahnhof in Wuppertal to a new social use. In the interest of an active transformation, various initiatives are brought together here to form a diverse network, which sets new impulses which will benefit the entire region.

The jury's decision expresses the fact that the design of Social Sculpture is based on theory and practice that have to go hand in hand. The jury's decision expresses the fact that the design of Social Sculpture is based on theory and I have to go hand in hand with my practice. „It needs permanent reflection to achieve good results in practice, as they are so urgently needed today,“ emphasises Suzanne Augenstein, managing director of the SSC and initiator of the Social Sculpture Award.

The award ceremony for Johannes Stüttgen will take place on 22.11.2019 at the Künstlerverein Malkasten in Düsseldorf. Utopia City receives the award on 23.11.2019 in the former Mirker railway station in Wuppertal.

#### Further information

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