



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
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Federal Department of Home Affairs FDHA

Federal Office of Culture FOC

Jan Tschichold Award 2013

Each year the jury bestows, independently of the books submitted for the competition, the Jan Tschichold Award in memory of the typographer Jan Tschichold, on whose initiative the Swiss book design competition was launched in 1944. The Federal Department of Home Affairs entrusted the jury in 1997 with the task of annually awarding this honour to an individual, a group or an institution for outstanding book design achievement. This year, the Jan Tschichold Award, which is endowed with 15,000 Swiss francs, is awarded to the publisher, author, actor and comedian Patrick Frey (*1951) from Zurich.

Patrick Frey

Founded his small imprint Edition Patrick Frey in 1986, focusing on photography, art, popular culture and the everyday. Annually, around 15 titles are published and over sixty percent of its turnover is generated outside Switzerland. The publishing house develops its publications in close collaboration with young and established artists and has been involved in a number of long-term collaborations with renowned artists such as Walter Pfeiffer, Peter Fischli & David Weiss, Andreas Züst, Karen Kilimnik and Annelise Coste. This has resulted in a remarkably hybrid list of artist's and photography books, each of which aims to capture an artistic universe. In its decision to award the prize to Patrick Frey, the jury recognized Frey's unique contribution to the world of publishing as well as his ability to seek out artistic expressions beyond the mainstream. With regard to design, the publisher does not subscribe to a signature style but collaborates with established as well as young independent graphic designers, with remarkable and unexpected results.