

“We are the people” - The Social Art Award 2019

Be it Hong Kong, Chile, Lebanon there are burning conflicts in the world right now, where people stand up united for their rights, their freedom, their present and their future. Looking back in history, 30 years ago in 1989, it's been the unity of East Germans that made the impossible come true. They made the wall come down to reunite to one country. Power to the people, power to unity and solidarity, power to the peaceful revolutions.

What does art have to say in these times of transformation? How do social artists empower, cherish, support unity? Does art have the power to catalyse change, peaceful revolutions and positive futures? Where does art take place? What forms of art are created? Where do we stand on together, get inspired and empowered, and appreciate the freedom of art and the spirit of humanity? How can art contribute and empower peaceful revolutions through the people?

Social Art is the artistic expression that aims at creating social impact and change. This definition delineates the intention of the artist as crucial. Art engages in questioning and rethinking existing systems and paradigms. Artists are visionaries, utopists, agents for change, with the ability to affect society by creating emotionally captivating experiences. It is aesthetic revolution that preludes societal revolution.

Thus, the goal of the Social Art Award is to invigorate the rise of social art. We need more people to create impact and to inspire change. Even if this approach dissents from the widely claimed autonomy of art. The award explores and clusters this field, and seeks to raise attention for social art. Furthermore, the award aims at strengthening the recognition of social artists and the value of their work. Hence, it cherishes the importance of social art for society. All artists and cultural actors are invited to apply with their work they consider relevant for the field of social art. There are no restrictions based on gender, training or nationality.

Application deadline: 15 December 2019 –
Application form: <http://social-art-award.org/award2019>

The Social Art Award 2019 targets two categories:

Category 1 is fully open, looking for the most impactful contributions to “We are the people – catalyzing peaceful revolutions through the power of the many”

Category 2 looks for the most impactful global symbol (a visual logo) for peaceful revolutions enabling anyone to show their commitment for non-violent change. Best would be an option that communities can localize/ co-brand with their flag or movement visual, thus, it can be targeted as their specific local movement, yet showing solidarity with the global movement of peaceful change makers.

Prizes and awards

1. The winner receives 1.000 Euro in prize money. (We are collecting donations to enable a higher prize money.)
2. The three selected winners for the exhibition present their artwork in Berlin, Germany in Spring 2019.
3. The Top 50 artworks will receive additional exposure through a touring exhibition raising awareness for peaceful revolutions. Already assigned locations: Lebanon, Serbia, Hungary, Chile, Brazil, Spain, Austria, Finland, Germany. If you like to host an exhibition between March and September 2020, reach out to us.)
4. The 10+2 shortlisted artists will receive a professional feedback by jury.
5. The 50 artists of the preselection will be published in the official award book.

Organizer

The Institute for Art and Innovation is specialised in the facilitation of interventions at the intersection of art, science and technology to drive impact. The interdisciplinary projects provide intelligent, innovative strategies, enriching ideation and research, reaching new audiences, transferring knowledge and fostering tangible results. In the focus area of water and plastic (r)evolution the interdisciplinary network currently consists of 70 institutions that collaborated in the EU funded project "The Universal Sea". The Institute is an independent, not-for-profit, non-governmental organization based in Berlin, Germany.

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