

AUSTRIAN FREDERICK KIESLER PRIZE FOR ARCHITECTURE AND THE ARTS 2016

goes to the Spanish architect

ANDRÉS JAQUE



Photo by Miguel de Guzmán

Decision of the jury (extract):

“The jury is very pleased to award this year’s Kiesler Prize to Andrés Jaque, a young architect from Madrid whose Office for Political Innovation has become internationally renowned for its capacity to go beyond assumptions about traditional practice and urban life. If the spirit of Frederick Kiesler is that of someone operating on the threshold between art and architecture with highly original experimental work that establishes new protocols and opens up new perspectives, the spirit of Andrés Jaque’s designs, installations and performances strongly resonate with that of Kiesler.

This innovative architectural practice is unique in its dedication to ‘fieldwork,’ documenting and analyzing the new patterns of contemporary life in order to design playful spaces of great beauty that stage the new forms of social collectivity and interactivity under the rapidly evolving conditions of global and local economies. The work is therefore thoroughly contemporary and responsive. It savors the diversity of new forms of living that is ignored or hidden by the standard typologies and design conventions of traditional architectural practice and urban design. The jury also appreciated the trans-scaler character of the work, spanning from micro-details of social media messaging all the way through urban scales to macro-economic transformations, and rethinking architecture at each scale in a provocative way. The work is also unique in blurring the lines between art, architecture and politics.

In summary, this outstanding practice is characterized by its innovative analysis, multi-media performance, outstanding polemical design and its focus on new kinds of social interactions. Andrés Jaque maybe the first architect to fully appreciate the urban and architectural implications of the new social media and the associated sharing economy. In this, he plays an important role as a thought leader. The Kiesler Prize Jury is very pleased to award this year’s prize to a practice that combines a playful aesthetic with a serious polemic to produce some of the most original, provocative and influential works the field has seen for a long time.”

Jury 2016

(from left to right:)

Benedetta Tagliabue, Architect
(Peter Bogner, Director Kiesler Foundation)

Beatriz Colomina, Architectural theorist
(Hani Rashid, President Kiesler Foundation)

Ben van Berkel, Architect

Stella Rollig, Director Lentos Kunstmuseum Linz

Peter Kogler, Artist



Photo by Sabine Hauswirth

The Austrian Frederick Kiesler Prize for Architecture and the Arts 2016 will be presented in autumn 2016 in Vienna by Andreas Mailath-Pokorny, Executive City Councillor for Cultural Affairs of Vienna. The exact date will be announced soon.

Andrés Jaque:

Andrés Jaque was born in 1971 in Madrid, Spain. He graduated in Architecture from Escuela Técnica Superior de Arquitectura in Madrid. In 2000, he launched Andrés Jaque Architects and in 2003, the Office for Political Innovation, a transdisciplinary practice that develops architectural projects dedicated to bringing inclusiveness into daily life using research, performance and installations. The office's slogan is "architecture is technologically rendered society". Jaque operates at the interface between art, architecture and critical practice. He lives and works in Madrid and New York.

Some of his most important works are *Plasencia Clergy House*, *House in Never Never Land*, *ESCARAVOX*, *COSMO MoMA PS1*, *IKEA Disobedients*, *PHANTOM*. *Mies as Rendered Society* and *Superpowers of Ten*. His practice was awarded with the Silver Lion for the Best Research Project at the 14th Venice Architecture Biennale in 2014 and with the Dionisio Hernández Gil Prize.

Andrés Jaque is Advanced Design Professor at Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation (GSAPP), Columbia University and Visiting Professor at School of Architecture (SoA), Princeton University. Together with the Office for Political Innovation, he is author of the publications *PHANTOM. Mies as Rendered Society*, *Different Kinds of Water Pouring into a Swimming Pool*, *Dulces Arenas Cotidianas*, *Eco-Ordinary. Codes for everyday architectural practices and Everyday Politics*.

Previous Laureates:

Frank O. Gehry (1998) – Judith Barry (2000) – Cedric Price (2002) – Asymptote Architecture / Hani Rashid + Lise Anne Couture (2004) – Olafur Eliasson (2006) – Toyo Ito (2008) – Heimo Zobernig (2010) – Andrea Zittel (2012) – Bruce Nauman (2014)

“It’s such a great satisfaction to receive the Frederick Kiesler Prize, that honors Kiesler’s endeavor to challenge disciplinary boundaries and conventions. I believe that daily life is there to be reinvented, discussed and taken care of, that is what we try to do with our work in the Office for Political Innovation. If we had to find friends on this purpose we would put the previous Kiesler awarded on top of the list.”

Andrés Jaque, *Frederick Kiesler Prize Laureate 2016*

“Andrés Jaque belongs – just as Frederick Kiesler – to those who free architecture from constructing’s monothematic thinking. It is absolutely logical that the Spanish architect, lateral thinker and visionary Jaque is awarded with the Kiesler-Prize – the award for architecture in Austria endowed with the highest prize money – this year: He understands architecture as society’s designer by creating spaces for dialogue. In that way, he continues the path which was already pursued by Frederick Kiesler with his holistic and interdisciplinary working practice.”

Thomas Drozda, *Austrian Federal Minister for Arts and Culture*

“Andrés Jaque’s understanding of architecture is future-oriented: By discussing the complex social and political relations, he positions architecture as essential means for shaping daily life. In this way, Andrés Jaque appears as visionary as well as pragmatic, designing bold solutions at a time when usual schemata are not effective anymore.”

Andreas Mailath-Pokorny, *Vienna City Councillor for Cultural Affairs*

“Andrés Jaque is a worthy recipient of the Kiesler Prize, an architect who fearlessly turns all on its head confronting the banal that at times burdens the pursuit of pure fantastical space. His work stood out this year for its vibrancy, playfulness and uncompromising commitment to seeking out the new and the unorthodox.”

Hani Rashid, *President of the Frederick Kiesler Foundation, Vienna-New York*

“The transdisciplinary work of Andrés Jaque predestines him as a worthy recipient of the 10th Kiesler Prize. His artistic and scientific practice of developing new concepts regarding political and social innovations can be very much connected to Frederick Kiesler’s 'correalistic' theory and contributes crucially to the providing of realistic models concerning the rapid changes within society, architecture and urbanism at present.”

Peter Bogner, *Director of the Frederick Kiesler Foundation, Vienna*

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