

The 12th Carouge Ceramics Itinerary

The 12th Carouge Ceramics Itinerary opened from October 1st to October 9th 2011. In Carouge, 25 exhibitions, a ceramic market organised by Swissceramics and more than 10 events were enjoyed by a numerous public. More and more amateurs, artists, collectors appreciate Carouge's biennial which is organised in parallel with the Museum of Carouge's International Ceramics Competition. Several institutions acquired artworks for their collections in the exhibitions.

Seeking to be a real showcase of contemporary ceramics creation, the Itinerary proposed artists working the jewell, the vessel, sculpture and installation in classical aesthetics or very contemporaneous ways. As such, the exhibition "Ceramics Now!" in the Halles de la Fonderie curated by the organisation committee presented surprising artworks: no firing for the 10 tons of raw clay installation sculpted by Alexandra Engelfriet (the Netherlands) neither for Helen Follert's (Germany) performance which was made of synthetic porcelain.

The artists were welcomed by gallerists and contemporary creators of Carouge who generously and professionally exhibited the ceramics in their exhibition spaces. By the meeting of these international talents in Carouge and Geneva, the Ceramics Itinerary offers a real exchanges and encounters platform between artists, collectors and institutions.

The Carouge Ceramics Itinerary was organised for the first time by the Bruckner Foundation for the promotion of ceramics, a public foundation of the City of Carouge and member, since October 1st 2011 of the International Academy of Ceramics. The IAC's Council meets every two years during Carouge's biennial in its main office at the Ariana Museum.

Closure Ceremony at the Ariana Museum

Thanks to a close inter-institutional collaboration, the Ariana Museum invited the Carouge Ceramics Itinerary to a common closure in parallel with their exhibition devoted to the Lithuanian artist Audrius Janusonis. Artists, gallerists, curators were present for a friendly aperitif on October 9th at 5 pm.

The Great Amateurs' Award of the Carouge Ceramics Itinerary was awarded at this occasion.

Carouge Ceramic Itinerary's Great Amateurs' Award

A Jury led by a panel of decision makers, journalists and cultural actors elected, according to a protocol proposed by the Bruckner Foundation the work of an artist thanks to the support of the Banque Pictet's Foundation.

The Jury noted the quality of the artworks exhibited and the excellence of the scenography offered by the galleries as well as the pleasure the amateurs had in contemplating the diversity of works, expressions and techniques exhibited.

Winner 2011 : Mme Ann van Hoey (Belgium)

The Jury elected the art of Ann Van Hoey (Belgium) who wins the Prize. Her originality in the use of a geometric rigueur and the sobriety of her expression put into light the elegant poetry of her lines, curves and volumes, reminding of course the perfect lightness of origamis. There is as such a welcome tension, a dance really, between these forms' lightness and the extreme discipline of the artist's techniques. The ceramicist was formerly awarded the bronze medal at the 5th world ceramics biennial in Seoul in 2009 and the Henri van der Velde in Belgium.

Two special mentions were awarded to Mme Anne Mercedes (France) and to Mr Joan Serra (Spain)

As for the first edition of the Award, the Jury decided to award two other works:

Internationally recognized, Joan Serra's sumptuous lyrism results in sculptures playing with materials in gold, black, and white.

The second mention is attributed to Anne Mercedes, a French artist working in England who proposes a telluric chaos, an exigent and explosive dissertation of movements and flux.