



**MAK**

Press Release

**CONTEMPORARY – RETROSPECTIVE**  
**The 2013 Eligius Award. Jewelry in Austria.**

Opening	Tuesday, 28 May 2013, 6 p.m.
Exhibition Venue	MAK Metal Study Collection MAK, Stubenring 5, 1010 Vienna
Exhibition Dates	29 May–29 September 2013
Opening Hours	Tue 10 a.m.–10 p.m., Wed–Sun 10 a.m.–6 p.m. Free admission every Tuesday, 6–10 p.m.

Once again, Austria's contemporary jewelry scene is to present itself in a museum-setting at the MAK. This will be the MAK's second-ever showing of the most outstanding entries to the competition for the "Eligius Jewelry Award for Body Jewelry and Jewelry Objects," which is awarded by the Federal State of Salzburg. This exhibition, which will be visiting the MAK after its initial presentation at Salzburg's Galerie im Traklhaus, will feature works by this year's Eligius winner Benedikt Fischer and Recognition Award recipient Christian Hoedl, as well as objects by Susanne Hammer, Wolfgang RaHS, Ulrike Reithofer, Kurt Rudolf, Ingrid Schmolle, Bernhard Stimpfl-Abele, and Eva Tesarik.

The Eligius Award—established by the Federal State of Salzburg in 2005 and named for the patron saint of goldsmiths—is Austria's only award for contemporary jewelry. Altogether 44 exceptionally creative works by mostly young artists were submitted to this year's competition. Benedikt Fischer (\*1984 in Fraham, Upper Austria; lives and works in Halle, Germany) won over the jury with his contemporary formal language and the intensity of his works' formal-aesthetic qualities and content. The coveted award is worth € 5,000. Fischer, who uses plastic parts as the starting products for his works, presented a "still-young oeuvre that is already convincing for its naturalness, stringency and formal precision," reads an excerpt from the independent jury's written evaluation.

The jury went on to state that Christian Hoedl (\* 1975 in Schwaz, Tirol; lives and works in Munich) stands out for his "perfection of execution and great attention to detail without losing sight of the compositional whole," for which reason he received

the € 2,500 Recognition Award.

From a wide range of submitted jewelry works, objects by a total of three female and six male artists were admitted to the exhibition. These will be joined for the first time by a “retrospective” group of works that provide insights into the life’s work of established artist Manfred Nisslmüller. Ever since the 1960s, Nisslmüller—whose output includes highly atypical works such as rings that resemble finger splints, or his so-called *Fleisch-Brosche* [Meat Brooch] (1989/2004)—has been regarded as one of the most unconventional creative minds in the field of artistic jewelry.

The jury of the Eligius Award, which was conferred this year for the fourth time, consisted of Susanne Längle (art historian and jewelry expert), Elisabeth Schmuttermeier (curator, MAK Metal Collection and Wiener-Werkstätte-Archive), and Petra Zimmermann (jewelry artist). The previous awardees were Susanne Hammer (2005), Helfried Kodré (2007), and Petra Zimmermann (2010). All Eligius Award winners as well as several of the artists from this year’s competition—Susanne Hammer, Manfred Nisslmüller, Kurt Rudolf und Eva Tesarik—are represented by outstanding objects in the fine collection of jewelry that is part of the MAK Metal Collection.

The catalogue *4. Eligius-Schmuck-Preis des Landes Salzburg 2013*, published by Galerie im Traklhaus, is available for € 4 at the MAK Design Shop.

Press materials and images are available for download at [www.MAK.at/press](http://www.MAK.at/press).

Press Data Sheet

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Curator	Elisabeth Schmuttermeier, curator, MAK Metal Collection and Wiener Werkstätte Archive
MAK Admission	€ 7.90 / reduced: € 5.50 / family ticket: € 11 Free admission for children and teens up to 19
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