

28<sup>th</sup> April 2009

## ANNOUNCEMENT

### **Torsten and Wanja Söderberg Prize 2009 is awarded to the Finnish designer Harri Koskinen.**

The Röhsska Museum prize committee for the Torsten and Wanja Söderberg Prize, which is donated by the Torsten and Ragnar Söderberg foundations, has decided to award the Finnish designer Harri Koskinen with this year's prize of SEK 1,000,000.

A unanimous jury has awarded the 2009 Torsten and Wanja Söderberg's Prize to the Finnish designer, Harri Koskinen.

The prize committee's reasoning is as follows:

*"Harri Koskinen is one of the foremost designers now occupied with the task of continuing the Nordic design tradition. His extensive, wide-ranging body of work has a unique, austere design that is consistently expressed with clear Nordic roots in its demands for good function and simplicity of form, as well as in the choice of materials. These elements combine to create lasting value. At the same time as he enjoys successful partnerships with design-intensive companies around the world, he is also participating in the renewal of his homeland's design industry."*

The prize will be ceremoniously awarded at the University of Gothenburg on 4<sup>th</sup> November and will be followed by an exhibition at the Röhsska Museum from 5<sup>th</sup> November 2009 until spring 2010.

The prize committee consisted of Bodil Busk Laursen, director of the Danish Museum of Art & Design, Copenhagen; Widar Halén, chief curator of the National Museum of Art, Architecture and Design, Oslo; Jarno Peltonen, former director of the Museum of Applied Arts, Helsinki; Stefan Snaebjörnsson, interior architect and design consultant, Reykjavik; Tomas Söderberg Ph.D., Torsten and Ragnar Söderberg foundations; and Ted Hesselbom, director of the Röhsska Museum, Gothenburg.

The prize of SEK 1,000,000 is the largest design prize in the world.

Images, biographical material and a curriculum vitae can be downloaded from:  
<http://www.lammgard.se/rkm/twsp09/press.htm>

See also: [www.harrikoskinen.com](http://www.harrikoskinen.com)

For more information please contact: Birgitta Wählander, media and PR officer,  
[birgitta.wahlander@kultur.goteborg.se](mailto:birgitta.wahlander@kultur.goteborg.se) or phone +46 (0)31-368 31 53.

### **The Röhsska Museum**

Vasagatan 37–39, Göteborg, Sweden  
[www.designmuseum.se](http://www.designmuseum.se)