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### inhorgenta europe 2010 Innovation Awards: creative and trend-setting jewellery design

- 11<sup>th</sup> Innovation Award presented at inhorgenta europe 2010
- More than 160 entries exhibited wide bandwidth of creative jewellery design

At inhorgenta europe 2010 creative jewellery design was honoured with the Innovation Award for the 11<sup>th</sup> time. The award, endowed with a 2,000 Euro prize, has established itself as one of the most important international jewellery design awards. The Innovation Award enjoys a very good global reputation in the industry and has become the perfect stepping stone into the international jewellery market for young designers. This explains its popularity: this year more than 160 designers from all over the world entered their pieces in the competition.

An international jury, this year consisting of six experts from five different countries, selected the winners. Four competitors from the “Modern Jewellery Design” segment, and one designer each from the segment “Silver Objects” and “Platinum Jewellery Design”, were honoured. They winners received their awards at a presentation ceremony at inhorgenta europe.

The following entries were honoured with the Innovation Award, thanks to their trend-setting jewellery design: Birgit Hagmann from Kaufbeuren impressed the jury with her imaginative three-dimensional brooches, inspired by nature. Düsseldorf resident Julia Funk received the award for her original “Calf Jewellery”, slightly reminiscent of 1920ies era sock garters. In addition, the jury enthusiastically agreed on the “collapsible” bracelet and necklace by Kirsten Plank from Plattling, turning jewellery wearing into a small ceremony. And last, but not least, Polish jewellery designer Arkadiusz Wolski impressed the jury: his surrealistic “Pictograms” are meant to be ironic, yet decorative statements.

The Special Silver Award was presented to Stefan Strube from Hannover for his drinking vessels, which surprised the jury with their harmonious symbiosis created with the materials silver and concrete. The Special Platinum Award went to Düsseldorf resident Nina Friesleben for her very elegant, yet despite their material surprisingly airy platinum rings and bracelets.

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“The endorsement of innovation power and creativity in the jewellery business is the central goal of our trade fair,” emphasizes Armin Wittmann, inhorgenta Europe Exhibition Director. “We consistently focus on supporting talented jewellery designers. The Innovations Award embodies the high design competence of the trade fair and is the perfect complement for the concept of hall C2.” For this reason inhorgenta europe has established itself as the leading international jewellery design show, and is the world’s only platform for designer jewellery in all its facets. The next issue of the EU’s largest trade fair for watches, jewellery, gemstones, pearls, and technology will be held from February 25th to 28th, 2011.

### **Winners’ Statements**

Birgit Hagmann, Kaufbeuren:

“I am very happy about the validation of my work embodied by the Innovation Award. In particular the opportunity to be able to exhibit again at inhorgenta Europe is very helpful for a ‘newcomer’ like me. This year I was able to make many useful new contacts, and I will certainly expand on this next year. It is really worth it for young jewellery designers to exhibit at this trade fair.”

Julia Funk, Düsseldorf:

“I am still completely overwhelmed – the Innovation Award is a great professional justification of my jewellery, yet also a personal validation. I think it is very practical that this also means I will have my own exhibit booth next year, providing me with a chance to make many new contacts. In any case I am really happy about the suddenly increased attention my jewellery creations are now experiencing.”

Kirsten Plank, Plattling:

“This year was my fourth time at inhorgenta Europe, and I did not think I would get an award. It is a very respectable recognition of my work and myself and opens up new opportunities for me. The jury took a lot of time to truly experience the jewellery and to discover the special character and background. This provides me with momentum and inspiration for the new year, and I am already looking forward to exhibiting at the next inhorgenta europe.”

Arkadiusz Wolski, Warsaw:

“For me, as an artist and designer, receiving the Innovation Award is a great milestone for my career. It generates a lot of attention for my work, which will also help establish it on the market for the long term. I am very happy to be able to exhibit again next year in hall C2, which is a very good platform for young designers created by inhorgenta Europe.”

Stefan Strube, Hannover (Special Silver Award):

“I was really surprised to receive the Innovation Award, and I am totally happy. The award will be very helpful in my professional future, as it is very useful in becoming established in the market and making new business contacts. In addition, this competition is very well organized, and is implemented to really cater to us young designers.”

Nina Georgia Friesleben, Düsseldorf (Special Platinum Award):

“During the trade fair I received a lot of positive feedback to my jewellery. And receiving the Platinum Innovation Award topped the whole thing. It really is one of the industry most renowned awards, which immediately generated inquiries for further exhibitions. In addition, I am extremely happy about the professional marketing support by the Platinum Guild.”

More information is available at [www.inhorgenta.com](http://www.inhorgenta.com) – for images of the products please click [here](#)



Innovation Awards Winners, Photo: Messe München GmbH/Streubel

About Messe München International (MMI)

Managing close to 40 trade expositions for industrial, consumer goods, and new technology, Messe München International (MMI) is one of the world's leading exposition companies. More than 30,000 exhibitors from over 100 countries, and more than two million visitors from over 200 countries participate in the Munich-based events every year. In addition, MMI manages trade expositions in Asia, Russia, the Mid East, and South America. MMI operates a global network with six foreign subsidiaries in Europe and Asia, as well as 64 foreign representations, covering more than 90 countries worldwide. As an internationally active company, Messe München International is dedicated to endorsing sustainability and environmental protection.

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