

Muzeum Plakatu w Wilanowie
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Verdict of the Jury of the 24th International Poster Biennale in Warsaw, 2014

Gold Medal

The Jury decided to award the Gold Medal to Wiesław Rosocha for his poster announcing his own exhibition in the Powiatowa Galeria Sztuki Współczesnej in Ostrów Wielkopolski. Rosocha's design offers both a strong message about his own work and about the poster in general. The layering of silhouettes, for instance, suggests the seriality which characterizes the medium, whilst the attention to the eyes emphasizes the importance of sight. Rosocha plays clear homage to the modernist avant-garde but also provides new and subtle notes in his treatment of the surface texture and the rendering of the eyes. The combination of the shape of the head with the type is beautifully achieved.

Silver Medal

This poster by Andreas Golde announcing a seminar on the works of Theodor W. Adorno captures the careful construction of the philosopher's writing in the form of these quasi-structural blocks. The reduced colour range, the integrated use of type and the surface treatment - in the form of half-tone dots - produce a striking and memorable effect.

Silver Medal

On first inspection this poster for the Schauspiel Stuttgart by Jakob Kirch, challenges the prevailing view that graphic design should be based on the orderly organization of words and images. The poster ripples with energy and, in the selection of images and free-wheeling lines, hints at violence too. Yet, the design is, in fact, clear, delivering its information with both lucidity and emotional effect.

Bronze Medal

Dmitry Mirilenko's triple poster – employing one of Alexander Rodchenko's photographs - is a highly poetic response to the life of Vladimir Mayakovsky, a revolutionary poet whose life ended tragically. The three-part form captures the phases of his existence with both remarkable concision and lyricism. The typographic devices which seem to float on the surface of the designs points to Mayakovsky' work as a writer and a poet, but the absence of letters invites the reader to fill in the work with his or her imagination.

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Bronze Medal

Symbiosis represents a remarkably sensitive approach to the question of humanity's relation to nature by designer Freeman Lau Siu Hong. The treatment of the tree – in the form of a silhouette - is strikingly beautiful. On closer inspection, the human element is revealed in these magically positioned chairs.

Bronze Medal

Announcing a series of performances of short plays by the dramatist Samuel Beckett for the Teatr Poweszechny in Radom, Lech Majewski's poster offers contrasting treatment of type. The contrast between the conspicuous appearance of the playwright's name and the subtle layers of text - which perhaps suggest inner thoughts and voices - is very effective. The figure of the woman in negative also suggests the existential themes in these works.

Golden Debut

The winner of the Golden Debut award is Lukasz Kowalski, the designer of a series of posters on the need to improve access to and quality of water in Africa. In the view of the jury, his designs display an acute sensitivity to design, particularly in their attention detail. His posters combine considerable wit - for instance in the eye which is transformed into a shield by the lettering in the '60%' poster - with beauty. The images, patterns and type are well balanced – no element dominates over the others.

The voting for the award by the jury was very close and we would also like to give honorable mention to the work of Jan Bajtlik and Jonathan Auch.

Mroszczak Honorary Award

Recognising the importance of self-authored works, the jury decided to present the Mroszczak Honorary Award to Haiping Li Design Studio for a poster which comments directly and unstintingly on the commercial interests which are responsible for polluted conditions in which many people live. The design has the clarity which is at the heart of the poster tradition. Focusing in the first instance on China, this poster also has a global message.