

**AWARD WINNERS
COMPETITION »BEST BOOK DESIGN FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD 2008«
ENTRIES FROM 2006/2007**

Jury in Leipzig, German National Library, February 8th and 9th, 2008

GOLDENE LETTER

Venezuela

Pedro Cunill Grau
Geohistoria de la Sensibilidad en Venezuela
Fundación Empresas Polar, Caracas
Design: Álvaro Sotillo & Gabriela Fontanillas & Luis Giraldo
ISBN 9803790935

Complex yet very subtle typography. Diverse information is characterised just so as to make it clearly distinguishable. The book-designer has refrained from using coloured type, working instead merely with small contrasts in size, thickness and highlighting. The manner of binding (French fold) opens up a wonderful possibility for navigation through the book. Its front edge is graced by a subtle thumb index. The layout is open and flexible. The designer has not become constrained by his own mesh, as is so often the case with such a large number of illustrations.

GOLD MEDAL

Switzerland

Walter Keller (Ed.)
Ein Tag im Leben von
Salis Verlag AG, Zürich
Design: Elektrosmog (Valentin Hindermann & Marco Walser & Simone Koller)
ISBN 9783905801057

The design of this book makes use of graphic conventions taken from newspaper and magazine design, doing so in a playful and unforeseen fashion. The way the contents are categorised, the use of only one highlighting colour, the varying column structure and changes of typeface reinforce the volume's documentary character. It is a pleasure to see how good design, vigorous and unambiguous, can tell stories in such a natural and unambitious way.

SILVER MEDALS

Germany

Helmut Völter
Handbuch der wildwachsenden Großstadtpflanzen
Institut für Buchkunst an der Hochschule für Grafik und Buchkunst, Leipzig
Design: Helmut Völter
ISBN 3932865421

Ugly – but real! The plants presented in this book are shown just as they actually appear in urban areas, with the same shrivelled leaves, ailments and injuries – like an ill-treated beggar on the edge of the street trying to attract attention to himself ... The typography is just like in those official letters which we would all rather not receive and very fittingly underscores the superb overall documentary character. Felicitous choice of materials and consistent design contribute in making this a book one enjoys leafing through, reading and exploring: an affectionate herbarium.

Japan

Michio Suzuki (Ed.)
The Birds and Birdlore of Tokugawa Japan
 Heibonsha Ltd., Publishers, Tokyo
 Design: Omori Yuji
 ISBN 9784582515060

A richly illustrated and informative book. Its simple structure permits a flexibility of design which gives the pages a dynamic appearance. Everything is filled with wonderful typographical details. A real visual and intellectual treat.

BRONZE MEDALS**Germany**

Mariko Mori
Oneness
 Hatje Cantz Verlag, Ostfildern
 Design: Hester Fell
 ISBN 9783775719674

This book grew on me the more time I spent with it. Its structure is intriguing. Visual references, exclusively printed in silver, are presented before the works of art themselves and explained later in the book. At the very end the artist herself comments on her work. All this makes the journey through the book something of a challenge as one finds oneself continually flicking back and forth. But it is all the more rewarding since there is much more to discover than first meets the eye. This book forces its reader to engage with it as closely as one has to with Mori's work itself if one hopes to get beyond the surface.

Germany

Hanna Zeckau, Carsten Aermes
Brehms verlorenes Tierleben
 Zweitausendeins, Frankfurt am Main
 Design: Hanna Zeckau & Carsten Aermes
 ISBN 9783861507949

Crammed with information this is a book waiting to be discovered. And a lot of help is offered in the process. A system of cross-references, pictograms, sketches and statistical data has been elaborated in great detail. Clear boxes containing the most important facts are to be found at the beginning of each entry. Typography, printing, binding and choice of materials are all absolutely convincing.

France

Collection cent pages
 Éditions cent pages, Grenoble
 Design: sp Millot

Let's do the Time Warp again! With "Collection cent pages" the book-designer Philippe Millot has successfully accomplished a journey in time through the history of literature and typography and one is happy to accompany him in his exuberant typographical divertissement. A black cover with large white letters and a short biography, embossed in metallic colours, does not yet reveal what typographical sophistication and wit await the reader inside the book. In the appendix to each volume we learn that the book series is also a homage to the American type-designer Matthew Carter.

Switzerland

Fabian Biasio, Margrit Sprecher
Die Mitte des Volkes
 Edition Patrick Frey, Zürich
 Design: Prill & Vieceli
 ISBN 9783905509656

This is not so much a book as a reportage. It's not something I read, it's something I am part of, as I hastily flick through it, quasi travelling together with photographer and authors through the Switzerland of the SVP (the Swiss political party "Schweizerische Volkspartei"). The book-designer uses a variety of means without ever going off the rails. The book is always charging ahead, its pages anxious to be turned. It has the loudness of the SVP – no place here for subtlety – and yet its design is well considered, planned and expertly handled. For me this is the book's principal achievement. It constitutes contemporary design, though evolved entirely out of the subject-matter, and as such individual and unique.

Switzerland

Vitra. The Home Collection 2007/2008
 Vitra AG, Birsfelden
 Design: Cornel Windlin

Ten whole pages are used to discuss what Vitra wishes to achieve in its publication, the presentation of its "Home Collection 2007/2008". A further 172 pages elaborate on Vitra's "Home Story". That this piece of work succeeds in transmitting an identity can be largely attributed to its designer Cornel Windlin. It is not the design which is surprising, but the wealth of ideas with which the beautification of everyday life through the company's well-known design classics is conveyed. Everyday life here means what's special as well as what's trivial, something that can be seen in the illustrations and choice of materials. The jacket is a folded poster, on the inside of which the "objects" can be seen being delivered.

HONORARY APPRECIATIONS**China**

Sun Naiqiang, Wang Le, Wang Chengfu, Shi Changsheng
The After Concept & Works Book
 Tianjin Yangliuqing Fine Arts Press, Tianjin
 Design: Wang Chengfu & Geng Geng
 ISBN 9787807381761

Too beautiful and well-designed to go away from the competition empty-handed. They know all the tricks as well as how to use them ... elaborate features, successful choice of materials and masterly diversity in the double-page layout make this book a real treasure trove. Agency The After has demonstrated its expertise with conviction and great finesse.

The Netherlands

Mondriaan Stichting. Jaarverslag 2006
 Mondriaan Stichting, Amsterdam
 Design: Joost Grootens

Contemporary design underscores the purpose of this publication (annual report 2006) in a professional but also humorous fashion. Concept, typography and features are convincing in their clarity. The classification by pictograms and the clever and appealing design of tables and statistics serve to document the work of an active cultural foundation in a fresh and inviting manner.

Portugal

Isabel Martins, Bernardo Carvalho
pê de pai
Planeta Tangerina, São Pedro do Estoril
Design: Bernardo Carvalho (Planeta Tangerina)
ISBN 9729941076

The reduced style of the monotone illustrations, the type, the colours and the paper are as appealing and warm as the book's subject. The double-pages are balanced, with superbly corresponding colour scheme and a rhythm which gently pervades the whole book. The harmonisation and interaction of illustrations and type constitute a further commendable feature.

Switzerland

Dorothea Strauss / Haus Konstruktiv, Zürich (Ed.)
Carsten Nicolai. Static Fades
JRP Ringier Kunstverlag AG, Zürich
Design: Gavillet & Rust
ISBN 9783905770636

A very sensitively designed book. From the cover to the last page the same visual language is spoken. Simple in its design yet rich in detail, everything is like a soothing melody.

Czech Republic

Lucie Vlčková (Ed.)
Družstevní práce: Sutnar – Sudek
Uměleckoprůmyslové museum v Praze, Prague
Design: Stěpán Malovec & Martin Odehnal
ISBN 9788071010661

This monograph documenting the creative partnership between Czech photographer Josef Sudek and art director Ladislav Sutnar is a book as bold in its design as the works which it presents. Its decidedly black and white layout is sober and unpretentious. As such it presents a strong and individual contrast to the more overstated and colourful publications on similar themes which also featured in the competition.

PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES

Australia	Estonia	Poland
Austria	Finland	Portugal
Belarus	France	Russia
Belgium	Germany	Sweden
Canada	Iran	Switzerland
China	Japan	Slovakia
Colombia	Latvia	Slovenia
Croatia	Liechtenstein	Spain
Czech Republic	Lithuania	Taiwan
Denmark	New Zealand	USA
Ecuador	The Netherlands	Venezuela
Egypt	Norway	

JURY

Chin-Lien Chen, OfficeofCC, Amsterdam (The Netherlands)
Prof. Markus Dreßen, Hochschule für Grafik und Buchkunst, Leipzig (Germany)
Prof. Heike Grebin, blotto Design, Berlin (Germany)
Geir Henriksen, Kolonien AS, Oslo (Norway)
Jurij Kocbek, graphic-designer and photographer, Ljubljana (Slovenia)
Angelika Sagner, marebuchverlag, Hamburg (Germany)
Gilmar Wendt, sas, London (England)