



Greetings from the patron Wilhelm von Boddien

When I received the request as to whether I would take over the patronage of the KUNSTPREIS DEUTSCHLAND 2022 (GERMANY ART PRIZE 2022) with the motto "Art powers future", I was a little surprised, although over the decades I have developed a very close relationship to the fine arts and the art discipline of architecture could.

Since, as the initiator of the reconstruction of the "Berlin Castle" (Stadtschloss), I had to overcome a perfectly organized, powerful resistance from the lobby of architects and the art history functionaries for years, I see a great opportunity in the above-mentioned motto of this art prize to break up institutional encrustations and righteousness and perhaps even a first to set the course for a new direction in the fine arts and the art discipline of architecture.

Rebuilding the "Berlin Castle" first meant overcoming the unbelievable power of modernity and its institutions, which, with its very successful lobbying work, had a decisive influence on the building history of the post-war period. She dominates the colleges, universities and building institutions and has a dominant influence on our urban design in the wise allocation of the juries of architecture competitions, usually in consultation with the state offices.

The modern age, especially in our cities destroyed by the bombing war and the demolition frenzy of the post-war period, has made them partially faceless during the reconstruction. Without the few preserved historical buildings and the surrounding landscape, they would almost all look the same, because since the end of the war they have given themselves over to an anonymous form based on the dictates of the same price-cost-benefit calculation. But this also led to more and more civic engagement for the art discipline architecture, which can be an example for the future of the fine arts in overcoming hurdles. "Art powers future".

So I see the individuality of many of our citizens, companies and the public service, which I perceive to be lost, in this art competition as a challenge for the expert jury to deal with the terms power and future in particular when determining the prizes to be awarded.

I see the KUNSTPREIS DEUTSCHLAND 2022 (GERMANY ART PRIZE 2022) as a great opportunity to start a change of direction in the institutions too. The motto of this art award (Art Powers Future) calls on artists to create visual messages that are suitable for giving impulses to the protagonists in business, politics and administration.

Wilhelm von Boddien
Managing Director
Förderverein Berliner Schloss e.V.



art **powers** future