



## PRESS RELEASE

### PAPER IN THE SPOTLIGHT: BALANCED – New Exhibition at the "House of Paper"

Berlin, June 25, 2024 – **The opening of the BALANCED exhibition at the House of Paper began with surprising juxtapositions: from Joseph Beuys' Earth Telephone to new contemporary works by the winners of the Paper Art Award by the House of Paper.**

The private museum House of Paper, in its seventh exhibition titled BALANCED, once again showcases extraordinary works dedicated to the visual arts of paper. Curated by the museum director Annette Berr, who remarked: *"With every exhibition, I think 'Amazing!' What's happening in the world of paper art is so fantastic! And then I get anxious thinking it can't be topped! But then... the new works for the next exhibition arrive. And again, I'm thrilled: the new pieces are so modern, forward-looking, and fresh that I am already looking forward to the tours in the coming months and the reactions and discussions."*

For the first time, the museum will showcase the outstanding works of contemporary paper art by this year's winners of the Paper Art Award by the House of Paper: ASAREH AKASHEH (Gold), LEONIE MERTES (Silver), RIKUO UEDA (Silver), HIROYUKI ABE (Bronze), and NORIKO AMBE (Bronze). The award ceremony took place as part of the paper positions 2024 event. The Paper Art Award by the House of Paper is one of the highest international honors for contemporary paper art.

Tehran-based artist ASAREH AKASHEH views paper not just as a medium for her works but as an essential component of the artworks themselves, engaging with it physically. LEONIE MERTES, based in the Eifel region, focuses on the technique of drawing. Using minimal tools, she employs the hand-drawn graphite line as a tool, treating the paper "subcutaneously" - exploring, destroying, and highlighting it. RIKUO UEDA, born in Japan, gives nature a voice in his work. He constructs complex devices from natural materials that allow him to capture the power of the wind. Munich-based HIROYUKI ABE created an object in collaboration with composer Mathias Lystbeak, where set composition rules of auditory elements are translated into visual form. NORIKO AMBE, originally a painter, has been working intensively with paper since 1999. She layers thousands of sheets of paper into unique objects that astonishingly concretize emptiness.

The theme of nature as a voice of art is echoed in works from this year's summer project Paper Future Lab by the House of Paper. For JOSEPH BEUYS, preserving nature was a lifelong concern. The city lab presents posters that address the disrupted communication between humans and nature. Original zebra finch nests by Berlin-born BJÖRN BRAUN are on display. Works from JORINDE VOIGT's series *observation* are also shown, including balanced mobiles made from delicate gilded brass bands developed according to the Fibonacci sequence.

This year's three wildcards went to Anna Handick, Renaud Regnery, and Andreas Theurer.

Artists in „BALANCED“ (alphab.):

Hiroyuki Abe	Goekhan Erdogan	Tanja Major	Lisa Tiemann
Noriko Ambe	Christiane Feser	Leonie Mertes	Jessica Maria Toliver
Asareh Akasheh	Anna Handick	Renaud Regnery	Rosemarie Trockel
Joseph Beuys	Leiko Ikemura	Ursula Sax	Rikuo Ueda
Cem Bora	Renata Kaminska	Ines Schaikowski	Jorinde Voigt
Björn Braun	Fee Kleiß	Fiene Scharp	
Astrid Busch	Alex Lebus	Andreas Theurer	

**The BALANCED exhibition is open until November, every Friday to Sunday from 10 AM to 5 PM.**

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