The jury of this year’s Camera Austria Award for Contemporary Photography by the City of Graz:

Annette Kelm, awardee 2015, Berlin
Vanessa Joan Müller, curator, Kunsthalle Vienna
Jens Maier-Rothe, author and curator, Berlin
Reinhard Braun, publisher Camera Austria International

has bestowed the award to German artist

Jochen Lempert.

The jury founded their decision to honour Jochen Lempert with this award on the following statement:

“Jochen Lempert (b. 1958) has a degree in biology and since the early 1990s has been devoted to work characterized by the correspondence and contextualization of individual photographs in larger groups. The perception of nature and animals in systems of representation used in scientific research here involves the individual observation of the world of flora and fauna within an environment configured by humans. Analogue black-and-white photographs give rise to a fascinating and complex, yet inevitably incomplete inventory of morphological studies that confronts the taxonomic classification of animals and plants with very subjective documentation. Phenomenology and research-based comparison meet here, especially in the idea of the photographic ‘trail’, which understands photography as a documentary medium of movement and change, as well as of reconstruction, development, and demonstration of correlations. Cross-references, associations, and correspondences within the grouping of individual photographs with an accentuated object nature also grant new perspectives on our own place within those structures of order and chance so characteristic of our world. In this sense, Lempert’s work unleashes a wealth of visual poetry that is reflected by distinctive visual language, which, not least, gives his oeuvre a unique position within contemporary photography.”

The Camera Austria Award for Contemporary Photography by the City of Graz is bestowed every two years on an artist who has published a noteworthy contribution in the magazine Camera Austria International. The prize-money is Euro 14,500.

Jochen Lempert’s work has been published in Camera Austria International no. 108/2009 and Camera Austria International no. 124/2013; his work was exhibited at Camera Austria as part of “Milk Drop Coronet. 30 Exhibitions on the Virtuosity of Thing-ness” in 2010/11.
The Awardee:

**Jochen Lempert**

Numerous **solo exhibitions** after 2006 (selection):

**Group exhibitions** after 2010 (selection):
- 2017 ”The Photographic I – Other Pictures”, SMAK, Ghent.
- 2010 “Aporien der Liebe”, BQ, Berlin; Milk Drop Coronet. 30 Exhibitions on the Virtuosity of Thingness, Camera Austria, Graz; “Living Things – Carte grise à Roy Arden”, Dazibo, Centre de photographies actuelles, Montreal.
The Award:

The Camera Austria Award for Contemporary Photography by the City of Graz was established in 1989 and is bestowed every two years on an artist who has published a noteworthy contribution in the magazine Camera Austria International and has made an important contribution to contemporary photography. The prize-money is Euro 14,500.

Previous recipients of the Camera Austria Award include:
2015: Annette Kelm (DE); 2013: Joachim Koester (DK); 2011: Heidrun Holzfeind (AT); 2009: Sanja Iveković (HR); 2007: Marika Asatiani (GE); 2005: Walid Raad (LB); 2003: Aglaia Konrad (BE); 2001: Allan Sekula (US); 1999: Hans Peter Feldmann (DE); 1995: David Goldblatt (ZA); 1993: Seiichi Furuya (JP); 1991: Olivier Richon (CH); 1989: Nan Goldin (US).

The jury members:

Annette Kelm
born 1975 in Stuttgart (DE), lives and works in Berlin (DE). Her work has been presented in solo and group exhibitions at international institutions, including Kestner Gesellschaft Hannover (DE, 2017), the Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit (US, 2016), Andrew Kreps, New York (US, 2015), Kölnischer Kunstverein, Cologne (DE, 2014), MoMA, New York (2013), Presentation House Gallery, Vancouver (CA, 2012), Städels Museum, Frankfurt am Main (DE, 2012), Kunst-Werke – Institute for Contemporary Art, Berlin (DE, 2009), Kunsthalle Zurich (CH, 2009) and Witte de With, Rotterdam (NL, 2008). Her artworks are included in important museums art collections such as MoMA, New York; Centre Pompidou, Paris (FR); Kulturstiftung des Bundes (DE); Tate Modern, London (GB); and Collection Verbund, Vienna (AT).

Vanessa Joan Müller
works as Head of Dramaturgy at the Kunsthalle Vienna (AT) and lives in Vienna. Before, she was a curator at Frankfurter Kunstverein in Frankfurt am Main (DE), Head of Research of the project European Kunsthalle in Cologne (DE), and Director of the Kunstverein für die Rheinlande und Westfalen in Düsseldorf (DE). She has written numerous texts for exhibition catalogues and monographs and was also a contributor to Camera Austria International.

Jens Maier-Rothe
is a freelance author and curator. He writes regularly for Camera Austria International (AT), Ibraaz (TN / GB), and Ocula (DE / SG). His most recent publications include Mass Effect (MIT Press; New Museum, 2015), Cave-Territories (Sternberg Press, 2016), Future Imperfect (Sternberg Press, 2016), and White Paper (Valiz, 2016). From 2012 to 2015, he was co-founder and co-director of Beirut in Cairo (EG). He currently lives in Berlin (DE).