

Media Information  
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## Jury ECKART 2016

### ECKART WITZIGMANN names jury for ECKART 2016

**Munich.** Eckart Witzigmann, who will celebrate his 75<sup>th</sup> birthday this year, has named the jury for the ECKART 2016. Jury members for the 2016 award include:

- Alex Atala, ECKART 2013 winner, São Paulo
- Fritz Eichbauer, entrepreneur, founder and owner of Tantris Restaurant, Munich
- Dr. Friedrich Eichiner, member of the Board of Management of BMW AG, Finance, Munich
- Otto Geisel, Witzigmann Academy, initiator of the award, Munich
- Claus Meyer, ECKART 2015 winner, Copenhagen and New York City
- Jon Rose, ECKART 2014 winner, Los Angeles
- Tohru Nakamura, ECKART 2011 winner and Chef of the Year 2015, Munich

The jury will meet at several locations this year. For the ECKART for “Creative Responsibility and Enjoyment”, endowed by the BMW Group with 10,000 euros, the Witzigmann Academy will rely on the prowess and expertise of previous award winners Atala, Rose and Meyer. Their vote will be linked with the jury members’ meeting on 28 June 2016 in Munich to decide the winners of the “Art of Cookery”, “Innovation” and “Culture of Living” awards.

### New venue for awards ceremony and gala

This year, for the first time, the awards ceremony and subsequent gala dinner will be held at the new BMW Group Classic in Munich. “This is where BMW started out,” says Gabriele Fink, head of the BMW Museum. “A worthy setting for Eckart Witzigmann’s 75<sup>th</sup> birthday and the BMW centenary – it promises to be a very special evening.” The awards ceremony and gala will take place on 18 October 2016.

### ECKART, Witzigmann Academy and the BMW Group

The International Eckart Witzigmann Award is one of the most prestigious honours recognising outstanding achievements in the art of cooking and fine dining. “Chef of the century” Eckart Witzigmann has awarded the ECKART for unique culinary achievements and special commitment under the broad spectrum of lifestyle since 2004. In partnership

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with the BMW Group, the Witzigmann Academy presents awards annually in three categories: "Art of Cookery", "Innovation" and "Art of Living". The Academy presented its first ECKART for "Creative Responsibility and Enjoyment" in 2013, with a cash award of 10,000 euros endowed by the BMW Group.

Previous ECKART winners include Daniel Boulud (New York City); HRH Charles, Prince of Wales (Highgrove); Elena Arzak (San Sebastian); Anne-Sophie Pic (Valence); Harald Wohlfahrt (Tonbach); Dieter Kosslick (Berlin); Ferran Adrià (Barcelona); Marc Haeberlin (Illhaeusern); Joël Robuchon (Paris); Joël Robuchon (Paris); Alex Atala (Sao Paulo); Jon Rose (Los Angeles); Mick Hucknall (Manchester); and many more.

A symposium on a specific gastronomic topic is also held annually.

Sustainability has been an integral part of the BMW Group's corporate strategy for many years, with sustainable development firmly established as a corporate target at Group level: from the development of alternative, fuel-saving vehicle concepts through environmentally-compatible production processes to eco-friendly recycling methods. At the BMW Group, sustainable thinking and action influences not only the product, but the entire value chain. In all areas of the company, the focus is on meaningful and responsible use of energy and raw materials.

If you have any questions, please contact:

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**Further information on the Eckart Witzigmann Award can be found at:**

<http://www.eckart-witzigmann-preis.de/>

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**Die BMW Group**

Die BMW Group ist mit ihren Marken BMW, MINI und Rolls-Royce der weltweit führende Premium-Hersteller von Automobilen und Motorrädern und Anbieter von Premium-Finanz- und Mobilitätsdienstleistungen. Als internationaler Konzern betreibt das Unternehmen 31 Produktions- und Montagewerke in 14 Ländern sowie ein globales Vertriebsnetzwerk mit Vertretungen in über 140 Ländern.

Im Jahr 2015 erzielte die BMW Group einen weltweiten Absatz von rund 2,247 Millionen Automobilen und rund 137.000 Motorrädern. Das Ergebnis vor Steuern belief sich auf rund 9,22 Mrd. €, der Umsatz auf 92,18 Mrd. €. Zum 31. Dezember 2015 beschäftigte das Unternehmen weltweit 122.244 Mitarbeiterinnen und Mitarbeiter.

Seit jeher sind langfristiges Denken und verantwortungsvolles Handeln die Grundlage des wirtschaftlichen Erfolges der BMW Group. Das Unternehmen hat ökologische und soziale Nachhaltigkeit entlang der gesamten Wertschöpfungskette, umfassende Produktverantwortung sowie ein klares Bekenntnis zur Schonung von Ressourcen fest in seiner Strategie verankert.

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