



**The Davidoff Art Initiative (DAI) is honored to receive a 2017 International Corporate Art Awards®.**



**Award conferred during the ceremony on November 22 in Rome.**

Albertine Kopp of Davidoff Art Initiative receiving a Corporate Art Award from Luca Desiata.  
Photo courtesy of pptART

**Basel, Switzerland, November 23, 2017.** Since its founding in 2012 and its Associate Partnership with Art Basel, the Davidoff Art Initiative has championed contemporary artists in the Caribbean, strengthened art organizations whom promote Caribbean art, and fostered cultural connections within the region and with the rest of the world. With the Dominican Republic's historic cigar-making landscape and essential arts institution Altos de Chavón as the foundation, the DAI has evolved to include five unique residency venues across the globe as well as a dedicated program within the nation designed specifically for international artists, curators, and writers. Beyond its centerpiece artist residency, the DAI further supports art production and cultural engagement in the Caribbean and diaspora via three dedicated sectors: Davidoff Art Dialogues, Davidoff Art Grants, and Davidoff Art Editions.

"It is truly an honor to be named a winner of this award alongside such notable peers," said Davidoff CEO Beat Hauenstein. "Over the past five years, our team and many collaborative partners have strived to discern and advocate for the superlative artists and creative spaces around the Caribbean and the international scene. This award signals our efforts are valid, but there is still much to be done to promote interconnectivity between the many nations and regions within the Caribbean itself, at all levels of production, as well as promoting more fully and thoughtfully cultural engagement from and around the international community."

In the words of Luca Desiata, Curator of the Corporate Art Awards®: "A lasting contribution to the world of contemporary Art. A profound social impact on the communities and the stakeholders. An international perspective with the involvement of five prestigious art institutions worldwide. These are the features that



made the Davidoff Art Residency program one of the winners of the 2017 edition of the Corporate Art Awards”

Following its reception of this 2017 Corporate Art Award®, the Davidoff Art Initiative will continue to promote greatness within the Caribbean and beyond. News of the forthcoming 2018 International Art Residency participants is forthcoming, along with further programming toward next year.

#### **About the Davidoff Art Initiative**

The Davidoff Art Initiative supports contemporary art and artists in the Caribbean, strengthens art organizations, and fosters cultural engagement between the Caribbean and the rest of the world. It brings opportunity and visibility to the art and culture of the wider Caribbean region, including the Dominican Republic, where much of Davidoff’s production and many of the employees are based.

#### **About Oettinger Davidoff AG**

Oettinger Davidoff AG with sales of over half a billion Swiss francs and 3,600 employees around the world, traces its roots back to 1875 and remains family-owned to this day. The company is dedicated to the business of producing, marketing, distributing and retailing premium-branded cigars, tobacco products and accessories. The premium-branded cigar business includes Davidoff, AVO, Camacho, Cusano, Griffin’s, Private Stock, Zino and Zino Platinum. Oettinger Davidoff AG is also the sole agent of many brands in several countries such as Haribo in Switzerland and S.T. Dupont in the USA. Its business is anchored in a strong “*crop-to-shop*” philosophy, having pursued vertical integration from the tobacco fields in the Dominican Republic, Honduras and Nicaragua to its worldwide network of over 75 Davidoff Flagship Stores that complement a network of strong Appointed Merchants around the world.

#### **About the Corporate Art Awards®**

The Corporate Art Awards® were developed by pptArt® under the patronage of the Italian Ministry of Culture. They aim at to enforce visibility, recognition and reputation for the best practices in the collaboration between the Corporate world and the Art world. The underlying principle is that companies that are actively involved in the Art world tend to be successful in terms of profitability and seem to have overcome most ethical, environmental and social challenges.

Over 90 companies and institutions from 22 countries have participated in the 2017 edition of the “Mecenati of the XXI century” Awards. The full list of participants is available at the following links:

[www.pptart.net/participants2017](http://www.pptart.net/participants2017)

[www.pptart.net/institutional](http://www.pptart.net/institutional)

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#### **Media contacts:**

##### **Oettinger Davidoff AG**

Melanie Büscher  
Sr. Manager Media Relations & PR  
Nauenstrasse 73  
Postfach CH-4002 Basel  
media@davidoff.com  
media@oettingerdavidoff.com  
+41 58 219 36 24  
oettingerdavidoff.com  
davidoff.com

##### **Davidoff Art Initiative**

Albertine Kopp  
Sr. Manager DAI  
info@davidoffartinitiative.com  
+41 61 279 3612  
davidoffartinitiative.com

##### **pptArt**

Andrea Torregiani  
at@pptart.org  
+39 349 7603883  
CorporateArtAwards.it