

JAN DIBBETS, 1995

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On the occasion of the award of the Sikkens Prize to Jan Dibbets, a publication came out on the church windows which he designed for the cathedral in Blois in France, entitled: Choosing the right color is just like finding the right word for a poem.

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In 1967 Jan Dibbets (Weert, 1941) graduated from the St. Martin's School in London, where he met Robert Long, amongst others. Dibbets was particularly concerned with the shapes of land art, photography, film and video. In this he was interested in alienating the viewer from his familiar reality. Initially he created individual compositions of sand, grass, sawdust, twigs and water on the floor, later he made geometric grass sculptures. From the end of the 1970s his work had a more monumental character. At first, the vertical architecture of churches and cathedrals had a central place in this, but later, simple elements such as a window or sidewalk tile also became important. Since the mid- 1990s, Dibbets has also applied himself to the applied arts in monuments such as the design for the church windows in Blois, France and in Wijlre.