Vilcek Foundation Releases New Video:  
*The Making of a Vilcek Prize*

Featuring designer Stefan Sagmeister and curators  
Ron Labaco and Paola Antonelli

**New York, NY, May 6, 2016** — The Vilcek Foundation released *The Making of a Vilcek Prize*, a new video on the process of designing and manufacturing the Vilcek Prize, featuring commentary by celebrated designer Stefan Sagmeister, creator of the prize design; Ron Labaco, Marcia Docter Curator at the Museum of Arts and Design; and Paola Antonelli, Senior Curator of Architecture & Design at the Museum of Modern Art.

The Vilcek Prize is awarded to immigrants in the arts and sciences, in recognition of monumental achievements in their fields; past honorees include cellist Yo-Yo Ma, dancer and choreographer Mikhail Baryshnikov, and cell biologist Peter Walter.

“Each trophy is completely unique and individually crafted for each prizewinner,” said Rick Kinsel, executive director of the Vilcek Foundation, “honoring their legacy of singular accomplishments.”

Sagmeister’s design is a 12-inch pyramid emerging from carefully set typography featuring the prizewinner’s name. “It’s only when you turn the prize around that you realize where the design is coming from, where those ridges are coming from—that it’s all bound to the individual,” said Sagmeister.
The prizes are made of resin, through a technique called stereolithography, a form of additive 3D printing. Once completed, the prize is plated with a reflective chrome surface and painted. Previously, the trophies were featured in exhibitions at The Museum of the Image in the Netherlands; and The Museum of Contemporary Design and Applied Arts and Musée des Arts Décoratifs in the Louvre in France.


The Vilcek Foundation was established in 2000 by Jan and Marica Vilcek, immigrants from the former Czechoslovakia. The mission of the foundation, to honor the contributions of immigrants to the United States and to foster appreciation of the arts and sciences, was inspired by the couple’s respective careers in biomedical science and art history. The foundation awards annual prizes to prominent immigrant biomedical scientists and artists, sponsors cultural programs, and manages the Vilcek Foundation Art Collections. To learn more about the Vilcek Foundation, please visit Vilcek.org.