Sculptor Rebecca Horn and Sophia Loren, the Italian megastar known for her voluptuous figure and romantic ties to "Houseboat" co-star Cary Grant, are among the five artists set to receive the Japan Art Associations 2010 Praemium Imperiale. One of the art world’s most prestigious accolades, the Praemium recognizes lifetime achievement in five creative fields — painting, sculpture, architecture, music, and theater/film — that are not recognized by the Nobel Prize.

Loren, who turns 76 this year, will be honored with the 15 million yen ($179,000) award alongside two fellow Italians: artist Enrico Castellani, best known for his subtle "paintings of light" and classical pianist Maurizio Pollini. The award will also honor Japanese architect Toyo Ito, who recently designed the Torre Fira BCN Building in Barcelona.

Horn follows artists like painters Willem de Kooning and Jasper Johns, sculptor Richard Long, and Robert Rauschenberg, while Ito is the latest in a line that includes visionary architects like I.M. Pei, Zaha Hadid, and Frank Gehry. Previous winners also include filmmaker Federico Fellini, musician Ravi Shankar, and playwright Arthur Miller.

According to the Praemium Imperiale’s Web site, the awards — honoring the late Prince Takamatsu, who served as the Japan Art Association’s honorary patron for nearly 60 years — are also given with the rather-soaring hope of promoting "increased international cooperation and understanding" and "to contribute to world peace." Loren, Horn, and their new colleagues will receive the award on October 13 at a ceremony in Tokyo.