

105 countries represented at this year's Malta Art Biennale

Maltese artists win five first prizes



THE SALA DEI CAVALIERI at Busietta Gardens, Mdliena, on June 2: opening of the Malta Biennale. Standing in front of works by Joseph Paul Cassar, Michael Korber, and Lilika Papanicolaou are, from left, Mina Tempra, Fr Marius Zerafa, Chev. Adrian Busietta, Dame Gisela Geuer, German Ambassador Gerhard Kunz, Dame Françoise Tempra, Russian Ambassador Sergey Zotov, Chev. Willi Geuer, Dame Marie-Angelique Caruana and Dr Francis Cachia. Right: artists, judges and delegates, from left: Salvatore Montanucci, Falah Ghati, Catherine Cavallo, Simon Barthelet, Ida Seymour de Freitas, Dott.ssa Bruna Brazzolotto, Laure HB, Dame Françoise Tempra, Dr Pino Lo Monaco, Ronald Burns, Nitaker, Matthew Cassar and Dr Jacques Birr.



ARTISTS from Malta, including 12-year-old Ian Micallef and 14-year-old Edwina Spiteri, won five first prizes in the 2001 Malta International Art Biennale which was formally inaugurated on June 3 with a gala dinner at Le Meridien Phoenicia. Artists from a record 105 countries have submitted entries for the Biennale's 16 sections.

Artists from 27 countries have received awards, and many of them travelled to Malta to receive them in person.

The Maltese artists who received first prizes were Matthew Cassar (Painting, *ex aequo*), Paul Haber (Ceramics) and Anthony Calleja (Watercolour). Young Ian Micallef won his prize in the under-18 category for sculpture while Edwina Spiteri won hers for drawing.

The Biennale, which will close on October 1, is being held in 12 venues in Malta, in Paris and Athens. A Biennale presentation will be held at the Foreign Press Association in London and the National Press Club in Washington, DC.

The Biennale judges were Dr Jacques Birr (France), Dott.ssa Bruna Brazzolotto, Luciano Gasper, Milena Kunz-Bijno, and Dr Pino Lo Monaco (Italy), Ronald Burns (USA), Gabriel Caruana and Fr Marius Zerafa (Malta), and Manuel Quintanilla (Spain).

The jury, on the suggestion of Dr

Birr, decided to award two Grand Prix des Arts to American artist Michael Korber (Painting) and Belgian artist Peter Meyers (Sculpture) for the exceptional originality and dynamism of the works.

The following are the winners in the 16 sections.

Painting: Carl Anderson (Guyana) and Matthew Cassar (Malta), joint first; 3. Falah Ghati (Iraq), 4. Gassim Abdelkader (Chad), 5. Miguel Barbosa (Portugal), 6. Joseph Paul Cassar (Malta), 7. Nicos Kyntziz (Greece), 8. Arman Gasperian (Armenia), 9. Matthew Lauretti (Italy); 10. Francis Galea (Malta).

Sculpture: 1. Ventceslav Metchev (Bulgaria); 2. Edio Gingillino (Italy); 3. Ivan Fenech (Malta); 4. Joseph Barbara (Malta); 5. Reem Gibriel (Libya); 6. Theodor Karastyanov (Bulgaria); 7. Jutta Lutz (Germany); 8. Joe Genovese (Malta); 9. Drago Marino Cherina (Australia).

Installation: 1. Guy Lemesre (France).

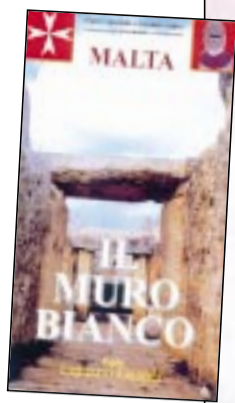
Collage: 1. Dieter Patt (Germany); 2. Renate Linnoff (Luxembourg).

Ceramics: 1. Paul Haber (Malta); 2. Zell Osborne (UK).

Watercolours: 1. Anthony Calleja (Malta); 2. A.D. Zikov (Yugoslavia/The Netherlands); 3. Anja Venalainen (Finland); 4. Anita Haan (Belgium); 5. Thea Karlsen (Germany);

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AT THE AWARDS presentation held at the Le Meridien Phoenicia Ballroom on June 3, from left: Peter Meyers, Anton Agius, Ventceslav Metchev, Theodora Metchev, Dame Françoise Tempra, Gassim Abdelkader, Sherri Pryatel, Olaf Rolf Schabbach, Jutta Lutz, Michael Korber and Carl Anderson.

MINA TEMPRA introduces Luciano Gasper before the screening of his Biennale entry, the documentary on Malta, *Il Muro Bianco* (left)

6. Dorée Acosta Giralda (Colombia); 7. Yvonne Wilson (Isle of Man); 8. Mamdouh Anwar (Egypt); 9. Irena Kjkova (Macedonia).

Graphics – Original Lithography: 1. Ansgar Kristensen (Denmark/ Germany).

Graphics – Digital and Commercial: 1. Imola Rosznyai (Hungary); 2. Andre Buzin (Belgium)

Design: 1. Laure H.B. (France); 2. Denis Calleja (Malta).

Architecture (non-competing): Special award: Italo Raniolo and Edward Bencini (Malta).

Photography: 1. Fernando Sesen (Spain); 2. Gerlinde Kupp (Germany); 3. Emad Pach Aghia (Libya).

Cinema (non-competing): Luciano Gasper and Enrico Agnoletto (Italy).

Salon: Non-competing special awards: Antonio Fuentes (Spain); Salvatore Montanucci (Italy). 1. Leonid Tikhomirov (Russia); 2. Catherine Cavallo (Malta); 3. Andrew Flint-Shipman (UK).

Performance: Olaf Rolf Schabbach (Germany) and Sherri Plyatel (USA), joint first.

Under-18 awards: 1. Ian Micallef (Malta), Sculpture; 2. Edwina Spiteri (Malta), Drawing.

Literary Entries (English): Special non-competing award: Milena Kunz Bijno (Italy/Germany). 1. Stewart Quentin Holmes (USA); 2. Hugh Arnett (UK); 3. Francis Cachia (Malta); 4. Bahram Sakkaf (Egypt).

Special awards for guests of honour were given to Siegfried Neuenhausen (Germany), Gabriella Pompei (Italy) and Irene Rousseau (USA).

Guests of honour:

Anton Agius (Malta); Thanassis Akrivopoulos (Greece); Harry Alden (Malta); Janina Barranowska (Poland); Charles Camilleri (Malta); Richard Constable (UK); Giacomo De Pass (France); Carlos Diaz (Peru); Ran Gazit (Israel/France); Tahar Djedid (Algeria); Ahmed Nawar (Egypt); Juan Antonio Guirado (Spain); George Gurashpsivili (Georgia); Mercedes Llapacumbe (Ecuador); Nitaker (Monaco); Lilika Papanicolaou (Greece); Zoltan Perlmutter (Israel/Germany); Christiane Peugeot Peyron (France); Dominique Philippe (France); Ljupco Samardziski (Yugoslavia); Vassil Stoyev (Bulgaria); Vladislav Sobinkov (Russia); Doris Vella (Malta); Xavier Zevaco (France).

Distinction awards were given to the following Maltese artists:

Victor Camilleri, Marie-Rose Caruana, Mario Cilia, Alex Dalli, Noel Fabri, Dorianne Grech, Albert Storace, Tony Sciberras.

And to: Manuel Barata (Portugal), Heung Mi Choi (Korea), Achille Costi (Italy), Romano Costi, (Italy), Chrys Coulaud (France), Mariano Fuertes (Spain), Diego Galletti (Italy) Demostenes Gallis (Greece), Laurence Gartell (USA), Fathia Geroushi (Libya), Josef Ghati (Iraq), Juan Antonio Guirado (Spain), Teja Guiza (Tunisia), Bashir Hammooda (Libya), Clemens Hasengswandner (Austria), Constantine Kambouropoulos (Greece), Clemente Mimun (USA), Patrick Maury (France), Tony Pacitti (Italy/UK), Carlos Paes (Angola), Ron Parvu (USA), Christian Sabas (Guadeloupe/France), Michelle Salmon (France), Shiro Sasaki (Japan), Alex de Suys (UK), Jorge Schwarz (Chile/Germany), May Spangler (USA), Maria Tikhomirova (Russia), Armando Varela (Peru), Dan Wainberg (Canada), Xeo Nhum (Vietnam), Stefano Zankis (Greece).

The venues of the Biennale in Malta are the Tempura Museum for Contemporary Art at the local council halls, Mgarr; the Dominican Priory in

Rabat (monumental sculptures), the Wignacourt Museum in Rabat; the Manoel Theatre, Valletta; St James Cavalier, Valletta; the Cathedral Museum at Mdina; the Sala dei Cavalieri at Busietta Gardens, Madliena (up to July 1), the Colonnade Gardens of Villa Tempura, Mgarr; the Mediterranean Academy for Diplomatic Studies of the University of Malta (lectures), The Victoria Hotel, Sliema; the Crown Plaza Hotel, Sliema, and the Vivaldi Hotel, St Julian's.

A 300-page catalogue of the Biennale illustrates most works.

BIENNALE JUDGE

Gabriel Caruana explains to Dame Françoise Tempra, founder-president of the Malta Biennale, what inspired him to produce the symbolic figure of Peace surging out of a destructive bombshell, one of his exhibits at St James Cavalier



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TEMPRA Sculptural Colonnade, Mgarr (from left): *Pegasus having lost his Wings* – unfinished horse by Joe Genovese (Malta, sculpture prize), *In the Beginning was the Word... and the Word was God* – sculpture, Ventceslav Metchev (Bulgaria, first prize sculpture), *Thoughtfulness* – bronze, Patricia Finch (UK, 1923-2001) and *Man from Outer Space* – metal sculpture, Peter Meyers (Belgium, grand prix sculpture)



TEMPRA Sculptural Colonnade in Sir Harry Luke Street, Mgarr: *Smiling Patience* – standing bronze sculpture by Patricia Finch (UK, 1923-2001) and *The Eruption of Life* – stone sculpture by Guy Lemesre (France, first prize installation). Permanently on show.

2001 Malta Art Biennale



SALA DEI CAVALIERI at Busietta Gardens, Madliena (from left): Joseph Paul Cassar (Malta, painting prize); Michael Korber (USA, grand prix painting), Lilika Papanicolaou (guest of honour); Matthew Cassar (Malta, first prize painting), Xavier Zevaco (France, guest of honour); in the centre Paul Haber (Malta, first prize ceramics). This item is on view up to October 1 on the first floor at the Wignacourt Museum, Rabat.



PART OF the permanent collection in the Temptra Museum for Contemporary Art, Mgarr – the Salvador Dali Corridor (from left): *Conquest of America* (Spain, guest of honour); Richard Constable (UK, guest of honour); Vassil Stoyev (Bulgaria, guest of honour); and Rita Charis Pergolani's *Goddesses: Violet De Marco, Abigail Lofaro, Shelley Tayar, etc.* (Belgium, special guest)



SALA DEI CAVALIERI at Busietta Gardens (from left): D.A. Zikov (Yugoslavia/The Netherlands, prize watercolour); Ansgar Kristensen (Denmark, first prize lithography); Harry Alden (Malta, guest of honour). Alden's work, too, is on view up to October 1 on the first floor at the Wignacourt Museum.

OTHER works on show in the Sala dei Cavalieri (from left): Carlos Diaz (Peru, guest of honour); Dieter Patt (Germany, first prize collage); Georg Gurashpshiwili (Giorgia, guest of honour) and Arman Gasperian (Armenia, painting prize). Also sculptures by Meyers and Ian Micallef (Malta, aged 12, under 18 prize for sculpture). All works are on show up to October 1 at the Wignacourt Museum.



FOUR original lithographs by Salvador Dali (Spain, guest of honour) were on show at the Sala dei Cavalieri in connection with Dr Charlie Azzopardi's lecture. Also sculptures by Jutta Lutz (Germany, sculpture prize) and Peter Meyers (Belgium, grand prix sculpture). The Dali lithographs are on display up to October 1 at the Wignacourt Museum, Rabat. Lutz and Meyers' works are at the Temptra Museum for Contemporary Art within Mgarr local council (opposite the church).



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BUSIETTA GARDENS, Madliena. General view of part of the exhibition in Sala dei Cavalieri. It is now on display up to October 1 at the Wignacourt Museum.



TEMPRA donation of contemporary art to the Wignacourt Museum permanent collection of paintings (from left, second row down): Carl Anderson (Guyana/USA, first prize painting). Also works by Xavier Zevaco (France, guest of honour), Harry Alden (Malta, guest of honour), Juan Antonio Guirado (Spain, guest of honour), Thea Karlsen (Germany, watercolour prize), Olaf Rolf Schabbach (Germany, first prize performance) and Venceslav Metchev (Bulgaria, first prize sculpture). Other sculptures (from left): Paul Haber (Malta, first prize, ceramics), Olaf Rolf Schabbach (Germany), D.A. Zikov (Yugoslavia/The Netherlands, watercolour prize) and Venceslav Metchev (Bulgaria).



MANOEL THEATRE, Valletta: works with musical themes, musical instruments, dance and drama by Irena Kijkova (Macedonia, graphics prize), Carlos Diaz (Peru, guest of honour), Giacomo de Pass (France, guest of honour)

St James Cavalier Centre for Creativity, Valletta: *Seated Figure*, ceramic sculpture from the exhibition by Gabriel Caruana (Malta Biennale guest of honour 1995, 1997, 1999 and 2001 and member of the jury 2001).



WORKS on permanent display in the public areas of the Victoria Hotel, Sliema: Gassim Abderkader (Chad/UAE, prize painting) on the first floor with some 20 works; Anja Venalainen (Finland, watercolour prize) on the ground floor lobby with some 12 works; and Luciano Gasper (Italy, grand prix cinema) with some six works.



THE Big Blue Restaurant at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Sliema: Dominique Philippe (France, guest of honour); Ottorina Sorze (Italy, distinction award); and Bruna Brazzalotto (Italy, guest of honour). Also the works by Catherine Cavallo (Malta, salon prize), Simon Barthelet (Malta), Matthew Laurettil (Italy, painting prize), Joe Genovese (Malta, sculpture prize), Lilika Papanicolaou (Greece, guest of honour), Luciano Gasper (Italy, grand prix cinema), Mercedes Llapacumbe (Ecuador, guest of honour) and Matthew Cassar (Malta, first prize painting).



THE Dominican Priory, Rabat: *The Pilgrim*, metal sculpture by Peter Meyers (Belgium, grand prix sculpture). Also stone sculptures by Guy Lemesre (France, first prize installation). Permanently open.



ST JAMES CAVALIER Centre for Creativity, Valletta: Perfect harmony of light, architecture (Richard England) and ceramic sculpture exhibition by Gabriel Caruana

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