

GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR MINISTER FOR HERITAGE, CULTURE, YOUTH & SPORT

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PRESS RELEASE

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The Ministry of Culture has announced the programme of events for this year's Gibraltar Spring Festival.

The official launch was held today at the John Mackintosh Hall where Douglas Ignacio's winning 2007 Spring Festival Logo was displayed. The logo competition, which attracted a prize of £300, was judged by a panel composed of a sub-committee of The Arts Advisory Council who had a most difficult task in selecting the winner from the 196 entries (40 more than last year).

It was particularly encouraging seeing a high number of entries from school children. The panel decided, given the very high standard of entries, to further make 5 Highly Commended awards of £50 vouchers each for art materials. These went to Kayleigh Buttigieg, Chloe Vaughan, Rosalyn Bensusan, Oliver Canessa and Julian Gonzalez.

Minister for Culture, Fabian Vinet, presented the awards and in launching the Festival – the composition of which he was very pleased about - said:

'It gives me great pleasure to present the full and varied programme of events that comprise this year's Gibraltar Spring Festival. Some of these events have been organised on behalf or with the direct assistance of the Ministry of Culture, whereas others were planned privately and have chosen to come under the Spring Festival umbrella. Regardless of the method of inception and production, they all share one common purpose; namely the desire to quench our thirst for Culture.

I would like to formally thank all those groups, associations and individuals who have organised the distinct events and in so doing are providing Gibraltar with a diverse selection of concerts, performances, exhibitions and plays.

It has to be acknowledged that the art exhibitions, the dance shows, the Classical, Rock and Jazz concerts, the theatrical performances and other events could all have taken place independently, on other dates and without the co-ordination and (wherever requested) assistance of the Ministry of Culture.

However, by forming part of the Spring Festival they ensure that for the three weeks commencing on the 8th May and finishing on the 25th May with a Grand Finale, Gibraltarians and visitors to the Rock can enjoy an intense period of cultural and other related activities.

I wish you an enjoyable and entertaining Spring Festival 2007 which, as you can see from the Programme, promises to be the most diverse and spectacular to date.'

The full Gibraltar Spring Festival 2007 programme is attached.

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