



GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR  
Ministry for Culture, Heritage Sport & Leisure  
310 Main Street  
Gibraltar

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## PRESS RELEASE

### **AUTUMN FESTIVAL 2009 – 36<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL ART EXHIBITION**

The International Art Exhibition, organised by the Ministry of Culture in association with the Fine Arts Association, is currently being held at the Casemates Exhibition Galleries. The Minister for Culture, The Hon Edwin Reyes officially opened the Exhibition on Tuesday 3 November 2009 and also then presented the awards which had previously been adjudicated by Mr Ivor Abrahams of the Royal Academician.

One Hundred and six artists submitted a total of one hundred and eighty four works.

The Prize winners were:

First Prize	Mario Finlayson	<i>'Enigma'</i>
Second Prize	Karl Ullger	<i>'Las Menisas'</i>
Third Prize	Peter Cosquieri	<i>'Sunday Tea'</i>
Gibraltar Theme Prize	Roger Steppens	<i>'The Rock'</i>
Young Artist Prize	Evelyn Sasa'k	<i>'Little Rich Girl'</i>

The following received 'Highly Commended' Certificates: -

Aurelio Arguez Garcia	<i>'AP7 Conos'</i>
Francis Azzopardi	<i>'The Corner'</i>
Jansen Barnes	<i>'Tree of Life'</i>
Sylvia Dalmedo	<i>'Eyes of Gibraltar'</i>
Mario Finlayson	<i>'Eastern Beach, Gibraltar'</i>
Niall Francis	<i>'The Money Game'</i>
Maurice Gache	<i>'Gibraltarian Evacuee in Jamaica in 1943'</i>
Julian Lavagna	<i>'The Rock on Which I Stand'</i>
Bathsheba Peralta	<i>'View From my Studio Window'</i>
Alan Perez	<i>'Day &amp; Night'</i>
Alan Phillips	<i>'Climbing the Rock'</i>

Commenting at the Official Opening of the International Art Exhibition, the Hon Edwin Reyes said:

'Feedback from our local Artistic Fraternity tells me that this annual event is eagerly awaited not only by those who love to paint but also by both serious and relaxed admirers of fine works of art. I am particularly pleased to note that this year we once again have very high quality entries and, equally important, we continue to capture the imagination of a wide spectrum of artists.

A special thanks goes to this year's Adjudicator, Professor Ivor Abraham from the Royal Academy, for undertaking this onerous task. Such is the nature of competitions that it is not possible to have an unlimited number of prizes; therefore, this makes the Adjudicator's task one which requires the utmost professional and responsible judgement. However, whether an artist wins a particular prize or not, the mere fact that they have exposed their work to constructive criticism from both the Adjudicator and art lovers alike makes everyone a winner.

I thank everyone concerned for their invaluable and essential contributions in putting this Exhibition together and sincerely hope you will all continue to support the Fine Arts in Gibraltar in the manner it so rightly deserves.'

The Exhibition will be open to the public until the 13<sup>th</sup> November 2009 between 10am and 6pm on weekdays and 10am and 1pm on Saturday. Entrance is free.