

PRESS RELEASE

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GIBRALTAR SPRING FESTIVAL 2009

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

The official launch was held this afternoon at the John Mackintosh Hall where Gustave Linares' winning 2009 Spring Festival Logo was displayed. It was particularly encouraging seeing a very high number of entries for the Logo Competition from school children, especially from both Comprehensives. The panel decided, given the very high standard of entries, to further make 4 Highly Commended awards of £50 vouchers each for art materials. These went to Gabrielle Garcia, Elizabeth Ferrary, Aidan Serra and Thomas Borge. The panel also decided to give a special mention and award to 4-year-old Shania Vitale.

Minister for Culture, Edwin Reyes, presented the awards and in launching the Festival said:

'It gives me great pleasure to present the full and varied programme of events that comprise this year's Gibraltar Spring Festival. Most of these events have been organised by or on behalf 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, plays, etc.

It has to be acknowledged that the art exhibitions, the dance shows, the Classical, Zarzuela and Rock 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 1st June and finishing on the 19th June with 'Calentita' and an impressive fireworks, laser and music display, Gibraltarians, residents and visitors to the Rock can enjoy an intense period of cultural and other related activities.

I wish you all a most enjoyable and entertaining Spring Festival.'

The full Gibraltar Spring Festival 2009 programme is attached.