



World Festival of Underwater Pictures
Antibes – Juan-les-pins
Thursday 27th to Sunday 30th October 2005

The Congress Centre in Juan-les-Pins is hosting the 32nd edition of the World Festival of Underwater Pictures from Thursday 27th to Sunday 30th October 2005. This year's theme: the "Abysses", is an invitation of total submersion: With films, photographs and slide shows the Festival once again distinguishes itself with some of the most outstanding underwater audiovisual productions, as well as numerous competitions. And for the second time, the Festival will also be organising the "Ocean Forum".

The 32nd Festival's theme this year: The Abysses

By choosing this theme the Festival leads the public into a universe, which is even lesser known than that of outer space. The abyssal zone represents two thirds of the globe and for a long time was considered the same as a desert. An abundant life has developed there in spite of the cold and darkness, which have taken precedence over the light and photosynthesis. In actual fact, these incredibly profound underwater regions are just overflowing with so many amazing species like the giant squid and lantern fish. So it is this abyssal environment that the Festival will highlight this year.

The World Festival of Underwater Pictures has yet another important line-up, with over 160 films in competition, 80 slide shows and 300 photographs. The underwater audiovisual productions are of excellent quality and are designed to promote the wealth of the underwater world, whilst at the same time creating public awareness about marine environment.

More than 25 000 visitors will come to admire the works of some 900 competitors, in the fields of photography, video, films, music, literature and architecture, representing 55 nations. Over 120 stands covering a great variety of exhibitors, including: producers, publishers, specialist magazines, tour operators, material manufacturers, associations and diving clubs, etc.

At 10am on Friday 28th October 2005, the second edition of the "Ocean Forum" will be held, devoted to the subjects of abysses and biodiversity. This round table is open not only to the general public, but also to experts. It will bring together specialists who are avid campaigners for the preservation of marine resources, including: Jean-Michel COUSTEAU, Chairman of "Ocean Future" and Honorary Chairman of the "World Ocean Network", Lucien LAUBIER, Director of the "Paris Oceanographic Institute", the architect Jacques ROUGERIE, and Philippe VALLETTE, General Manager of NAUSICCA and Co-Chairman of the "World Ocean Network", as well as other international marine authority personalities.

A Flourishing Festival – New Competitions

The Festival has flourished each year since its creation in 1974 especially with its new competitions. At this year's Festival, alongside the main competitions of films and photographs, there will be other competitions open to amateurs and experts alike:

- "The Book and the Sea", which will reward the best novels, picture books and underwater guide books.
- The « Product » competition will present innovative diving techniques and underwater photography.
- The "Miss Diver" competition: presentations of fashion shows followed by aquatic movements in a pool resulting with the crowning of the best 'water nymph'.
- The third "Archipelago" competition will reward the best underwater architectural projects and designs. This competition will be presided over by the architect Jacques ROUGERIE.

The 32nd "World Festival of Underwater Pictures" has a vast and varied range of competitions, which are open to everyone, including: «Music and the Sea », « Advertising and Underwater Images », « The Web Competition », and more...

FURTHER INFORMATION / INSCRIPTIONS

www.underwater-festival.com

or request an entry form from:

World Festival of Underwater Pictures

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