



**30th World Festival of Underwater Pictures
Antibes – Juan-les-Pins
From 29th October to 2nd November 2003**



**Theme 2003: "The 30th Festival dives headlong into the 3rd millennium"
Honorary Chairman: Jacques ROUGERIE**

For its 30th anniversary, the Antibes World Festival of Underwater Pictures, which will take place from Wednesday 29th October to Sunday 2nd November 2003 at the Palais des Congrès in Juan les Pins, is turning decisively towards the future and the imagination. In particular, there will be a new competition open to the public, run by the architect Jacques ROUGERIE.

The 30th Festival dives headlong into the 3rd millennium

The 30th World Festival of Underwater Pictures, which will take place from Wednesday 29th October to Sunday 2nd November 2003 in Antibes, represents a real turning point in the history of the Festival: "The 30th Festival dives headlong into the 3rd millennium". This event wants to turn decisively towards the future, while enhancing the image of the Festival's past and the legacy of Jules VERNE. So the 30th Festival is opening its doors to the realm of imagination, with an honorary Chairman at the peak of his artistic career, the architect Jacques ROUGERIE, and a new competition entitled "Archipelaego". This competition invites competitors to produce an architectural project focusing on the marine habitat - how to imagine our future under the sea while preserving the environment.

Archipelaego Competition

The 30th anniversary of the World Festival of Underwater Pictures will be crowned by the creation of a competition that is the only one of its kind, entitled "Archipelaego". This idea was put forward by Paul ROBIN, journalist and writer, in memory of Captain Philippe TAILLIEZ's utopian project. Directed by Jacques ROUGERIE, the competition aims to get the competitors to reform their links with the environment and to design an architectural project where the future cohabitation between Man and the sea would be possible. It is not a question of invading or colonizing new territories for future generations but of peacefully conquering, with respect for the environment, areas that are unknown and, for some, in danger. The only instruction is that this place must be located in a maritime area, accessible from an urban seaside zone, real or not. It must be built to accommodate everyone (families, schoolchildren,

elderly and disabled people, etc), and it must contain all amenities – for transport, culture, entertainment, day-to-day living, etc.

The creation of the competition «Archipelaego» presents an ideal opportunity to make the younger generation understand that anything can be imagined and that the techniques for discovering the world of the sea are only now in their infancy. It is also a way of enhancing the profile of this new area that is offering itself to them, enabling them to reposition themselves by creating a place to live: a bridge between the Land and the Sea. This unknown world is constantly the object of passionate interest that has led to the discovery as well as the conservation of the Ocean.

Also "Archipelaego" is part of the Festival's desire to be a breeding ground for talent, like it was previously with the Foundation of the World Underwater Picture Festival. *(The vocation of the FMISM Foundation is not only to preserve the uniqueness of this abundance of images, a process that goes through a phase of reproduction and conservation of the works of art, but also to be able to enlarge the distribution of these works of art so that the public can be made aware of the marine environment on both sides of the border.)*

The competition categories

- ◆ The Jacques ROUGERIE Prize for Sea Architecture
- ◆ The World Underwater Picture Festival Prize for design
 - ◆ The Philippe TAILLIEZ Prize for free expression

**Information and registration before 15th September 2003 at the FMISM
62, avenue des Pins du Cap - 06160 Antibes – Juan-les-Pins
or Internet www.underwater-festival.com**

A prestigious anniversary

If we know more about the underwater world today, it is undoubtedly due to the adventures of the men who have taught us to know and love the sea. For example, Jean-Michel COUSTEAU who has spent most of his life exploring the sea, studying and filming it, will be present during one of the evening events to share his adventures, as will Christian PETRON, Umberto PELIZZARI and Mike VALENTINE. What's more, these people are friends of the Festival, and wouldn't have missed this anniversary under any circumstances!

Jacques ROUGERIE, a symbolic character in this 2003 theme, and honorary Chairman of this event, is well-known as the architect of marine complexes such as NAUSICAA in Boulogne sur Mer, the Sea Pavilion in Osaka in Japan, the floating Port at the Universal Exhibition in Marseille in 1982.

Furthermore, this year, **more than 100 films already submitted for the competition, 500 photographs, and 1,100 slides** will take some 24,000 curious and ardent admirers of the ocean around the seas of the world, from the surface to the depths. Marine mammal lovers will not be disappointed: the Festival has a selection of unseen pictures of whales, beluga, seals and dolphins. Younger visitors are not forgotten either: they will have the possibility to have their very first diving and foot-heavy diving experience, with qualified state instructors, to be a member of the team of young judges or to just find out about a vast number of tropical fish.

The Antibes World Festival of Underwater Pictures also involves hundreds of producers and photographers with their reports about the state of the world's seas. This has meant that the Festival has merited the patronage of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO.