



The Focus-Abengoa Foundation launches a new edition of the International Painting Prize

- **The competition, which has €36,000 in prize money, is open to any artist over the age of 18.**
- **Applicants that wish to enter the competition must submit their entries by Thursday 20th September 2012.**

Seville, 8 august 2012.- The Focus-Abengoa Foundation is launching the 19th edition of the Focus-Abengoa International Painting Prize 2012, open to any artist, professional or amateur over the age of 18 and over who has not won prizes in previous years is eligible to compete for the prize. The deadline for entries is Thursday 20th September.

There is an open theme for submitted works and all pictorial techniques are allowed. Each artist must submit a unique and original piece of work that has not been submitted to other competitions or earlier editions of this Prize. The maximum size for entries is 200 x 200 centimetres and the minimum is 73 x 60 centimetres.

The total prize money for the competition is €36,000, of which €24,000 is awarded for first prize with two runners-up prizes of €6,000 each. Prize-winners from previous editions are not eligible for the competition.

Entries must be sent by registered mail or delivered to the headquarters of the Focus-Abengoa Foundation (Hospital de los Venerables, Plaza de los Venerables, 8, 41004, Seville), stating "Premio de Pintura 2012" on the envelope. They may also be sent via e-mail to premiodepintura@abengoa.com.

The winner of the last edition of the Prize was Miguel Galano for his work "Népliget", while the runners-up were Alvar Haro Sánchez for "Embarque para Citerea" and Ismael Iglesias with "CTRL+Z (XXX)".

The Focus-Abengoa Painting Prize, which has a long tradition and a prestigious reputation, has been held for more than 25 years and has become one of the foremost European and American prizes in the art world. This international prize strengthens the Foundation's commitment to contemporary art, contributing to the exchange of artistic experiences with countries outside of Spain, reflecting the concerns and wishes of the award's founders. The International Painting Prize is also a unique experience as it is open to recognised artists as well as talented youngsters.

The full terms and conditions of the competition are available at: <http://focus.abengoa.es/ingles/index2.htm>



Focus-Abengoa Foundation

The Focus-Abengoa Foundation was created in 1982 as a result of the cultural work begun in 1972 by Abengoa with the publication of the works *Temas Sevillanos* (Themes of Seville) and *Iconografía de Sevilla* (Iconography of Seville). A collection of documents, books and engravings on the Kingdom of Seville and by Sevillian authors was created during the same period. This initial cultural work showed Abengoa's directors the importance of the company's involvement in activities that directly benefit society, beyond the firm's core technology work, which led to the creation of the Seville Cultural Fund Foundation. The Hospital de los Venerables, a 17th century monument and the headquarters of the Focus-Abengoa Foundation in Seville, has housed the Diego Velázquez Research Centre, a leading institution for studying and disseminating the Baroque era and the Sevillian period of this universally renowned artist, following the acquisition of Velázquez's *Santa Rufina* by the Foundation in 2007.

From the outset the Foundation has expressed a clear interest in all cultural activities, not only in those directly connected to the city of Seville, but all artistic, literary and scientific expressions at a national and international level, demonstrated by the various prizes that it presents every year designed to support creative and scientific people as well as young students.