

# Canon announces winners of global Canon Digital Creators Contest 2002

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- German and French artists win Gold
- Massive increase in European entrants highlights competition appeal to digital artists and innovators

LONDON December 9, 2002 – Canon, Inc. has announced the winning entries of the global Canon Digital Creators Contest 2002. The competition, now in its third year, aims to recognise and support creative, digital talent and innovation.

This year's contest received 5,025 submissions from 77 countries across all continents, an increase of approximately 60% on the number submitted in 2001. Approximately a quarter (1,099) came from Europe, more than double the number of European entries received in 2001.

Canon has developed the Canon Digital Creators Contest to foster and encourage the global digital art community to express its creativity in the form of digital photography, digital graphics, digital movie and web art.

The Canon Digital Creators Contest 2002 entries have been judged for creativity, novelty, message, expression, and power of image by some of the foremost authorities in the imaging and graphics fields. Overseeing the selection committee was Hiroshi Kashiwagi, a professor at Musashino Art University, who was joined by some of the foremost creative authorities in the imaging and graphics fields; Michael Horsham, Tota Hasegawa and Dirk Van Doorn of Tomato the UK Creative Unit; Jeff Schewe, a Chicago Photographer and digital photo imaging pioneer; Scott Ross CEO, President and co-founder of Digital Domain, Inc.; and Joshua Davis, a New York artist and technologist.

The four category winners will receive prize money totalling \$125,500 - including a \$20,000 for the Gold Award. Gold-prize winners of the four categories are as follows:

- Digital Photo - Takeshi Nishiyama, Japan, for Faces
- Digital Graphics/Illustration - Florian Brendel, Germany, for Schwindel
- Digital Movie - François Roux, France, for Cycling Blues
- Web - Shinya Yamamoto, Japan, for Sinplex Show

Garanger Tcheupel of France gained a silver award for his web-based work and additional European entrants from the UK (Kazki for the Crimson Room) and Denmark (Ida Tietgen Hoyrup for Flower Year and Blowing in the Wind) were given recognition in the form of honorary mentions for their achievements in the digital graphics and photo categories.

Michael Horsham, creative director of Tomato said: "The winners of the Canon Digital Creators Contest

were judged on their ability to create strong, distinctive images and fully exploit their chosen digital medium. The ability to edit was paramount and this process required a new set of skills and the bravery to experiment in new areas. Creating the best work with the digital tools in-hand was what the competition was all about and from this good work will then find its own audience. ”

The huge increase in submissions from European entrants highlights the massive growth of interest in the digital creative arts arena. To inspire this digital innovation and attract people from across Europe to enter the Canon Digital Creators Contest, Canon Europe also created the innovative Iconobloc project ([www.iconobloc.com](http://www.iconobloc.com)), where more than 6,767 iconoblocs were registered from 89 countries world-wide in an online collaboration to create the world's largest digital sculpture.

Mr Tsuruoka, CEO and President of Canon Europe, said: “Digital imaging is at the centre of Canon's business and the aim of the Canon Digital Creators Contest is to encourage and reward digital innovation within the wider artistic and creative community. We are extremely pleased to see the entries from Europe double on last year and we are pleased to announce an increased number of European winners and commended entries for 2002. ”

The 2002 contest were recognised at an awards ceremony in Tokyo, Japan on Friday, December 6, 2002, and the winning entries will be exhibited at Tokyo's Spiral Garden from December 7 to 15, 2002.

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#### About Canon Europe

Canon Europe is a subsidiary of Canon Inc. of Japan, a world-leading innovator and provider of imaging and information technology solutions for individuals and businesses. The main business focus for Canon Europe is in two clearly defined markets: Business Solutions (network peripherals: photocopy, printer, scanner and fax solutions) and Consumer Imaging (Input Solutions: photographic equipment including analogue and digital cameras and camcorders; and Output Solutions: Bubble Jet and other printers). Canon Europe also provides Industrial Products including broadcast lenses, semiconductor and medical equipment. Canon Europe employs more than 12,000 people across 19 countries.

Further information about Canon Europe is available at: <http://www.canon-europa.com>

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