

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE
OF **SPHICAS NICOLAS**

Born in Cairo in 1961.

1980-85 Studied at the School of Fine Arts of the Helwan University of Cairo. He obtained his Ph.D degree from the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, School of Fine Arts, Department of Visual & Fine Arts.

1982 Won the first prize for painting at Helwan University.

1983 Awarded a cash prize in the All Egypt Art Competition for his artwork *Tourism on the Banks of the Nile*.

1985 Highly commended by the School of Fine Arts for the series of painting in a group exhibition titled *Drought in Africa*.

1989 Nominated by the Steering Committee of the Greek Community in Cairo for the special prize of the Greek Ministry of Culture for distinguished Greek Artists living abroad.

2000 Awarded with the honorary prize of the Greek Literary Union for “his substantial contribution in the promotion and development of Modern Greek Culture”.

1985 Worked with Dr. Isaak Fanous’ team on a mural in the Museum of the Mohammed Ali Mosque (Cairo Acropolis).

1994 Published the *Retro-Shah* Album “A theory for the metaphysical dimension of painting and chess based on the space-time evolution of movement on the chessboard”.

2000 Awarded with the honorary prize of the Greek Literary Union for “his substantial contribution in the promotion and development of Modern Greek Culture”.

2006 Awarded with the honorary prize of the Municipality of Thessaloniki for his development of Art in Chess. Also awarded with the honorary prize of the Greek Emigrant Civilization K. P. Kavafis.

One-man show exhibitions

1984 *French Cultural Center*, Heliopolis, Cairo, Egypt.

1986 *Greek Center*, Heliopolis, Cairo, Egypt.

1990 *Ruth Balmer Gallery*, Berne, Switzerland.

1990 *Odos Athinon Gallery*, Nicosia, Cyprus.

1990 *Gallery Opus 39*, Nicosia, Cyprus.

1994 *Vafopoulio Cultural Centre*, Thessaloniki, Greece.

1994 *Chroma*, Cultural Café, Thessaloniki, Greece.

1995 *Spiti tis Kyprou* (Cypriot Cultural Centre), Kolonaki, Athens, Greece.

1995 Art , Capricorn, Thessaloniki, Greece.
1997 *Exhibition Space-Byzantine Tower*, New Fokaia, Chalkidiki, Greece.
1998-1999 Sports Museum, Thessaloniki, Greece.
1999 *Aenaon*, Katehaki, Athens, Greece.
2000-2001 Gallery *Opus*, Limassol, Cyprus.
2003 Municipality of Stavroupoli, Thessaloniki, Greece.
2004 *Aenaon*, Katehaki, Athens, Greece.
2005 Porto Hydra, Ermioni, Greece.
2006 Porto Hotel, Thessaloniki, Greece.
2008 Municipal Art Gallery of Thessaloniki. Retroaction Exhibition 1984-2007.
2008 Gallery Kypriaki Gonia, Larnaka, Cyprus.
2011 Gallery *Opus 39*, Nicosia, Cyprus.

Has taken part in many group exhibitions (as 2000 Biennale International d' art Miniature, Ville-Marie, Canada - 2000 *Pieridis Foundation*, Athens-Greece, 2001 Month of the Fine Arts, Technopolis, Municipality of Athens-Greece).

Many of his works can be found in private collections and Art Galleries.

Is a member of the Artistic Chambers of Greece and Cyprus, of FIDE (Committee on Chess Art, Exhibition and Philately) and of the ICOM (International Council of Museums).

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<http://www.schachverein-goerlitz.de/Foren/Gallery/galerie2.htm>

www.chess.gr/sphicas <http://www.logicalchess.com/info/graphics/sphicas/>

<http://www.ert.gr/gallery/sphicas/>

<http://www.fide.com/official/officials.asp?f=24>

<http://www.100torri.com/refaraoni.htm>