

## El Diario Montañés (August 2023)

The Faro Cabo Mayor Art Center will host another record edition of the International Mini Print Cantabria

The exhibition of this sixth edition, which registers the participation of 329 artists from 50 countries, with 850 graphic works in competition, will be exhibited from September 1.

By Guillermo Balbona

Santander. New record of participation, massive international response and creative plurality are factors that define the identity of a new edition, the sixth already, of one of the most participatory and informative art proposals: Mini Print International - The Sea and the Lighthouses. The figures certify it, but more important is the solid organization and the progressive and growing response to this initiative by Andrea Juan and Gabriel Penedo, directors of SM Pro Art Circle, which was presented in Cantabria in 2018. The passion for printmaking and this format, the fact that contemporary artists from all over the world come together in an exhibition in the community and, therefore, the incorporation of Cantabria to the international Mini Print circuit are its hallmarks. The "incredible growth" in the first five editions, the progressive number of participating artists and works presented has been ratified in 2023. The Santander Port Authority and SM Pro Art addressed the joint realization of the first edition of the Mini Print Biennial under the heading The sea and the lighthouses, within the framework of IMPACT 10 - International Multidisciplinary Printmaking Conference organized in Santander.

The exhibition of this sixth edition starts on September 1 and will run until the end of the year at the Art Center created by Eduardo Sanz and his collection. The Mini Print, jointly organized by the Port Authority and SM Pro Art Circle, closed the deadline on July 31 with a massive response. The reasons: the prestige of SM Pro Art in the world of international printmaking, the privileged Port space, the Collection already generated and its roaming and the important prizes that are awarded. For the organizers this reveals that "there are no small projects when they are faced with responsibility, seriousness and professionalism".

The first figures indicate a new record of international participation. 329 artists, from 50 countries, who have submitted 850 small-format prints works to the contest. The most important delegation is that of Spanish artists who add up to a total of 97, followed by Polish (38), Argentines (31), Americans (18) and Japanese (15). Inscriptions have been received from artists from countries that had not registered in previous participations, in the case of Switzerland or Vietnam, and the participation of neighboring countries has increased, especially France and Italy. Regarding the registration of artists, born and/or resident in Cantabria, who can also opt for the *Mar Cantabrico* Award, sponsored by newspaper *El Diario Montañés*, the figure has remained identical to previous editions. Of their own free will, most of the artists have decided that the works sent to the competition, at the end of the exhibition, will be added to the Mini Print Cantabria Collection, which is part of the Port Authority's Art Collection. With this important contribution of works, the Collection will reach, at the end of the course, 2500 works. This year, the Nueva Dársena Group, a family group of restaurant and hotel companies in Suances, has joined as a sponsor of the event. Quality, regardless of the figures, as certified by the catalogs of previous editions (which can be downloaded from the

official website), demonstrates the existence of graphic works with a refined and exquisite technique as well as their high aesthetic value.

As a novelty, the jury, from this edition, will be made up only of invited members who this year are: Javier Martín-Jiménez, Laura Olea, Marta Aguilar Moreno and Marta Fermín. On September 22, the jury will award the prizes and mentions of this edition.

Photos: The Faro Cabo Mayor Art Center will host the exhibition of this sixth edition from September to December.

Traveling exhibition held in 2023 in Castro Urdiales