

Ecole Internationale Daniel Chalonge



The Daniel Chalonge Medal 2015

has been awarded to Héctor de Vega

The International School "Daniel Chalonge" has awarded the Daniel Chalonge Medal 2015 to **Héctor J. de Vega**, the greatest pillar of the School in all the School aspects and values, science with great intellectual endeavour and a human face.



Emeritus research director at the CNRS, LPTHE UPMC Paris, and associated to LERMA Observatoire de Paris. Outstanding theoretical physicist, physicist of the universe, an independent mind, with major coherence and intellectual strength, personal and scientific prestige, honesty and integrity, he worked tirelessly, wearing very high the values of Science and of the Chalonge School where he excelled in all the aspects.

He developed several scientific lives with pioneering research in different specialities and great vision of thematic evolution: Quantum field theory, integrable models, particle physics and statistical physics, string theory, cosmology, theory of inflation confronted to the cosmic microwave background observations, warm dark matter in galaxies, sterile neutrinos, with innovative sophisticated methods and powerful analytical computations. In all these areas, he formed students, post-doctoral and young researchers, trained generations of physicists and cosmologists over the world, and developed many important international collaborations.

And in the words of Gerard Gilmore (Fellow of the UK Royal Society and Chalonge Medal laureat 2013) on the 23th July 2015:

"Héctor de Vega, a really nice person"

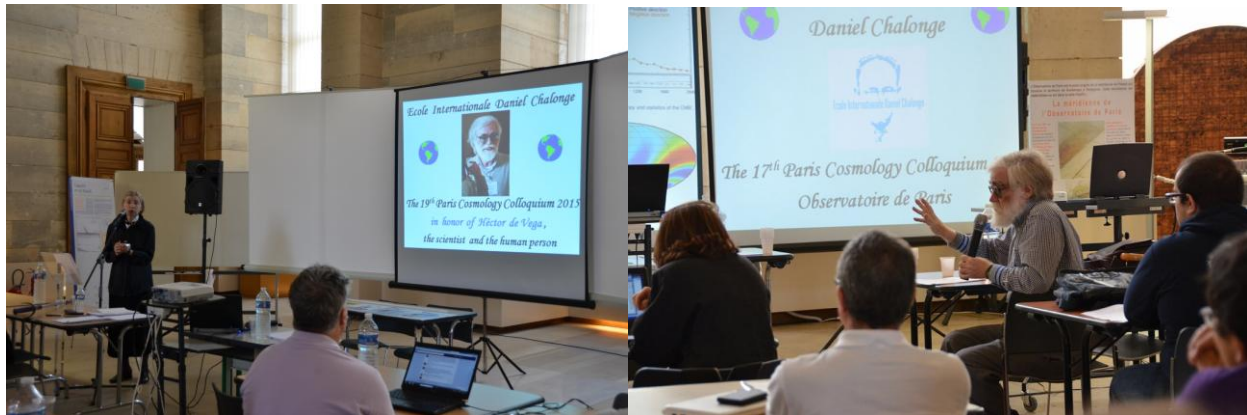


The Daniel Chalonge Medal was designed by the noted french sculptor and artist painter Madeleine Pierre Quérolle and coined by the Hôtel de la Monnaie de Paris (the French Mint) for the Chalonge School. The first side of the medal shows Daniel Chalonge's portrait. The reverse side is composed of two scenes: the upper half depicts the mirror of a telescope on which a part of the Milky Way and the Orion constellation is reflected. The lower half depicts the French Alps and the "Pic Chalonge", (the mountain, 3343 m height, named after him).

With the Chalonge Medal to Héctor de Vega, the International School Daniel Chalonge honors its greatest scientific and human milestone. The 2015 school program is dedicated to him, tributes have been paid on the 18th May, on the 21 May in the spring open session of scientific culture "L'Homme et l'Univers, Dernières Nouvelles de l'Univers", in the last Warm Dark Matter Chalonge Meudon CIAS Workshop in June 2015, in the 19th Paris Cosmology Colloquium 2015, and the tributes will continue in the same way, lively, that is to say, by working doing scientific research.

A surprise Award

The Chalonge medal is a totally surprise award. The medal was awarded to Héctor de Vega on the 24th July 2015 during the open session of the 19th Paris Cosmology Colloquium 2015 on the meridian of Paris, at the Paris Observatory (Observatoire de Paris), in the presence of many distinguished and renewed scientists, among them four laureats of the Daniel Chalonge medal: George Smoot, Nobel prize of physics, Anthony Lasenby, Peter Biermann, Gerard Gilmore, and of very important scientific personalities from the world over, among them physicist Alba Zanini from the INFN, Ambassador of the city of Turin for Science and scientific culture and Ambassador of the Chalonge School.



The Daniel Chalonge Medal, a totally surprise award.



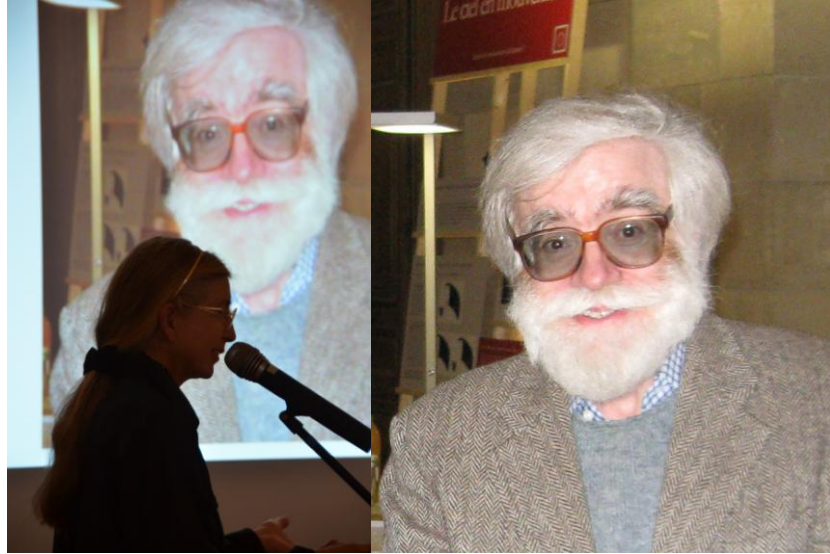
The list of the awarded Chalonge Medals :
1991: Subramanyan Chandrasekhar, *Nobel prize of physics.*
1992: Bruno Pontecorvo.
2006: George Smoot, *Nobel prize of physics.*
2007: Carlos Frenk.
2008: Anthony Lasenby.
2008: Bernard Sadoulet.
2009: Peter Biermann.
2011: John Mather, *Nobel prize of physics.*
2012: Brian Schmidt, *Nobel prize of physics.*
2013: Gerard Gilmore.
2015 : Héctor de Vega.





**The Chalonge School, a laboratory of ideas,
a great scientific and human adventure**





In the words of Dr Nadia Charbit Blumenfeld (daughter of Henry and Kathleen Blumenfeld, grand daughter of Erwin Blumenfeld) and author of this photo-portrait:

"Héctor de Vega, the gentleman of Science"

In the words of George Smoot on the 24th July 2015 during the tribute to Héctor de Vega : "I shared an office with him here (room 705) : He was always disponible, good feeling , discussing science and what was going on".

Unfortunately, is not possible in this short notice to reproduce all other testimonies of the participants, but they are all well registered and deeply acknowledged.

Eleven Chalonge Medals awarded in the 24 years of the school history

The first medal was awarded in 1991 to astrophysicist and Nobel prize of Physics Subraman yan Chandrasekhar (1910-1995), who was a great friend of Daniel Chalonge and delivered the school's inaugural lecture in 1991 on "Daniel Chalonge and the Problem of the Abundance of the Hydrogen". The second medal was

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awarded in 1992 to the distinguished high-energy physicist Bruno Pontecorvo (1913-1993), a pioneer of neutrino physics, including neutrino oscillations and “sterile” neutrino, and a major participant and supporter of the school. The third medal was awarded in 2006 to cosmologist and Nobel prize of Physics 2006 George F. Smoot, who is at the Chalonge School since its creation, and who has the original copy of the medal: The noted french sculptor Madeleine Pierre Quérolle who designed the medal, offered to the school her own original medal for the third award presentation. Motivated by the Nobel prize of Physics 2006 and the success of the Chalonge School, the French Mint coined in february 2007 exclusively for the Chalonge School a second limited edition of the medal. This made possible the presentations of the Medal since 2007.

Science with great intellectual endeavour and a human face. True and healthy science. Outstanding scientists who are gentlepersons. Scientists recipients of the Daniel Chalonge Medal are Ambassadors of the School.

Daniel Chalonge

The School is named after the pioneering French astrophysicist Daniel Chalonge (1895-1977) for his work in experimental and theoretical astrophysics. Precursor in France of the introduction of modern physics in astronomy, stellar spectroscopy and stellar and atmospheric spectrophotometry, he worked on the conception and construction of new instruments like the hydrogen tube, the spectrographe to reach the far ultraviolet spectra and the microphotometer named after him. He was a personality of his time, one of the founders of the Institut d'Astrophysique de Paris. He was at the center of international colloquia being great friend and colleague of S Chandrasekhar, Zwicky, Ambartsumian, Blackett, Oort, and many others. He worked at the Observatoire de Paris, at the Observatoire d'Haute Provence, and at the Jungfrauoch Scientific Station in Switzerland, where particle physics experiments (such as the Manchester-Cern collaboration) were performed.



Congratulations

Scientists from over the world participated to the event on the meridian of Paris.



The 19th Paris Cosmology Colloquium 2015 in honor of H ctor de Vega

<http://chalonge.obspm.fr/colloque2015.html>

http://chalonge.obspm.fr/Programme_Paris2015.html

H ctor de Vega Lecture http://chalonge.obspm.fr/Paris15_Devega.pdf

Photo Gallery <http://chalonge.obspm.fr/album2015/index.html>

Programme of the Year 2015 in honor to H ctor de Vega

<http://chalonge.obspm.fr/Programme2015.html>

The Chalonge Medal Archives

http://chalonge.obspm.fr/Archives_Daniel_Chalonge.html

The Chalonge School <http://chalonge.obspm.fr>

École Internationale Daniel Chalonge

SCIENCE WITH GREAT INTELLECTUAL ENDEAVOUR AND A HUMAN FACE

SCIENCE AVEC UNE TRÈS GRANDE EXIGENCE INTELLECTUELLE ET UN VISAGE HUMAIN



*Daniel Chalonge Medal coined
by the "Monnaie de Paris"*

TRIBUTE TO HÉCTOR J. DE VEGA

THE SCIENTIST AND THE HUMAN PERSON



http://chalonge.obspm.fr/Cias_Meudon2015.html

<http://chalonge.obspm.fr/colloque2015.html>

<http://chalonge.obspm.fr/Programme2015.html>

<http://chalonge.obspm.fr>