

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 took Ph.D degree from the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, School of Fine Arts, and Department of Visual & Fine Arts.

**1982** Winner of the first prize for painting at Helwan University.

**1983** Awarded a cash prize in the All Egypt Art Competition for his work *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** The Steering Committee of the Greek Community in Cairo has nominated him for the special prize of the Greek Ministry of Culture for distinguished Greek Artists living abroad.

**2000** He was 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** He was awarded with the honorary prize of the Greek Literary Union for "his substantial contribution in the promotion and development of Modern Greek Culture".

**2006** He was awarded with the honorary prize of the Municipality of Thessaloniki for his development of Art in Chess. He was awarded also with the honorary prize of the Greek Emigrant Civilization K. P. Kavafis. He has had 19 one-man exhibitions and has taken part in many group exhibitions.

**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.

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/galerie.htm>

<http://www.chess.gr/sphicas>

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

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