

Société Chimique de France 2011 Prize Winners

Awarded ...



J.-M. Tarascon



M. Fontecave



S. Mann



G. J. Hutchings

Several exceptional scientists have been honored by the Société Chimique de France. We offer our congratulations to all the prize recipients and in particular to the scientists mentioned here, who are among our more prolific authors.

The “Prix Pierre Süe” was awarded to **Jean-Marie Tarascon** for his contribution to solid-state chemistry and electrochemistry, and its relevance to an important area of industry. Tarascon received his PhD (with J. Etourneau and P. Hagenmuller) from the Université de Bordeaux in 1981. After post-doctoral research at Cornell University, he worked at Bell Laboratories and Bellcore, where he became leader of the Energy Storage Group. In 1995, he joined the Université d’Amiens, where he is professor and Director of the Institut de Chimie de Picardie. His research focuses on the synthesis and properties of new cathode materials and the development of lithium ion batteries, as reported in *Angewandte Chemie*.^[1]

Marc Fontecave is the recipient of the “Prix Achille Le Bel”. Fontecave studied at the Ecole Normale Supérieure Paris where he completed his PhD in 1984 under D. Mansuy. After postdoctoral work at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, he was appointed Chargé de Recherche at the Université René Descartes in 1985 and professor at the Université Joseph Fourier in 1988. Fontecave is a member of the French Academy of Sciences and has been Professor of Chemistry of Biological Processes at the Collège de France in Paris since 2008. His research interests include the structural and functional properties of metal-containing biological redox systems, in particular iron–sulfur enzymes involved in a variety of metabolic and biosynthetic processes. He has developed bioinspired chemical approaches to obtain original molecular catalysts, for example, for hydrogen production, as outlined in a recent Review in *Angewandte Chemie*.^[2] Fontecave was one of ten prominent speakers who gave a lecture at the “Frontiers of Chemistry” symposium in Paris in 2010.

The “Prix franco-britannique” was awarded to Stephen Mann and Graham J. Hutchings. **Stephen Mann** studied at the University of Manchester and was awarded his doctorate (supervised by R. J. P. Williams) from the University of Oxford in 1982. After a Junior Research Fellowship at Oxford (1981–1984), Mann took up a lectureship at Bath University, and was promoted to reader (1988) and full professor (1990). He was appointed professor at Bristol University in 1998, where he is director of the Centre for Organized Matter Chemistry, and principal of the Bristol Centre for Functional Nanomaterials. He was elected as a Fellow of the

Royal Society in 2003. Mann served on the International Advisory Board of *Angewandte Chemie* from 2000–2009 and is also on the Advisory Boards of *Advanced Materials* and *Small*. His research interests focus on the chemical synthesis, characterization, and emergence of complex forms of organized matter, in particular bioinspired materials, hybrid nanoscale objects, integrated superstructures, and models of protocell assembly, and he recently reported the chemical construction of artificial protocells with cytoskeletal-like interiors in *Angewandte Chemie*.^[3]

Graham J. Hutchings is Professor of Physical Chemistry at the University of Cardiff, where he is also Director of the Cardiff Catalysis Institute. He was awarded the prize for both his work in catalysis and his participation in several profitable collaborations with French researchers. Hutchings’ achievements were recently highlighted in the News section of *Angewandte Chemie*.^[4]

Maurizio Peruzzini was awarded the “Prix franco-italien”. Peruzzini obtained his “Laurea” cum laude from the Università di Firenze in 1979 supervised by L. Sacconi and P. Stoppioni. In 1986, he moved to the Italian National Research Council (CNR) and joined the team of C. Bianchini. He is currently research director at the same institution and was appointed Director of the Istituto di Chimica dei Composti Organometallici (ICCOM) in February 2011. His research interests are primarily in the field of organometallic chemistry and homogeneous catalysis, hydrogen-storage materials, and white phosphorus activation.^[5] He is currently a member of the Editorial Board of the *European Journal of Inorganic Chemistry*.

Krzysztof Matyjaszewski (Carnegie Mellon University) was honored with the “Prix franco-polonais” for his work on ATRP polymerization methodology and for his strong collaborations with research groups in Paris, Strasbourg, and Bordeaux. Matyjaszewski, who is on the Editorial Board of the new journal *ChemPlusChem*, was also featured recently in the News section of *Angewandte Chemie*.^[6]

Jean-Cyrille Hierso was awarded the “Prix de chimie de coordination” for researchers below 40 years old. Hierso studied chemical physics at the Université Paul Sabatier, Toulouse, and carried out a research masters degree (DEA) at the CNRS Laboratory of Coordination Chemistry in Toulouse (with B. Chaudret). He obtained his PhD in 1997 in the group of P. Kalck at the Université Paul Sabatier. Hierso carried out postdoctoral work at the CNRS Laboratory of Coordination Chemistry in Toulouse (with M. Etienne) and the University of Leiden (with J. Reedijk). In 2001, Hierso was appointed as Maître de Conférences (assistant professor) at the Université de Bourgogne in the team of P. Meunier, and was made professor in

2009. His research interests include the properties and coordination chemistry of polydentate ferrocenyl phosphine ligands, and he has reported catalytic cross-coupling reactions with these ligands in *Angewandte Chemie*.^[7]

J. Antoine Baceiredo was the recipient of the “Prix de la division” in organic chemistry. Baceiredo obtained his Ph.D. at the Université Paul Sabatier, Toulouse in 1982 under the direction of G. Bertrand. In 1985, Baceiredo joined the University of Southern California (Los Angeles) for postdoctoral research in the group of W. P. Weber. In 1992 he was promoted to the rank of Directeur de Recherche CNRS at the Laboratoire de Chimie de Coordination (LCC) in Toulouse, where he remained until 1999, when he joined the Laboratoire Hétérochimie Fondamentale et Appliquée (LHFA). He is currently Director of the Institut de Chimie de Toulouse. Baceiredo’s research interests are mainly focused on Group 13–15 heteroelements, in particular the synthesis of mixed bisylide systems as asymmetric carbon atom sources and the development of inorganic ylides. His work on a phosphine-stabilized silicon hydride was recently published in *Angewandte Chemie*,^[8a] and he has been featured in our Author Profile section.^[8b]

Gwilherm Evano was awarded the “Prix Acros” in organic chemistry, which is presented to researchers under the age of 40. Evano obtained his PhD from the Université Pierre et Marie Curie in 2002 under the direction of C. Agami and F. Couty. After postdoctoral research with J. Panek at Boston University, he joined the Institut Lavoisier at the Université de Versailles in 2003 as Chargé de

Recherche. Evano’s research interests are in synthetic chemistry with particular emphasis on natural product synthesis, copper-mediated reactions, and the chemistry of heteroatom-substituted alkenes and alkynes, which he recently discussed in a Review in *Angewandte Chemie*.^[9]

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M. Peruzzini



K. Matyjaszewski



J.-C. Hierso



J. A. Baceiredo



G. Evano