

Awarded ...

Real Sociedad Española de Química  
Prizes 2013



T. Torres



M. Solà



F. P. Cossío



T. Rojo



J. Alemán



N. Crivillers

The Real Sociedad Española de Química (RSEQ; Spanish Royal Society of Chemistry) has announced its 2013 prize winners. We congratulate all the awardees and feature those who publish more regularly in *Angewandte Chemie* and its sister journals.

**Tomás Torres** (Universidad Autónoma de Madrid; UAM) is the recipient of the “Premio a la Investigación y Medalla de la RSEQ” (Research Award and Gold Medal), which is the highest honor of the RSEQ. Torres studied at the UAM and received his PhD (supervised by Francisco Fariña) in 1978. After a postdoctoral fellowship with Wolfram Schaefer at the Max Planck Institute for Biochemistry, Martinsried (1978–1980), he joined Abello/Merck Sharp & Dohme as a Senior Researcher, and was appointed to the faculty at the UAM in 1985. Torres and his research group are interested in supramolecular chemistry and molecular organic materials, in particular the synthesis of low-symmetry phthalocyanines.<sup>[1]</sup> Torres is on the International Advisory Board of *ChemPlusChem*.

**Miquel Solà** (Universitat de Girona; UdG) received the Prize in Physical Chemistry. Solà studied at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, where he carried out his PhD under the supervision of Joan Bertran and Agustí Lledós. In 1993, he moved to the UdG as an assistant researcher and was subsequently a postdoctoral researcher with Evert Jan Baerends at the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (1994), and with Tom Ziegler at the University of Calgary (1995). He joined the faculty at the UdG in 1997. Solà was recognized for his work on studying organic and organometallic reaction mechanisms, in particular the reactivity of fullerenes and endohedral metallofullerenes.<sup>[2]</sup>

**Fernando P. Cossío** (University of the Basque Country, UPV/EHU) was awarded the Janssen-Cilag Prize in Organic Chemistry. Cossío studied at the University of Zaragoza and received a PhD in 1986 from the UPV/EHU under the supervision of Claudio Palomo. From 1987–1988, he was a postdoctoral fellow with Jean-Paul Picard at the CNRS in Talence. He started his independent career at the UPV/EHU in 1988, was a visiting scholar with Kendall N. Houk at the University of California, Los Angeles, in 1993, and was made full professor at the UPV/EHU in 2002. Cossío's current research interests focus mainly on the study of pericyclic reactions and C–C coupling reactions.<sup>[3]</sup>

The BASF Prize in Inorganic Chemistry has been awarded to **Teófilo Rojo** (UPV/EHU and CIC energiGUNE). Rojo studied at the UPV/EHU, where he was awarded his PhD (supervised by Daniel Beltran and Pedro Gili) in 1981. After postdoctoral work with Michel Pouchard and

Gérard Demazeau at the Laboratoire de Chimie du Solide du CNRS, Université Bordeaux 1, and research stays at various European and American Universities, he was made Full Professor of Inorganic Chemistry at the UPV/EHU in 1992. He has also been Scientific Director at CIC energiGUNE since 2010. Rojo's research interests are in the preparation and study of new materials such as biocompatible magnetic nanomaterials and new electrode materials.<sup>[4]</sup>

The Sigma Aldrich Emerging Investigators Awards are presented to members of the society under 36 years old for outstanding research.

**José Alemán** (UAM) obtained his PhD in 2005 for work supervised by Jose Luis García Ruano at the UAM. He carried out postdoctoral research with Karl Anker Jørgensen at the Center for Catalysis, Aarhus (2006–2008), and subsequently with Carmen Navarro-Ranninger at the UAM, where he is currently a Ramón y Cajal Researcher. Alemán's research interests include sulfur chemistry, organocatalysis, and bioinorganic chemistry.<sup>[5]</sup>

**Núria Crivillers** (Institut de Ciència de Materials de Barcelona–Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas; ICMAB–CSIC) studied at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona and carried out her PhD (awarded in 2008) under the supervision of Concepció Rovira and Marta Mas-Torrent at the ICMAB–CSIC. From 2009–2011, she was a postdoctoral research fellow with Paolo Samorì at the Université de Strasbourg, and in 2011, she rejoined the ICMAB–CSIC, where she is currently a Juan de la Cierva Researcher. Crivillers is interested in the self-assembly of functional molecules on surfaces.<sup>[6]</sup>

**Juan Luis Delgado** (Madrid Institute for Advanced Studies–Nanosciences; IMDEA–Nanociencia) studied at the Universidad de Castilla-La Mancha, and received his PhD (supervised by Fernando Langa) in 2004. After postdoctoral work with Jean-François Nierengarten in Toulouse and Strasbourg (2005–2006), and with Patrick Fowler at the University of Sheffield (2006), he joined the group of Nazario Martín at the Universidad Complutense de Madrid as a Juan de la Cierva Researcher. He has been a Ramón y Cajal Researcher at the IMDEA–Nanociencia since 2009. Delgado's research is focused on the synthesis of carbon-based energy-storing materials for the development of efficient photovoltaic devices. He has reported in *Chemistry—A European Journal* on donor– $\pi$ -acceptor molecules for dye-sensitized solar cells.<sup>[7]</sup>

**Jose Solla Gullón** (Universidad de Alicante) studied at the Universidad de Santiago de Compostela, and carried out his PhD (awarded in 2003) with Antonio Aldaz and Vicente Montiel at the Universidad de Alicante, and has worked there as a researcher ever since. Solla Gullón's research is

focused on the synthesis, characterization, and electrocatalytic properties of size- and shape-controlled metal nanoparticles.<sup>[8]</sup>

**Gerhard Erker** (Universität Münster) is the recipient of the Spanish–German Elhúyar–Goldschmidt Prize. Erker, who was featured here when he won the Seibold Prize,<sup>[9a]</sup> has recently reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on the synthesis of dibenzopentalenes.<sup>[9b]</sup>

**Jean-François Nierengarten** (Université de Strasbourg and CNRS) has been honored with the Spanish–French Catalán–Sabatier Prize. Nierengarten studied at the Université Louis Pasteur, Strasbourg, where he worked with Jean-Pierre Sauvage for his PhD (awarded in 1994). From 1994–1996, he carried out postdoctoral research with François Diederich at the ETH Zurich, and in 1996, he returned to the Université Louis Pasteur as a CNRS chargé de recherche. In 2005, he moved to the Laboratoire de Chimie de Coordination, Toulouse, and in 2007, he returned to Strasbourg, where he is currently CNRS directeur de recherche, and Head of the Laboratoire de Chimie des Matériaux Moléculaires. Themes of Nierengarten's research include synthesis and supramolecular chemistry of fullerenes, porphyrins, transition-metal complexes, and  $\pi$ -conjugated systems.<sup>[10]</sup>

The Spanish–Portuguese Madinabeitia–Lourenço Prize has been awarded to **Armando J. L. Pombeiro** (Instituto Superior Técnico (IST), Universidade Técnica de Lisboa). Pombeiro studied at the IST and received his PhD (supervised by Joseph Chatt and Raymond Richards) from the University of Sussex in 1976. He subsequently returned to the IST, where he has been full professor since 1989. Pombeiro's research interests include the activation of small molecules, molecular electrochemistry, and theoretical calculations.<sup>[11]</sup>

**Francesco Zerbetto** (Università di Bologna) has been honored with the Spanish–Italian González–Ciamician Prize. Zerbetto studied at the Università degli Studi di Bologna, where he received his PhD (supervised by Giorgio Orlandi) in 1986. After postdoctoral work at the National Research Council of Canada (1986–1990), he returned to Bologna, where he is currently Professor of Physical Chemistry. Zerbetto's research is in the area of theoretical

and computational chemistry, in particular how molecules react to external stimuli.<sup>[12]</sup> Zerbetto is on the International Advisory Board of *ChemPlusChem*.

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DOI: 10.1002/anie.201307962



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