

## **LABoral organises a meeting of collectives and a poetry recital by National Poetry Award winner Juan Carlos Mestre to celebrate International Museum Day**

One hundred members of different collectives will gather together for a meeting tomorrow, Tuesday, May 12, with the winner of the 2009 National Poetry Award, Juan Carlos Mestre. The event will take place at 12 noon in El Centro de Arte y Creación Industrial in Gijón as part of LABoral's activities celebrating International Museum Day 2010 this Tuesday with the slogan "Museums for social harmony". LABoral received the support of the Municipal Foundation of Social Services of the Gijón City Hall in the organisation of this activity.

El Centro de Arte y Creación Industrial has also organised a poetry recital at 7:30 PM tomorrow intended for a general audience. It will take place in El Centro de Cultura Antiguo Instituto. The poet will hold a book signing earlier in the afternoon at the bookstore Cervantes de Oviedo (Doctor Casal, 9. 33001 Oviedo).

On May 18, 2010, thousands of museums world-wide will celebrate social harmony consisting in dialogue, tolerance, cohabitation and development based in pluralism, difference, competition and creativity, promoting "understanding while distinguishing one's self, seeking out what we have in common while preserving our differences."

Juan Carlos Mestre (Villafranca del Bierzo, León, 1957) received the 2009 National Poetry Award for his work, *La casa roja*. Poet and visual artist, he is the author of the poetry collections *Siete poemas escritos junto a la lluvia* (1982), *La visita de Safo* (1983), *Antífona del Otoño en el Valle del Bierzo* (Adonais award, 1985), *Las páginas del fuego* (1987), *La poesía ha caído en desgracia* (Jaime Gil de Biedma award, 1992) and *La tumba de Keats* (Jaén de Poesía award, 1999), this last book having been written during his residency as scholarship holder at the Spanish Academy in Rome. His poems from 1982 to 2007 have been collected in the anthology *Las estrellas para quien las trabaja* (2007).

He has put together anthologies on the poetic work of Rafael Pérez Estrada, *La palabra destino* (2001), and *La visión comunicable* (2001) by Rosamel del Valle, as well as writing the commentary for

the novel by Enrique Gil y Carrasco, *El señor de Bembibre* (2004). He is also the author of *El universo está en la noche* (2006), a book on Mesoamerican myths and legends.

In the domain of the plastic arts, he has exhibited his pictorial and graphic work in galleries in Spain, the United States, Europe and Latin America. His dialogue with the work of other artists and poets has given rise to books such as *Piedra de Alma* with José María Parreño, *Crónica de amor de una muchacha albina* with Rafael Pérez Estrada, *Emboscados* with Amancio Prada, *Bestiario apócrifo* with Álvaro Delgado (2000), *Enea y los gatos* with Javier Fernández de Molina (2002), *El Adepto* with Bruno Ceccobelli (2005), *Arde la oscuridad* with Alfredo Erias (2007) and *Los sepulcros de Cronos* with the sculptor Evaristo Bellotti (2007).

He has also edited numerous artists' books such as *Cuaderno de Roma* (2005), a printed version of *La tumba de Keats*, and accompanied by the recorded poems of Antonio Gamoneda, Diego Valverde, Miguel Ángel Muñoz Sanjuán, Gonzalo Rojas, Jorge Riechmann. Many of his collaborations with musical artists have been released as well, such as with Amancio Prada, Luis Delgado or José Zárate.