OCELOT BARITU NATIONAL PARK

Atomic Energy

IAEA'S DIRECTOR GENERAL RAFAEL GROSSI VISITED THE ARGENTINE EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON DC

Business

SOFTWARE AND MALBEC IN A MEETING BETWEEN COMPANIES FROM ARGENTINA AND THE USA

Art & Culture

"CHROMATIC ALTERATIONS" BY LAO GABRIELLI EXPLORES THE SECRETS OF GEOMETRY AND COLOR

EMBASSY OF ARGENTINA, WASHINGTON, D.C.

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IN FOCUS

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Ambassador Rafael Mariano Grossi, Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (Left) and Ambassador Jorge Argüello (Right).

IAEA'S DIRECTOR GENERAL RAFAEL GROSSI VISITED THE ARGENTINE EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON DC

Ambassador Rafael Mariano Grossi is the International Atomic Energy Agency's (IAEA) Director General since December 3rd, 2019. He is also an Argentine diplomat with over 35 years of experience in the field of non-proliferation.

Last October, Ambassador Grossi visited Washington DC, where he met with Secretary of State Antony Blinken, other senior administration officials, prominent members of both houses of Congress, executives of international development agencies and leading think-tank experts. He also visited the Argentine Embassy, where he met with Ambassador Jorge Argüello.

In the meeting at the Embassy, ambassador Grossi kindly submitted to us the following description of IAEA's role

Once again, I share with you the latest edition of our Embassy Newsletter. This edition includes an article about the visit to Washington of the Ambassador Rafael Mariano Grossi, Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

In this edition we also include an article on the event "Malbec & Tech", organized by the Argentine Embassy, Globant, NC Tech and the Undersecretariat for the Promotion of Trade and Investments.

Finally, an article on the exhibition of the Argentine artist Lao Gabrielli, "Chromatic Alterations", which is exhibited in our embassy until December 3.

Jorge Argüello
Ambassador to the United States

THE PROTECTION OF PEOPLE AND THE ENVIRONMENT FROM THE HARMFUL EFFECTS OF IONIZING RADIATION IS AT THE HEART OF THE IAEA'S WORK.

against the backdrop of the existential threat of climate change:

The International Atomic Energy Agency, is best known as the world's nuclear watchdog, for its work to deter the spread of nuclear weapons by the early detection of misuses and to provide a strong global nuclear safety and security framework. However, its mandate is broader –to enlarge and accelerate their many contributions of nuclear science and technology for health, sustainable development and prosperity, and offer support to countries to enjoy those benefits.

Established by the United Nations as an independent organization in 1957, the IAEA serves 173 Member States.

A principal role of the IAEA is to deter the proliferation of nuclear weapons through the early detection of the diversion of nuclear material or the misuse of nuclear technology and, in the absence of such diversion or misuse, provide credible assurances that States are honouring their legal obligations to use nuclear material and technology only for peaceful purposes. To do so, the Agency applies various technical measures referred to as 'safeguards' to verify the correctness and the completeness of the declarations made by States about their nuclear material and activities. IAEA safeguards are an essential component of the international non-proliferation regime.

The protection of people and the environment from the harmful effects of ionizing radiation is at the heart of the IAEA's work. IAEA assistance also facilitates safe and secure transport, handling and use of radioactive materials in fuel cycle technologies, radioactive sources for energy production and other radiation related purposes. This support includes facilitating the proper and sustainable mining of essential chemical elements for nuclear energy production, effective decommissioning of nuclear facilities and management of radioactive waste and spent fuel from cradle to grave.

Behind each IAEA project, programme and service lies a foundation of safety and security, based on the Agency's standards and guidelines. The IAEA provides Member States with the assistance they need when they embark on using nuclear science and technology, through review services and facilitating tailored, dedicated training and emergency preparedness exercises. Ensuring that these uses remain peaceful and are properly managed in order to protect people and the environment are paramount to the IAEA's services to Member States.

Nuclear technology and applications are used everywhere in our daily lives. Within the context of global development, IAEA services underpin collective efforts for the peaceful use of nuclear science and technology. They are supported by specialized IAEA laboratories in Seibersdorf, Austria and Monaco, as well as Collaborating Centres, networks and collaborations with partners, including from the private sector, as well as with other United Nations organizations.

To increase access to health care, the IAEA supports countries, in particular low and middle income countries, with assistance in the form of equipment, expert guidance, training and knowledge exchange to aid in the use of nuclear techniques for diagnosing, treating and managing cancer, cardiovascular and other non-communicable diseases as well as in controlling zoonotic diseases, i.e. diseases that originate in animals and jump to humans, such as COVID-19.

Nuclear and isotopic techniques provide researchers with tools to study the planet's past and predict its future.

WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT, IAEA SERVICES UNDERPIN COLLECTIVE EFFORTS FOR THE PEACEFUL USE OF NUCLEAR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.

They are used to monitor pollution trends, assess their impacts and treat effluents, while also improving global understanding of the effects of climate change on both terrestrial and oceanic systems. Nuclear techniques also present menu of options to battle plastic pollution to trace microplastics in the waterbody, including in marine plants and animals, as well as to recycle plastics in a more effective and environmentally friendly way.

Water security –its availability, quality, management and protection– has become a critical issue in human development and environmental and economic sustainability, particularly in light of global population growth. Water is naturally tagged with isotopic "fingerprints," which can be used to determine the source, age, movement and interactions of water above and below ground. The IAEA provide this science-based information needed for the sound management of water resources through isotope hydrology methodologies and technical training.

Nuclear technologies provide competitive and often unique solutions to help fight hunger and malnutrition, improve environmental sustainability and ensure that food is safe. The IAEA and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) work in partnership to help Member States use these technologies safely and appropriately. The Joint FAO/IAEA Centre provide important equipment and expert guidance, as well as technology and training to countries in breeding improved crop and plant varieties; controlling animal and plant pests and disease; improving food safety; enhancing livestock reproduction and nutrition, and strengthening soil and water management practices.

Access to affordable energy directly improves human welfare. The IAEA supports countries in the safe, secure and sustainable use of nuclear power, should they decide to include it in their energy mix. For countries embarking on this technology, this support includes helping to build their capacities and the infrastructure necessary for developing a nuclear power programme. The use of nuclear power has avoided the equivalent of around 70 gigatonnes of carbon dioxide emissions over the last half century. Providing 10% of the world's electricity, which is more than a of global low carbon electricity, the contribution of nuclear power to climate change mitigation, is increasingly recognized to reach net zero. ■

SOFTWARE AND MALBEC IN A MEETING BETWEEN COMPANIES FROM ARGENTINA AND THE USA

The US is the main market for software companies of Argentina and for the exports of knowledge-based services, which is already the third largest exporting complex of our country. The new Knowledge Economy Law provided the appropriate framework to continue promoting these exports looking for the exchange between companies from both countries to reach its full potential.

The event "Malbec & Tech", organized on November 2nd by the Argentine Embassy together with Globant, NC Tech – an entity that brings together tech companies in North Carolina – and the Undersecretariat for the Promotion of Trade and Investments, demonstrated Argentina's ability to participate in core discussions on innovation and export of technological services.

At this event, the exchange was centered in Digital Reinvention, applied to three segments of enormous interest: fintech, medtech and edtech, that is, technology applied to finance, medicine and education.

Thus, we brought together Google, IBM and Credit Suisse, along with other 20 top-level companies, with Argentine companies that offer original solutions and have the potential to grow in the United States market, such as Mirai 3D, Tecso, Crowdar and Xavia, among others.

The initiative had a distinctive element. Although it was a virtual meeting, each of the invited CEOs and CIOs received in their office a bottle of high-end Argentine Malbec wine, donated by Zuccardi. Before starting the technology

"Malbec & Tech", organized on November 2nd at the Argentine Embassy.

THE EXCHANGE WAS CENTERED IN DIGITAL REINVENTION, APPLIED TO THREE SEGMENTS OF INTEREST: FINTECH, MEDTECH AND EDTECH, THAT IS, TECHNOLOGY APPLIED TO FINANCE, MEDICINE AND EDUCATION.

debate, the executives were able to taste the wine under the guidance of an expert.

The tasting, in some point, transcended the virtuality and allowed for a warmer and more informal atmosphere. At the same time, it was an opportunity to show an Argentine product valued around the world and that is part of our national identity.

At the meeting, the offer of Argentine technology and digital transformation services was represented, with a variety of innovative solutions for sectors such as medicine, education and finance, among others, all with talent, capacity, potential and, above all, vocation to be projected into the international market.

Various factors allow this relationship to deepen more and more. The coincidence in the time zone, the high level of English of the Argentine technicians and engineers, the excellent cost-benefit ratio of the services offered by the companies, added to their quality, and the cultural affinity. These elements combined produce an excellent result and confirm Argentina as a reliable partner in the software market. Today our country has 11,000 companies in this industry that compete globally.

We will continue working with companies from both countries to exchange experiences, evaluate best practices and thus lay the foundations for permanent cooperation that fuels trade in knowledge-based services. ■

Lao Gabrielli's "Chromatic Alterations" at the Argentine Embassy.

"CHROMATIC ALTERATIONS" BY LAO GABRIELLI EXPLORES THE SECRETS OF GEOMETRY AND COLOR

An explosion of geometry and color. A fusion of light, space and movement. The work of visual artist Lao Gabrielli encompasses each and every one of these concepts and transcends them in a vital and stripped-down way. She has lived in Mexico City for 11 years; she moved there for work and family reasons. It was a change of landscape that allowed her to continue a path that began in Buenos Aires in the workshop of the great Argentine master Guillermo Roux.

"Chromatic Alterations" will be exhibited until December 3 at the Malvinas Argentinas Auditorium, as part of the exhibitions organized by the Argentine Embassy for the 2021 season, after a period marked by the virtuality of the pandemic.

Gabrielli studied Graphic Design at the School of Architecture, Design and Urban Planning of the University of Buenos Aires, then architecture at the same university for a year. In Argentina, she studied painting with Anna Rank, with whom she traveled to New York and discovered in person the work of artists such as Edward Hopper, Mark Rothko, Andy Warhol, Jean Paul Basquiat and Jackson Pollock, among others.

In New York, she also did a workshop with Julio Alpuy. "From him I learned the importance of constant work, discipline and, at the same time, being clear about a unique personal imprint as an artist," recalled Gabrielli, a RoFa Projects artist, at a gallery directed by Gabriela Rosso in Maryland.

THE ARTISTS WHO MARKED A BEFORE AND AFTER IN MY CAREER ARE ARGENTINE KINETIC ARTISTS LIKE JULIO LE PARC AND EDUARDO MAC ENTYRE.

She is an observer of the commonplace who tries to internalize and constantly update herself in the universe of design in general and art in particular. "I am pleased to see how everything in the art world is evolving into other areas, as is currently happening in technology with NFTs," she pointed out.

Argentine Embassy: How do you define your work, both from an artist's point of view, and from the observer's point of view?

Lao Gabrielli: From an artist's point of view, the work is defined as a visual game of geometric abstraction, and the use of color with a vibrant chromatic range that moves in the plane through lines and sequentially forming optical games that move within the plane. From the viewers' point of view, they are invited to discover these forms optical games through the succession of lines and variations of vibrant colors that form different geometries that expand and move through color sequences in this visual journey.

EA: To what extent did the Argentine kinetic arts movement of the 60s influence your work?

LG: Following this Argentine legacy has been a vital part for developing my work, starting with the kinetic art of the Hungarian Victor Vasarely and his "Le Mouvement" exhibit (1958), where he proposes kinetic works, with real, virtual movement and light. And, undoubtedly, also the great Argentine artist Julio Le Parc, who created the Groupe de Recherche D´Art Visuel and GRAV (Paris, 1961), and is celebrated for his optic-kinetic explorations.

EA: What would you say are the advantages and disadvantages of being a visual artist with a background in graphic design?

LG: Having studied graphic design allowed me to have a knowledge of art and the artistic avant-garde movements, and to choose Op Art and Kinetic art from these studies. A disadvantage could be that perhaps one loses the ease and freedom of expression typical of fine arts, as it creates structures influenced by the knowledge acquired.

EA: What are the triggers that motivates you to create one of your works?

LG: The motivation and inspiration to create a new work can be very diverse: from a walk around traditional and colorful places in Mexico City, to appreciating the designs of an international fashion show. Likewise, a film or a video of contemporary, kinetic or other artistic trends, listening to music, looking at architectural designs, visiting a museum; for example, the Museo Universitario Arte Contemporáneo, with an exhibit with works by a kinetic artist such as Carlos Cruz-Diez.

EA: Among your teachers, which ones marked a turning point in your career?

LG: The teachers who marked a clear before and after in my career are Argentine kinetic artists such as Julio Le Parc and Eduardo Mac Entyre, and Rogelio Polesello, a geometric abstract artist. Also, the Venezuelan kinetic artists Carlos Cruz-Diez and Jesús Rafael Soto, and also Mexican geometric abstract artist Eduardo Terrazas.

EA: Tell me about your life in Mexico. What do you miss and what do you enjoy?

LG: My life in Mexico is a continuous exploration and learning from its vast cultural, gastronomic and artistic treasures. As to what I miss from Argentina: being close

HAVING STUDIED GRAPHIC DESIGN ALLOWED ME TO HAVE A KNOWLEDGE OF ART AND THE ARTISTIC AVANT-GARDE MOVEMENTS.

to my family and friends, our traditions and customs. In Mexico I enjoy broadening my horizons and always allowing myself to learn something new.

Between Mexico and Argentina, Gabrielli travels through a world where geometric lines and intensity of colors break with formal structures and are reset in a new look. ■