Institutional Image & Outreach to Society
For the second consecutive year, we have had the honour of having our own exhibition space at the ARCO International Contemporary Art Fair, where Solano’s work was exhibited. The Fair was held between February 23 and 27, and our stand was a great success. There were many visitors, citizens as well as representatives from well-known corporations, foundations, and institutions. These encounters have had a positive impact on disseminating knowledge about our Centre, opening the door to prospective donations and collaborations. CNIO Arte was presented in ARCO on February 25, in the ARCO Presentations Room, where Maria Blasco, CNIO Director and Executive Director of CNIO Arte; Borja Baselga, President of the Fundación Banco Santander; and Susana Solano, CNIO Arte 2022 featured artist, participated in a round table discussion moderated by CNIO Arte curator Amparo Garrido.

This year, once again, CNIO Arte 2022 drew the attention of the media. The event made quite an impact on the press and was covered by many different media outlets, including general newspapers, radio stations, and TV channels. Thus, we had the presence of El País, 20 Minutos, La Vanguardia, RTVE, RNE, EFE, Europa Press, Cobias, Diario Síglol XXI, Crónica de Cantabria, Infosalus.com, ConSalud, Newsal del, MSN España, among others.

As a result of our success at ARCO, the Cervantes Institute proposed to exhibit the artworks of our past CNIO Arte editions in different countries. This led to the initiative “CNIO Arte. Dialogues between art and science”, which begins its cycle of travelling exhibitions of CNIO Arte works at the Cervantes Institute in New York, with the support of the Fundación Banco Santander. In addition, the artwork ‘Fulguraciones’ by visual artist Daniel Canogar, produced for CNIO Arte 2021, was exhibited at the Centre for Art and Media (ZKM) in Karlsruhe (Germany), as part of the exhibition “Biomedia. The age of media with life-like behaviour”, from December 18, 2021, to August 28, 2022.

Following the success of previous initiatives to promote CNIO Arte, we organised the III Art and Science Symposium, held February 16, 2022, and chaired by Carlos Jiménez, Emeritus Professor of Aesthetics, Historian and Art Critic. In line with “CNIO Arte connects discovery and creation, bringing together the views that investigate, illuminate, and return to a common path.”

In 2022, the CNIO celebrated the fifth edition of CNIO Arte, carried out with the support of the Banco Santander Foundation, as in previous years. Its commissioner was Amparo Garrido, Coordinator of the CNIO Office for Institutional Image and Outreach to Society.

CNIO Arte 2022 featured artist Susana Solano, one of the most internationally renowned Spanish sculptors, and the physician and epidemiologist Pedro Alonso, director of the World Health Organization’s (WHO) Global Malaria Programme in Geneva, Switzerland. In this edition, Solano travelled to Mozambique, accompanied by the Coordinator of the Office and curator of CNIO Arte 2022, Amparo Garrido, to visit the hospital facilities where Dr Alonso works. Thanks to this trip, the artist was able to see his work first-hand, find inspiration, and connect with the subject to create the piece ‘El mundo de las cosas’, which has been on display at the CNIO since February 16, 2022.
The selection process for a young or mid-career artist to carry out a 6-month stay at the CNIO was launched in August 2022. The selected artist will have the opportunity to learn more about the Centre, its facilities and research lines, and to interact with the research staff with the aim of finding convergence points, common interests, and new avenues of inspiration through which he/she will create one or more works of art that reflect the work being carried out at the Centre. These creations will be exhibited at the CNIO and at all the events or institutions engaged in dissemination activities of the project. The artworks may be offered for sale, and the profits will be used in their entirety to fund CNIO research.

In 2022, we further updated the content of our website www.cnio.es, including images, infographics, and news about the Centre and its activities. Our Office collaborated with other CNIO departments to help familiarise them with the latest version of our corporate identity manual. We also participated in the organisation of other cultural and outreach initiatives held at the CNIO, such as the European Researchers’ Night, the “La Lotería que más toca” campaign, the event held at CaixaForum to celebrate World Cancer Research Day, the celebration of the International Day of Women and Girls in Science, where we had Jane Goodall as a guest speaker, and the ‘CNIO’ Friends Day. On all of these occasions, we offered support to the different departments and areas of the Centre, collaborating in the preparation, management, and coordination of the event, internally and with suppliers.

We also continued to update outreach materials (brochures, etc.), coordinating and supervising all design pieces such as banners, posters, campaigns, graphics, etc., in constant dialogue with the designers. In addition, the Image Office supervises the images and design that illustrate this Annual Report, and the subsequent web update of the associated texts and photos. The aim of this work builds on one of the CNIO’s key strategic pillars: to amplify the reach and impact of the CNIO in society and, from there, to strengthen philanthropic support to the institution.

The dialogue between Susana Solano and Pedro Alonso, the theme chosen for this 3rd edition of the symposium was “Art, Science and Pandemics”. Carlos Jiménez, Director of the Symposium; Luis Enjuanes, Research Professor at the Coronavirus Laboratory of the National Biotechnology Centre (CNB-CSIC); Ana Matey, artist; and Ruth Toledano, opinion columnist at elDiario.es, editor, and collaborator for Fondation Franz Weber, reflected on the proposed theme from different perspectives and viewpoints. This event, as well as the CNIO Arte Presentation, are available on our YouTube channel.

As part of the initiatives organised by the Institutional Image and Outreach to Society Office, to mark the occasion of World Cancer Day on February 2, 2022, the CNIO celebrated the unveiling of the sculpture ‘Intra-Venus’, by the artist Marina Vargas, and the launch of the “Intra-Venus” Association for the visibility and support of female creators with cancer. The sculpture will be on display to the public for one year at the entrance to the CNIO.

On May 4 and 5, the CNIO participated with its own stand represented by the Institutional Image Office at the Diverciencia Fair in Algeciras. During those 2 days, educational and science outreach activities were carried out, aimed at primary and secondary school students in the city.

Our Office also participated in the 2022 call for grants to promote Science and Culture, launched by Fundación Española para la Ciencia y la Tecnología (FECYT), with the initiative “CNIO Artistic Residences”. The grant was awarded and the project was launched in August 2022 with the opening of a selection process for a young or mid-career artist to carry out a 6-month stay at the CNIO. The selected artist will have the opportunity to learn more about the Centre, its facilities and research lines, and to interact with the research staff with the aim of finding convergence points, common interests, and new avenues of inspiration through which he/she will create one or more works of art that reflect the work being carried out at the Centre. These creations will be exhibited at the CNIO and at all the events or institutions engaged in dissemination activities of the project. The artworks may be offered for sale, and the profits will be used in their entirety to fund CNIO research.

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