

## 29th edition COUTELLIA : a record attendance

While COUTELLIA, the International art and traditional knife show, has just ended. It is time for the organizers to take stock of this 29<sup>th</sup> edition.

### Record attendance

COUTELLIA broke a new attendance record! More than **6,600 visitors** walked the aisles of the Festival on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2019 in Thiers (France). The event mobilized **230 art knife-makers and knife manufacturers** from over 20 countries.

In its 29<sup>th</sup> year, Coutellia has the support of a top sponsor: **Florent Pagny** himself. A renowned French singer but also an art knife enthusiast, he knows the city of Thiers well, having visited whilst touring the region and taking the opportunity to stock up on clasp knives, table knives or kitchen knives.

The new events, including the **cutting competition** and the **introduction to forging**, were a great success and will be renewed next year.

For Claude Barbin, President, CCI Puy-de-Dôme Clermont Auvergne Metropole who brings the event alongside many partners : "*Coutellia reinforces its role as a powerful accelerator of business and valorization of know-how of cutlery companies, a sector Auvergne needs to develop its influence abroad*".

### Cutlery creation competition: the laureates

COUTELLIA also offers an opportunity for all the art knife-makers who are exhibiting at the trade show to take part in a knife competition. Organised every year and open to everyone, this competition will reward the most beautiful creations exhibited at the trade show as chosen by a jury of experts. This year, **Joe Keeslar was the president of the knife-making competition**. This Kentucky native is a living legend in the sharp world of blades.

#### **2019 winners:**

COUTELLIA Award: Alexander CHEBURKOV (Russia)

Originality Award: Giuseppe PALA (Italy)

Public's favorite prize: Pascale SAVATÉ (France)

### 30th edition under the best auspices

The 30<sup>th</sup> edition should keep all its promises with a Festival on 3 days (instead of 2 usually) on May 22<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> in 2020. This anniversary edition will host the Damascus World Cup, 1st team damask forging competition.

Press contacts :

Agence Qui Plus Est // + 33 (0)4 73 74 62 35

Anne-Cécile Runavot // + 33 (0)6 34 87 35 87 // [anne-cecile.runavot@quipluses.com](mailto:anne-cecile.runavot@quipluses.com)

Catty Boirie // [catty.boirie@quipluses.com](mailto:catty.boirie@quipluses.com)