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Toro's "La Iberoamericana" rewards female artists Teresa Gancedo and Marina Vargas

The exhibition closes on September 15, but will continue in 2022 with a new edition that will vindicate the role of women in art

MJ Cachazo

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Authorities, organizers, artists and the two award-winning creators pose at the closing of the exhibition / MJC

Toro has closed this Friday the first edition of the exhibition of contemporary art "La Iberoamericana", although it will not close its doors to visitors until next Wednesday, **September 15**.

This Friday, the City Council hosted the **official closing ceremony**, which served to take **stock** of the **exhibition**, which has brought together in five venues **more than 150 works by thirty artists** from **Spain** and **Mexico** and which, since its inauguration on the 9th July, has been visited by thousands of people, although at the moment a total count has not been carried out waiting for it to conclude on **September 15**.

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During the closing ceremony, two **awards** were also presented to the artists **Teresa Gancedo and Marina Vargas**. A professional jury has been in charge of awarding the "**La Iberoamericana-Delhy Tejero Honor Award**" to **Gancedo**, an award that aims to recognize the work of renowned artists and women who make it possible for art to reach the public, be preserved or transmitted. .

Gancedo was born in 1937 in the Leonese town of Tejedo de Sil and studied Fine Arts at the Faculty of San Jordi in Barcelona. Until

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Retirement, Gancedo has maintained a perfect synchronicity between his fruitful creative career with his outstanding teaching work and his works are part of some of the most outstanding collections at the national and international level. In addition, Gancedo will be one of the artists invited to the second edition of the exhibition to be held in Bull in 2022.

On the other hand, the **Granada artist Marina Vargas** has collected the **prize** awarded, through **popular vote, by the visitors** who have visited the "La Iberoamericana" exhibition.

Marina Vargas (left) and Teresa Gancedo pose with the awards / MJC

At the official closing ceremony, the **mayor, Tomás del Bien**, highlighted that, "thousands of **visitors** have passed through the exhibition" and that, in the last days of opening, a "flood" of people interested in visiting is expected. the different venues.

In fact, it has been decided **to reinforce** the **guided tours** scheduled for the days in which the exhibition will still be open so that more people can discover the works contributed by the participating artists.

Del Bien highlighted that the "**result**" of the first edition of the exhibition "gives us strength to move forward" and to **continue betting on culture** "as an element of development, wealth, future and social cohesion."

For his part, the **curator of the exhibition, Víctor del Campo**, highlighted the efforts of the "human team" that has made "The Iberoamericana" has become a reference in the art world, in addition to achieving great repercussion at a national and international level. International.

For Del Campo, the initial **expectations** of the **exhibition "have been met"** and, for this reason, it will continue next year to continue supporting the artists and to recognize their role in a sector in which progress has been made, but in which inequality still persists.

In addition, he highlighted the "extraordinary exercise" that Toro carries out to support culture, not only through the plastic arts as has been evident in "La Iberoamericana" but also through the

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culture.

In this sense, he stressed that **culture** is a “**dynamic element**” of the rural environment and highlighted Toro's ability to adapt and develop projects such as “La Iberoamericana” that, in addition, have a positive impact on the local economy.

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The mayor and the exhibition curator (standing) officially close the exhibition / MJC

The closing events of the exhibition will continue this afternoon at the Latorre Theater with the premiere, at 6:00 p.m., of the short film “Guerrero. The head in the hands”, dedicated to the artist Susana Guerrero and which, in part, was filmed during the exhibition.

Half an hour later, the “**Delhy-Tejero Meetings**” will begin in which several specialists will participate in two round tables. The first will address the topic “The Arts and Cultural Industries in the present and future of rural areas” and will feature the participation of the senator for Palencia, Rosa María Aldea; the musician and folklorist Joaquín Díaz, and the mayor of Toro, Tomás del Bien, a debate that will be moderated by the art curator, Víctor del Campo.

At 7:15 p.m., the second colloquium will begin, entitled “Can art and devotion dialogue in the 21st century?” and in which the artists Marina Vargas, Marina Núñez and Susana Guerrero will participate, as well as the Art History teacher, María Diéguez and the painter and teacher, Miguel Elías Sánchez. The closing day will conclude with a performance that, starting at 9:00 p.m., will be held in the church of San Agustín.

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