



From the Editor

CHEMISTRY International

The News Magazine of the
International Union of Pure and
Applied Chemistry (IUPAC)

www.iupac.org/publications/ci

Managing Editor: Fabienne Meyers

Production Editor: Chris Brouwer,
CB Communications

Design: Purple Zante, Inc.

All correspondence to be addressed to:

Fabienne Meyers

IUPAC, c/o Department of Chemistry
Boston University
Metcalf Center for Science and Engineering
590 Commonwealth Ave.
Boston, MA 02215, USA

E-mail: edit.ci@iupac.org

Phone: +1 617 358 0410

Fax: +1 617 353 6466

Printed by:

Cadmus Professional Communications,
Easton, MD USA

Subscriptions

Six issues of Chemistry International (ISSN 0193-6484) will be published bimonthly in 2006 (one volume per annum) in January, March, May, July, September, and November. The 2006 subscription rate is USD 99.00 for organizations and USD 45.00 for individuals. Subscription orders may be placed directly with the IUPAC Secretariat. Affiliate Members receive CI as part of their Membership subscription, and Members of IUPAC bodies receive CI free of charge.

Reproduction of Articles

Unless there is a footnote to the contrary, reproduction or translation of articles in this issue is encouraged, provided that it is accompanied by a reference to the original in Chemistry International.

Periodicals postage paid at Durham, NC 27709-9990 and additional mailing offices.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Chemistry International, IUPAC Secretariat, PO Box 13757, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709-3757, USA.

ISSN 0193-6484

Just a few tantalizing words were enough to catch my attention. In a conference report published in *CI*, January 2005, Prof. Heinz Gamsjäger wrote that participants of the 11th International Symposium on Solubility Phenomena (ISSP) enjoyed an art exhibit called "Solubility: Art and Science" at the University of Aveiro in Portugal. The



exhibit featured the works of invited artists, art teachers, and postgraduate students from the university, and was held simultaneously during the conference in July 2004. What a tease, I thought, to mention the exhibit without showing any of the works of art. I immediately contacted the conference organizers and asked them how we could use *CI* to expand the reach

of the exhibit to all IUPAC members. After all, bridging the worlds of art and science seems possible, and more so for a conference series whose motto is "Similia similibus solvuntur" ("Like dissolves like"). I was quickly rewarded by my inquiry and received the exhibit catalogue and a CD presenting various pieces exhibited in Aveiro. At first glance, I was convinced that one way or another, this fascinating exhibit should be shared with you, and this issue has finally come. See pages 4-8.

The exhibit showed various painting techniques and different approaches to working with soluble materials. "Like dissolves like" is probably one of the most important and basic rules of chemistry that painters have to learn. Perhaps more than scientific insight, artists' intuition leads them to work with and apply that rule, and the results presented to us are simply delightful to enjoy.

In addition to reproducing a few original pieces displayed at the exhibit, authors Maria Clara F. Magalhães (professor at the Department of Chemistry and organizer of the 11th ISSP) and Rosa Maria Oliveira (professor at the Department of Communication and Art and coordinator of the exhibit) present reflections on what art and chemistry have in common. They also discuss mutual sources of inspiration in creating new art forms and other innovations.

As Prof. Oliveira wrote in the catalogue introduction, "Throughout history there are few moments when artists and scientists have worked together; however, there are many points where they converge in their creativity." If conferences could more regularly be the occasion for such convergence, they could facilitate interaction and foster communication between scientists and artists, thereby sparking creative minds in both worlds.

Fabienne Meyers

fabienne@iupac.org

www.iupac.org/publications/ci

Cover composition by Linda Graham, Purple Zante, Inc. The collage is made of paintings, drawings, serigraphs, and holographs presented at the exhibit Solubility: Art and Science, Aveira, Portugal, July 2004.