

## **TRIBUTE TO ALBERTO de ELZABURU MARQUEZ**

Authorities...  
Dear Sirs ...

Today AIPPI is most pleased to take part in the tribute  
paid to the career of Alberto de ELZABURU MARQUEZ.

The first time I met you, Alberto, was in 1975,  
in the San Francisco Bay.

Under the Golden Gate Bridge,  
aboard a high-speed boat,  
with your friend Michel de HAAS,  
you were leaving Alcatraz Island,  
your hair streaming in the wind  
and your eyes set on the American Continent of Freedom.

I should add that the Alcatraz prison had already been closed for many years then  
and that it was, as a free man  
that you were impatiently returning to California  
to play an active part in AIPPI Congress in San Francisco,  
and in the work to improve the two International Agreements  
that were signed here in Madrid in 1891:

- the first agreement on the indications of origin
- and our famous agreement on the international registration of trademarks.

The name ELZABURU has been famous  
for a long time within AIPPI  
as the ties between the ELZABURU family and our Association  
date back to its origins.

Indeed, at the very first AIPPI Executive Committee  
held in Brussels on May 8, 1897,  
a certain Francisco ELZABURU,  
your grandfather and one of the founders of our Association,  
already represented Spain in the world of Intellectual Property.

[together with the Marquess of Olivart,  
Don Ramon y Dalmau,  
member of the Chamber of Deputies].

Our President of Honour, Geoffroy GAULTIER,  
who is sorry he cannot be with us today,  
has asked me to pass on to you, Alberto,  
further proof of your grandfather's involvement  
with AIPPI, in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

You, Alberto, his grandson, were one of the founders of the Spanish Group, which was admitted at our Tokyo Congress in 1966.

You immediately became active in AIPPI  
by taking on the duties of Secretary  
of the major Committee  
on the study of the harmonization of trademark laws.

You very quickly became one of AIPPI's most prominent members.

Your wit, generosity and nobility of heart has always stood out.

Your wife Lula has been part of it.  
Between the two of you –  
just like Juan Goytisolo and his wife Monique, who died on October 7, 1996  
- you succeeded in "*creating a civilized relationship  
founded on respect for the other's freedom  
and a great mutual understanding.*"

Today I can still testify that  
our lamented President of Honour, Paul MATHELY,  
and his wife Yveline,  
always expressed to me  
the affection and admiration they had  
for both, you and Lula.

After the brilliant Congress of Venice in 1969,  
you were appointed President of the Spanish Group  
and, together with Marcelino CURRELL SUÑOL,  
who is now Member of Honour, [1990]  
you made a great success of the Executive Committee  
here in Madrid on October 1970.

Thanks to the authority acquired by the Spanish Group,  
the Spanish language became the fourth language of AIPPI  
at the Mexico Congress in 1972.

You have stood out, Alberto,  
as one of the most active and respected members of AIPPI.  
This is why in Rio de Janeiro in 1985, it was only natural for AIPPI  
to award you the title of Member of Honour,  
together with Peter SIEMSEN.

It was also you, Alberto, who  
as the everlasting guardian of Intellectual Property,  
braved a long night's wait  
to enable AIPPI to be the first to apply for a community trademark  
at midnight on March 31, 1996.

You, Alberto, were able to introduce within the Spanish Group  
a spirit of courage and intelligence  
that is still vividly present at our meetings,  
particularly thanks to Luis Alfonso DURAN  
who was Reporter General for several years  
and is now Member of Honour.

There is of course not enough time  
to list all the qualities and successes of your career.

But allow me to say that,  
more than Miguel de CERVANTES imagined for his Don Quixote of La Mancha,  
nothing has been more wonderful  
for Alberto de ELZABURU MARQUES,  
or more useful to Intellectual Property  
than to revive chivalry  
by riding as a “caballero” throughout the world,  
repairing injustices, righting wrongs  
and looking for [legal] solutions acceptable to all.

Alberto, just like Federico GARCIA LORCA [in 1936],  
you sing to Spain and feel her to the core of your being,  
but above all, you are a citizen of the world.

You are therefore a citizen of AIPPI, and we thank you for it.

Madrid  
April 22, 2009

Thierry Mollet-Viéville  
President AIPPI