

- Your Excellency the President of the Cultural Institute of the Macao SAR, Dr. Un Vai Meng
- Your Excellency the Commissioner of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Macao Special Administrative Region, Mr. Hu Zhengyue
- Your Excellency the Consul General of Portugal in Macau and Hong Kong , Dr. Victor Sereno
- Mister ARTIST Manuel Casimiro
- Remaining Authorities
- Ladies and Gentlemen

• I confess that I had some hesitations to start this speech because, in fact, when we address a multi - faceted person, as it is the case of the Artist Manuel Casimiro, and there are real reasons to consider the excellence of each of these facets, we doubt about what treatment we should adopt. Should I treat him by painter, sculptor, photographer, graphic designer, filmmaker, or by researcher? Certainly any of these qualifications can be properly adopted to describe him, hence my question.

• The only certainty was that I was in the presence of an ARTIST, because his past and his work, so testify it. Hence the name I used.

• The art works that surround us in this exhibition are only a small part of the genius of Manuel Casimiro. We can say that his eclecticism and internationalism qualify him as a contemporary artist of the world and not just as a Portuguese artist.

• With this exhibition, the publication of the catalog and the interaction with local artists, we know that Macau will get richer, and this fully justifies all the effort made by the Cultural Institute, that, in good time, invited Rui Cunha Foundation for co - organizer of this real tribute to the talent of the artist Manuel Casimiro .

• We feel particularly honored by the invitation of the Cultural Institute since it corresponds to a decision from a Public Institution of renowned merit to collaborate with a private institution to fulfill a common purpose : - The increase of Culture to the benefit of Macau and its people !

• Again, thank you VERY much Mister President for your kind invitation .

• Thank you Mr. Manuel Casimiro by your art works and by your presence . I'm sure it will be a success and contribute to the development of contemporary art in Macau.

• Thank you Mr. Commissioner for Foreign Affairs , Mr. Consul - General of Portugal, ladies and gentlemen, for your presence!