



## **Singapore hosted the 76th IIW Annual Assembly and International Conference on Welding and Joining, 16 to 21 July 2023**

After the 2020 and 2021 editions of the IIW Annual Assembly and International Conference held online and the limitations to attending the 2022 edition in Tokyo, the IIW community had finally the opportunity to meet again fully in person in Singapore, and with great excitement for the celebrations of 75 years of the association.

The last three years have strengthened the relationships of the IIW community to continue its relentless work, leading to the great success of this edition of the IIW Annual Assembly and International Conference on Welding and Joining in Singapore, 16 to 21 July 2023, with more than 800 attendees.

### **In Summary**

- Meetings of IIW Commission and Groups took place 16-21 July 2023, with up to 18 sessions offered each day.
- The IIW International Conference titled '**Advances in Welding, Joining and Additive Manufacturing**' was held on 19 and 20 July with outstanding experts presenting the results of their scientific work and study, and more than 200 papers presented.
- Social events included: the IIW Opening and Awards Ceremony, Young Professionals Ice Breaking event, Welcome Reception, Singapore Nite, and the Closing Ceremony at the Gala Banquet with a ceremony to celebrate 75 years of the IIW.
- Sponsors met the welding professionals at the exhibition area, with videos, product presentations and displays.
- The IIW 2023 Digital Collection Welded Art Photographic Exhibition- Sustainable Development Goals (<http://iiwelding.org/2023-Digitalcollection>), was launched and displayed throughout the whole event.
- The event was the occasion to launch the new IIW Visual Identity, with a new IIW logo, a new website, and a new set of products soon available to the global welding community.

### **Running the Event**

The 76<sup>th</sup> IIW Annual Assembly and International Conference was hosted by the local member society of IIW, the Singapore Welding Society (SWS), supported by the IIW Secretariat and IAB Management Team. Registration started on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2023 and the conference centre was officially opened on 16 July, facilitating the participation of over 800 people.





*The 76<sup>th</sup> IIW Annual Assembly and International Conference on Welding and Joining in Singapore, Marina Bay Sands Hotel and Convention Center.*



*General Assembly*



*Opening Ceremony*



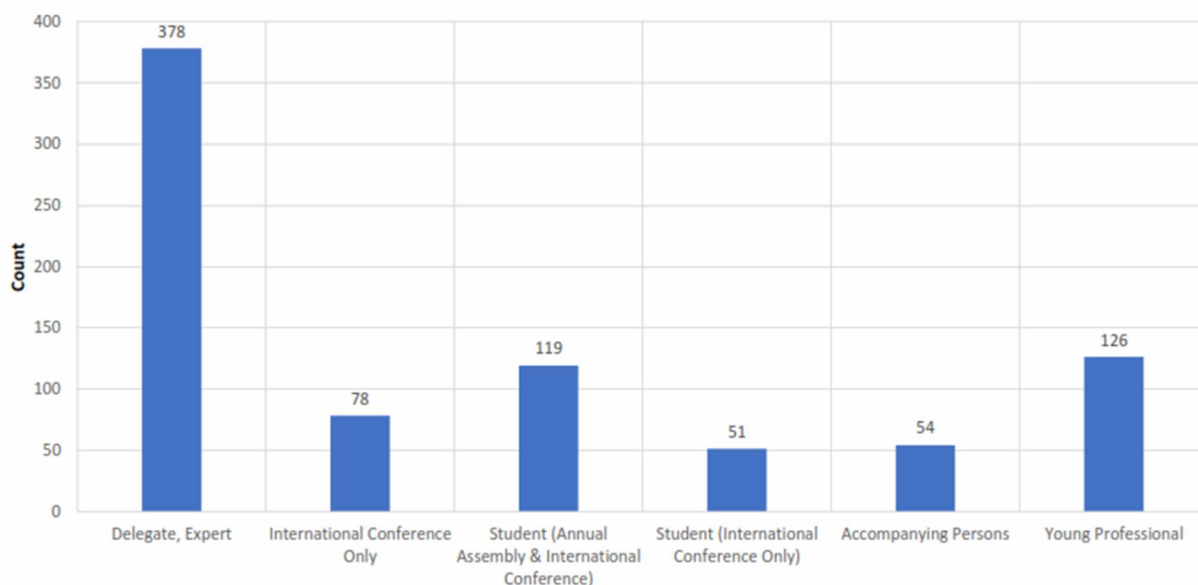
*Young Professional Event*



*Singapore Nite*

At the end of the event, IIW is proud to announce that the 76<sup>th</sup> Annual Assembly and International Conference on Welding and Joining has been a huge success with great participation globally and significant and prolific technical output:

- 47 Countries represented.
- 30 – 190 participants per session.
- 378 Professors, Doctors, Engineers, and professionals.
- 245 Young Professionals and students.
- 129 attendees to the International Conference only.
- 20 participants (delegates, experts and young professionals) from Ukraine attended remotely due to heavy restrictions to international travels and based on the specific commitment of the IIW to support their national welding community.



*IIW 2023 Registration statistics (physical attendance)*

47 Countries were represented at the 76<sup>th</sup> IIW Annual Assembly and International Conference on Welding and Joining. As usual, participants were grouped in delegations managed by the IIW Member Societies, the national welding organisations of IIW member Countries.

Country	Count	Country	Count	Country	Count	Country	Count
Australia	17	Hungary	9	New Zealand	1	Slovenia	5
Austria	18	India	36	Nigeria	3	South Africa	1
Belgium	9	Indonesia	13	Norway	2	Spain	2
Canada	16	Ireland	2	Oman	4	Sweden	13
China	145	Israel	1	Poland	6	Switzerland	5
Czech Republic	3	Italy	20	Portugal	3	Taiwan	1
Denmark	3	Japan	80	Romania	2	Thailand	9
Finland	14	Korea	74	Russia	28	Turkey	2
France	13	Malaysia	5	Saudi Arabia	3	Ukraine	20*
Germany	101	Myanmar	2	Serbia	2	United Kingdom	15
Greece	4	Namibia	1	Singapore	35	USA	54
Hong Kong	3	Netherland	4	Slovakia	8		

\* Remote participation

*Participants per Country*



IIW is grateful to the organizations that sponsored the event for their support:

- Yan San Metals (*GOLD* sponsorship)
- Addept3D Pte Ltd, TRUMPF Pte Ltd, Lincoln Electric (*SILVER* sponsorship)
- Kiswel, CETIM, Yanda (Haimen) Heavy Equipment Manufacturing Co. Ltd (*BRONZE* Sponsorship)

## Prestigious Awards

During the Opening Ceremony of the 76th IIW Annual Assembly of the International Institute of Welding (IIW) IIW honored the winners of prestigious IIW Awards and acknowledged their contributions to welding and joining around the world.

IIW is proud to promote and recognize distinction through its numerous prizes and awards, often sponsored by Member Societies. Many are named to pay tribute to eminent individuals who were founding fathers of IIW or champions of its global role or made significant contributions to the development and implementation of scientific and technical advances in welding and allied processes. It was the dedication and vision of these famous IIW personalities which set the stage for the organisation to be recognized today as the largest and most prestigious worldwide network for the exchange of knowledge and cooperation in a wide range of joining and related technologies.

At this 76th IIW Annual Assembly, IIW Annual Awards acknowledge not only people with outstanding accomplishments or technical achievements, illustrious careers or long and meritorious service to the IIW around the world, but also encourage promising young professionals who are our future industry and Institute leaders.

Heartiest congratulations go to the 76th IIW Annual Assembly winners whose achievements and professionalism, whether at the peak of the mountains or in the foothills, are outstanding examples of determination on the pathway to excellence.

- Fellow of the IIW, awarded to Jorge Dos Santos, Norbert Enzinger and Thomas Kannengiesser
- Evgeny Paton Award, awarded to Murali Tumuluru
- Arthur Smith Award, awarded to Herbert Staufer
- Yoshiaki Arata Award, awarded to Sergio Amancio
- Thomas Medal, awarded to Takeshi Araya
- Chris Smallbone Award, awarded to Solomon Edebiri
- Walter Edström Medal, awarded to Gary Marquis
- Henry Granjon cat. A Award, awarded to Dongsheng Wu
- Henry Granjon cat. B Award, awarded to Banglong Fu and Niklas Sommer
- Henry Granjon cat. D Award, awarded to Wenhua Jiao
- Halil Kaya Gedik Award awarded to W. Richard Polanin
- Welding in the World Best Paper award, Category A: Welding Processes and Additive Manufacturing awarded to Haichuan Shi
- Welding in the World Best Paper, Category B: Materials and Metallurgy awarded to Shotaro Yamashita
- Welding in the World Best Paper, Category C: Structural Integrity, Design and Fitness for Service awarded to Antti Ahola

## Celebrating 75 years of IIW contributions to the quality of life

The annual assembly in Singapore was the occasion to celebrate 75 years of history of IIW. During the Gala Banquet, the milestones of the association were run through since the foundation in 1948 from the associations of 13 countries, until today with over 50 countries represented and more interested in joining. During the past 75 years, IIW contributed to the development of science by sharing knowledge and experiences on welding and allied processes, offering qualifications and certifications and developing best practices, standards and guidance documents that are now part of the global manufacturing culture.



During the celebrations, the following individuals and organisations received a certificate of appreciation from IIW for their outstanding contributions to the development of the association:

- Damian Kotecki (Posthumous)
- Glenn Ziegenfuss
- Adolf Hobbacher
- Hee-Jin Kim
- John Lippold
- Weld Australia

This was also the occasion for the hand-over of the Presidency from Sorin Keller (Switzerland) ending his term, to Thomas Böllinghaus (Germany). A token of appreciation was also awarded to S. Keller



*Celebrations of IIW 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*



*Hand-over of the IIW Presidency*

## **The Artistic Soul of Welding 2022 Digital Collection**

The 2023 welded art photographic exhibition resulted from the very successful initiative launched at the IIW Annual Assembly in 2019 in Bratislava, Slovakia. Since then, IIW already held three very successful IIW Welded Art Photographic exhibitions in 2020, 2021 and 2022 as downloadable digital collections.

In 2023, the *Welded art Photographic exhibition Digital collection* has been linked with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) developed by the United Nations (UN).

UN has 193 countries as members and with the challenges of improving the quality of life in countries, in 2015, world leaders agreed to the implementation of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) aimed at low and middle-income countries. IIW has linked its National Welding Capability (NWC) Project and the SDGs so that strategies can be introduced by a country including implementing a Flagship Programme with a single global focus “To Assist the Country to Establish, Sustain and Improve Its National Welding Capability and Progress its UN Sustainable Development Goals”.

Such a Programme may have many initiatives and projects associated with it but all related to the single global focus.

As such the IIW 2023 Digital Collection was developed with the cooperation and collaboration of 36 artists and 36 exhibits from 16 countries linking any masterpiece to SDGs Further information and the full collection are available at <http://iiwelding.org/2023-Digitalcollection>.



*Born of the Rain*  
Hilary Clark Cole

## SDG 9 Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation

This SDG has an admirable target to facilitate sustainable and resilient infrastructure development in developing countries through enhanced financial, technological and technical support to African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and Small Island Developing States. A key objective should be to avoid the negative destructive effects which can so easily occur.

**Exhibit "The Messengers"**

The exhibit is a hand built sculpture made from "resilient" Corten steel plate.

Each sculpture which Hilary works on needs to marry the material and message. When Corten steel is used to make a sculpture, it resists the corrosive effects of rain, snow, ice, fog and other meteorological conditions by forming a coating of dark brown oxidation over the metal, which inhibits deeper penetration and negates the need for painting and costly rust-prevention maintenance over the years.

As a sculptor, the message is hers to give to us, with her art. Wolves struggle for habitat with their only natural predator, Man. For Hilary, they are the messengers of the wild, reminding us that our mindless destruction of Nature must end: If we silence the wolves, we have lost it all.

"The Messengers" sends the warning regarding the negative effects of destructive infrastructure and industrialisation.

Hilary began with a skeletal structure of steel pipe and rod to establish proportions, pose and anatomical correctness. She then cut sheets of Corten steel plate using a plasma cutter into the shapes required to create the effect she wanted. For the wolves, she wanted a rumpled, loose, wild look to their coats, which required endless small shards of steel, Gas Metal Arc Welding (GMAW) welded together. Random spaces were left on the surface deliberately open to catch the light and to suggest the elusive quality of these creatures. The exhibit is mounted on a granite base.

**Dimensions of exhibit**

122 cm high x 183 cm wide

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INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



WELDED ART PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION – IIW 2023 DIGITAL COLLECTION

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### *IIW 2023 Welded art Photographic exhibition Digital collection*

## Future IIW Events

IIW is looking forward to gathering the welding, joining and associated processes community together at upcoming Regional and International Congresses and associated events held in cooperation with its partners, and in particular, the 77th IIW Annual Assembly and International Conference on Welding and Joining which will take place from 7<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> July 2024 at Rhodos Palace Hotel (Rhodos, GREECE), Europe's leading destination for business, leisure and entertainment.



*The 77th Annual Assembly of the IIW and the International Welding and Joining Conference will take place at the Rhodos Palace Hotel, Rhodes, GREECE, July 7-12, 2024.*