

Georg Thieme Verlag, the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry, and the Editors of *Synthesis*, *Synlett*, *Science of Synthesis*, and *Houben-Weyl* are pleased to announce the recipient of the

Thieme–IUPAC Prize in Synthetic Organic Chemistry 2002



Erick M. Carreira



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The Thieme–IUPAC Prize, consisting of €5000, is awarded every two years on the occasion of the IUPAC International Conference on Organic Synthesis (ICOS) to a scientist under 40 years of age, whose research has had a major impact on the field of synthetic organic chemistry. We are pleased to announce that the sixth Thieme–IUPAC Prize will be presented to Erick M. Carreira at the Award Lecture on July 16, 2002 at ICOS14 in Christchurch, New Zealand.

Erick M. Carreira was born on May 30, 1963 in Havana, Cuba. After completing his undergraduate studies at the University of Illinois under the supervision of Scott Denmark, he worked under the direction of David Evans at Harvard University, where he obtained his Ph.D. in 1990. He then carried out a postdoctoral appointment with Peter Dervan, and accepted an assistant professorship at the California Institute of Technology in 1992. Here, he was subsequently promoted to the rank of associate professor in 1996, and to the position of full professor a year later. He has been a full professor of organic chemistry at ETH Zürich since 1998.

Erick M. Carreira has developed important and useful strategies for organic synthesis that have been an inspiration for many other chemists around the world. In a short period, using elegant approaches, he has achieved the asymmetric synthesis of biologically active, stereochemically challenging natural products and has developed a number of catalytic and stoichiometric reagents for asymmetric stereocontrol.

Erick M. Carreira completed the first total synthesis of zaragozic acid C, displaying a mastery of functional group management and originality in architectural design. He has also reported a high yielding and virtually enantiospecific aldol addition effected by a chiral titanium(IV) complex that is perhaps the most powerful way to generate

asymmetry from Reformatsky-type bond connections. Carreira has made pivotal contributions by creating new and useful aziridination reagents from nitrido-manganese(V) complexes that are efficient reagents for the electrophilic amination of electron-rich alkenes.

Erick M. Carreira's advances in the catalytic addition reactions of zinc acetylides to carbonyl and azomethine substrates are impressive, and are among the most important contributions reported in the area of asymmetric catalysis.

Recently, Erick M. Carreira has developed an outstanding approach to the construction of polyketides by the use of directed nitrene cycloadditions. He has also applied this methodology in the concise synthesis of epothilones A and B.

Erick M. Carreira is renowned for his wonderful mix of inventiveness at the level of methodology, and elegance of architecture. His high level of vision, breadth, and versatility in chemical synthesis is unique.

Erick M. Carreira has received numerous awards in recognition of his prominent contributions to organic chemistry and his excellence in teaching. These include the American Chemical Society Award in Pure Chemistry (1996), the Nobel Laureate Signature Award (1998), the AstraZeneca Research Award (1999), and the Springer Award (1999).

By devising exciting new synthetic protocols and showing application in complex molecule synthesis, Erick M. Carreira strongly influences the field today and is a leader for the splendid future of synthetic organic chemistry.

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70469 Stuttgart • Germany

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