

Pharos Foundation head receives French award

By Natalie Hami

THE FOUNDER of the Pharos Arts Foundation was awarded the French Order of Arts and Letters in a ceremony at the French embassy this week.

Described as a Cypriot "citizen of the world" Garo Keheyan received the honour from the French Ambassador to Cyprus, Jean-Marc Rives, on behalf of the French Minister of Culture, Frederic Mitterrand.

"Cypriot most certainly, you

are also a 'citizen of the world' and, as you say, your territory 'is the imagination,'" said Rives, adding that Keheyan's true passions, while being a businessman, are art and culture.

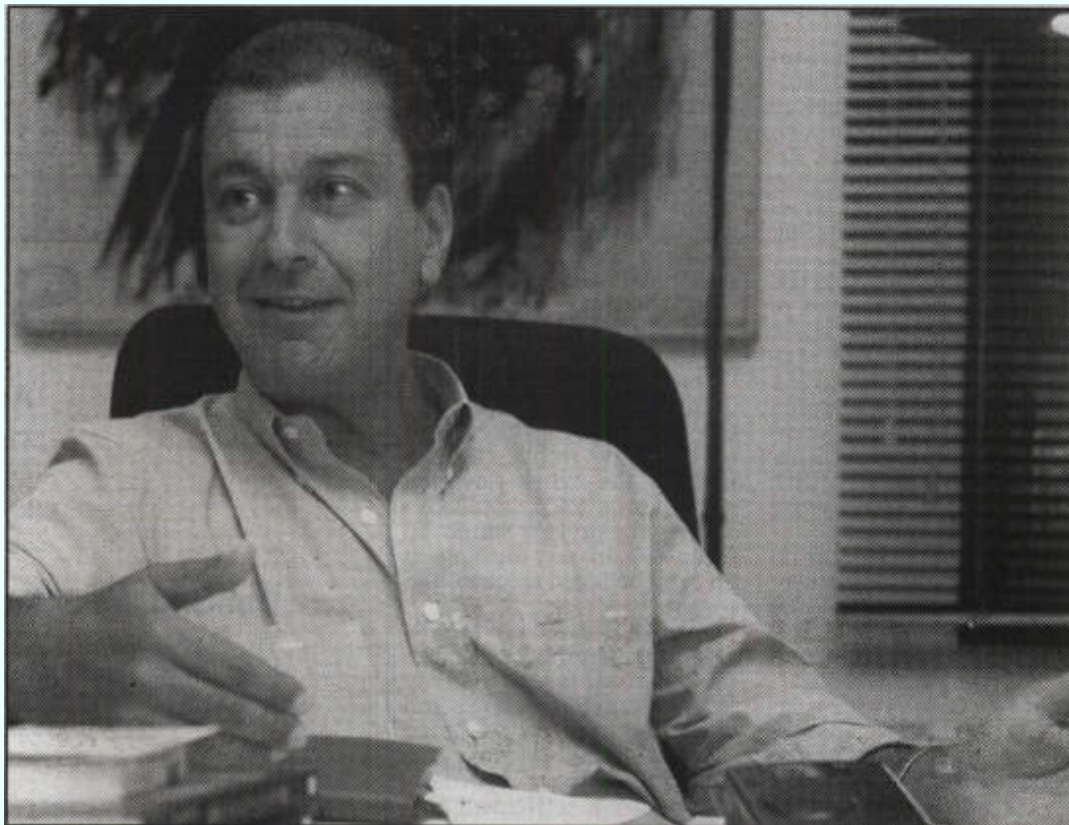
"I feel very touched and overwhelmed by the generous gesture," said Keheyan. "Our lives have been enriched by the great French artists we have hosted here over the past years."

Some of these luminaries have included musicians such as the Quatuor Ludwig, the Trio Wanderer and the En-

semble Intercontemporain.

The French ambassador also lauded Keheyan's projects targeting education - more specifically the 30,000 students, who, over the last five years, have had their appreciation of music enhanced by the Foundation's music education programme.

Keheyan, who received the Chevalier medallion on Tuesday, is not only founder of the non-profit cultural and educational Pharos Trust Foundation, but also chairman of the English-Speaking Union in Cyprus (ESU).



Garo Keheyan: awarded the French Order of Arts and Letters earlier this week

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