



MOTOR SPORTS ASSOCIATION
UNITED KINGDOM

PRESS RELEASE

Motor Sports Association presents new Young Journalist and Photographer awards

The Motor Sports Association, the national governing body of UK motor sport, and Renault UK have joined forces to inaugurate two new annual awards, to be presented at this year's Night of Champions ceremony at the Royal Automobile Club in Pall Mall, London, this evening (Friday 17 January 2002).

While most of tonight's awards winners are being recognised for winning the premier MSA British championships, Will Gray and Jakob Ebrey, the respective recipients of the inaugural Renault MSA Young Journalist of the Year and Young Photographer of the Year prizes, have earned their accolades through their efforts in covering UK motor sport on the page and through the lens.

Gray, 25 and from Kettering, has made a name for himself working for Collings Sports, one of the UK's top sports media agencies, where he covers both national and international racing and rallying for many of this country's top national newspapers including *The Daily Telegraph*. Ebrey, 25 from Macclesfield, has established himself as one of the UK's most prolific young motor sport

photographers since starting out freelancing for local newspapers, regularly supplying his images to all the top magazines including both *Autosport* and *Motorsport News*. Both were unanimously selected by a panel of media professionals chaired by Tim Jackson, director of press and public relations at Renault UK.

"It's an honour to have achieved this and I'm grateful for the help I've been given along the way by everyone at Collings Sport," said Gray. "It's encouraging to see this award has been set up and I hope it continues to grow in stature in the future."

An equally delighted Ebrey said, "I am extremely honoured to become the first recipient of this award; it is great to know that young talent is being recognised and also backed by the MSA and Renault."

Speaking on behalf of the MSA which set up this initiative in conjunction with Renault UK, chief executive Colin Hilton said: "We are proud to recognise British motor sport journalists and photographers as among the finest in the world, alongside many other professions in UK motor sport including drivers, designers, engineers, technicians, mechanics and administrators. The MSA recognises the media is vital to the promotion of our sport and we feel the establishment of these two new awards will provide promising young talent with the right kind of encouragement, recognition and support at a crucial time in their developing careers."

In addition to the accolade itself, the winners of the two awards will be presented with a perpetual trophy and a cheque for £1000 to assist them in their future development.

"Renault UK has been a major force in British motorsport for 30 years and our national Formula Renault and Renault Clio programmes, which have helped

discover so many Grand Prix and touring car drivers, underline that commitment," Tim Jackson commented. "As the most enthusiastic manufacturer in UK motor sport, it seems fully appropriate that we are involved in this important new media initiative set-up with the MSA."

The Renault MSA Young Journalist and Photographer awards for 2003 are already open. Candidates must be published writers or photographers of UK motor sport, aged 25 or under at the beginning of each calendar year. They can come from the local, regional, specialist or electronic media and will be required to submit a minimum of three published articles or photographs from the UK media in that year for the judging panel to assess.

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