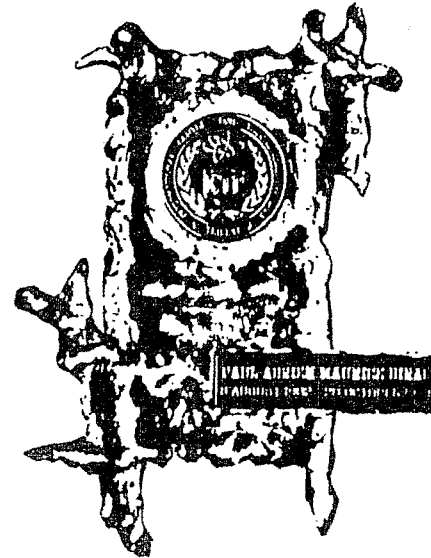


International Centre for Theoretical Physics

P.A.M. Dirac Medals

Presentation Ceremony



*Strada Costiera, 11
34136 Trieste*

Dirac Medal 1986

Alexander Polyakov

Alexander Polyakov, from the Landau Institute of Theoretical Physics, Moscow, USSR, is honoured for

being among the first to emphasize the importance of scale invariance in quantum field theory, particularly in connection with the theory of critical phenomena. He was also one of the first to recognize the relevance of the topological ideas in field theory, through the discovery of the monopole and instanton solutions in non-Abelian Yang-Mills theories. Polyakov's reformulation of the string theories in terms of covariant path integral and his classification of the 2-dimensional conformal field theories (in collaboration with his colleagues at the Landau Institute) are among the important contributions to theoretical physics of this decade.

Professor Alexander Polyakov was born in 1945 in Moscow and studied there at the Institute for Physics and Technology.

He is currently Senior Scientific Investigator at the L.D. Landau Institute for Theoretical Physics in Moscow.

The other Dirac Medal 1986 has been awarded to Professor Yoichiro Nambu (Enrico Fermi Institute for Nuclear Studies, Chicago University, USA) who will receive it in Spring 1987.