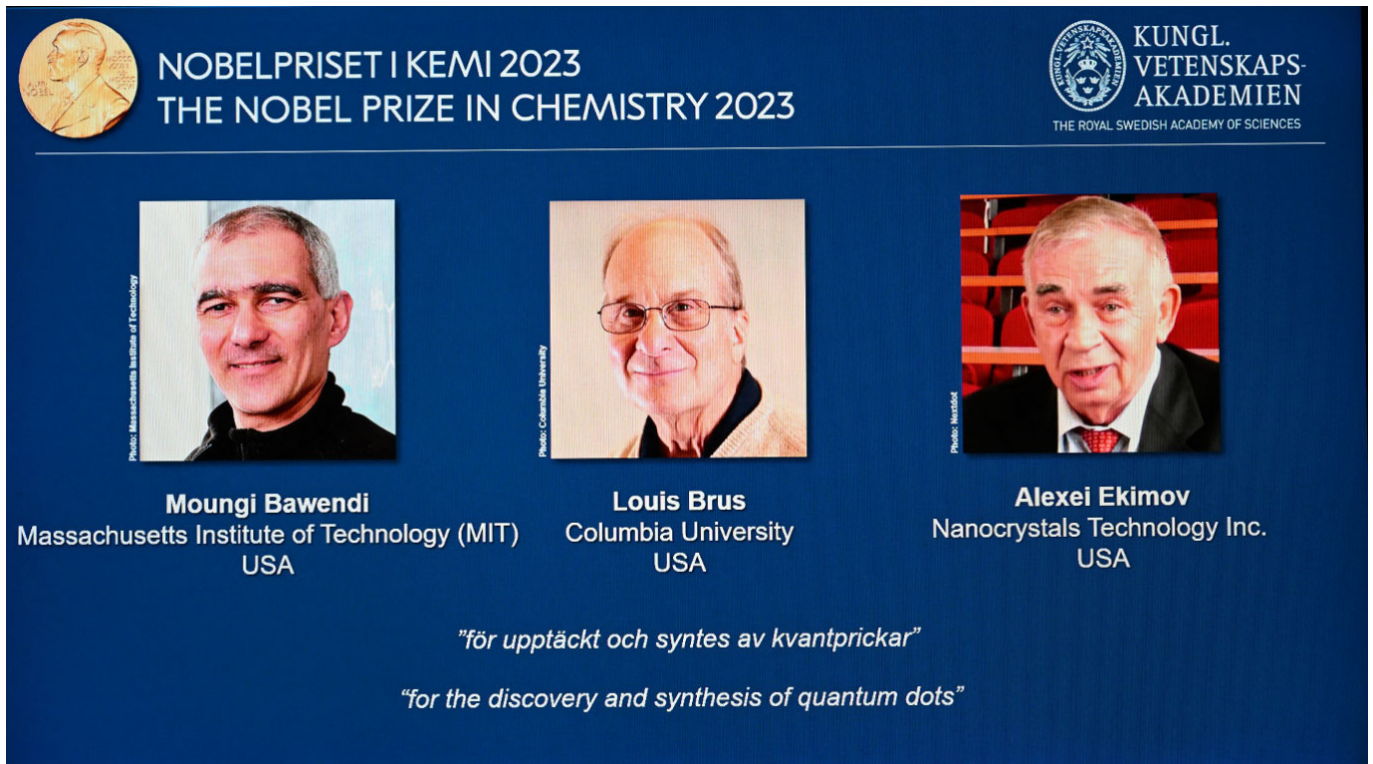


Russian-Born Quantum Dot Pioneer Ekimov Wins Nobel Prize in Chemistry

October 04, 2023



The banner features a dark blue background. On the left is a gold Nobel medal. In the center, the text reads "NOBELPRISET I KEMI 2023" and "THE NOBEL PRIZE IN CHEMISTRY 2023". On the right is the logo of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences. Below the text are three portraits of the winners: Mounqi Bawendi, Louis Brus, and Alexei Ekimov. Each portrait is accompanied by their name and affiliation. At the bottom, the award citation is written in Swedish and English.

NOBELPRISET I KEMI 2023
THE NOBEL PRIZE IN CHEMISTRY 2023

KUNGL. VETENSKAPS-
AKADEMIEN
THE ROYAL SWEDISH ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

Mounqi Bawendi
Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)
USA

Louis Brus
Columbia University
USA

Alexei Ekimov
Nanocrystals Technology Inc.
USA

"för upptäckt och syntes av kvantprickar"
"for the discovery and synthesis of quantum dots"

The three award winners for this year's Nobel Prize in Chemistry. **Jonathan Nackstrand / AFP**

Russian-born physicist Alexei Ekimov on Wednesday [won](#) the Nobel Prize in Chemistry alongside French-born Mounqi Bawendi and American scientist Louis Brus for their research on tiny particles known as quantum dots.

The trio succeeded in producing these tiny fluorescent semiconductors that "now spread their light from televisions and LED lamps, and can also guide surgeons when they remove tumor tissue, among many other things," the jury said.

In 1981, Ekimov [discovered](#) quantum dots at St. Petersburg's Vavilov State Optical Institute.

The Nobel Committee for Chemistry said Ekimov's discovery helped Brus to later "prove size-dependent quantum effects in particles floating freely in a fluid."

Related article: [Nobel Foundation Cancels Russian Ambassador Invite to Prize Ceremony](#)

Bawendi then changed the chemical production of quantum dots into “almost perfect particles,” which allowed for their use in applications.

Alexei Ekimov, born in the U.S.S.R. in 1945, is a former chief scientist at the New York-based Nanocrystals Technology Inc.

The trio will share the \$1 million award, receiving it from King Carl XVI Gustaf at a ceremony in Stockholm on Dec. 10, the anniversary of Swedish scientist Alfred Nobel's death in 1895.

The chemistry distinction is the third Nobel Prize to be awarded this year, after the medicine prize and the physics prizes were announced earlier this week.

AFP contributed reporting.

Original url:

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2023/10/04/russian-born-quantum-dot-pioneer-ekimov-wins-nobel-prize-in-chemistry-a82660>