

Art

'Earth' - new series of paintings by Tonio Mallia exhibited at Art...E Gallery

A new series of paintings by Tonio Mallia is being exhibited at Art...E Gallery in Victoria, Gozo under the title *Earth*. After a period of much development through universal themes such as war, religion and history, the artist returns to the theme of the landscape, revealing his pre-occupying concern with the natural forces and cycles that shape his island-homeland.

Inspired by the practice of such artists as the American, William Thon and English, John Blockley, Tonio appropriates the dark hue and textural versatility of Indian ink in his work. This medium strongly and evidently characterises the new paintings, heightening the strong tonal



Tal-Vikarju, 24 x 71 cm

of sorts, of an artist getting back in touch with one of his primary concerns and constant source of inspiration.

The exhibition at Art...E Gallery at 1 Library Street, Victoria, Gozo will be open daily until 21 May between 9.30am and 12.15pm, Sundays between 10am and noon. Sponsorship has been kindly provided by Charts Investment Management Service Ltd and Frank Salt Real Estate Ltd.

contrasts reminiscent of Mediterranean sunlight.

The elemental factors of the sun, sea and wind, the earth and the sky, are combined through a lucid handling of the water-based media, utilising a refined

technique which the artist has honed after many years of extensive practice. Through such improvisational working methods, the artist encapsulates the somewhat melancholic, dramatic and turbulent coastal landscape of the Maltese islands. He captures the transient interplay of light and shadow through the fluid medium of paint, evoking the stoic rigidity and weight of the rocks that stand steadfast through the storms of time.

Tonio is well acquainted with the natural environment which he depicts, being an avid walker and often working *en plein soleil*, setting up his materials while out on one of his regular countryside hikes. Having recently retired from his banking career, Tonio has had much opportunity as of late to enjoy the



Blue Bridge, 43 x 70 cm

bounty of natural beauty available to us in the remote and wilder parts of our islands. This exhibition represents a revisiting

For more information phone the gallery on 9980 4774; email: artgallerygozo@gmail.com



Ta' Gurdan, 43 x 70 cm

Art exhibition by Philip Briel

Palazzo de Piro in Mdina is currently hosting an art exhibition by South African artist Philip Briel. The exhibition is open to the public Monday to Sunday until 31 May.

Philip was raised on a sugar farm in a remote area of Northern KwaZulu Natal and graduated in architecture from the University of Cape Town. He holds an M.Sc. in Sustainable Urban Development from the University of Oxford. Philip divides his time between painting and his architectural practice in Cape Town.

His abstract mixed media canvases are inspired by his love for environment, both natural and man built, and he enjoys the cross between the discipline of architectural design and the freedom of modern painting.

His works are full of intense shades, fractured or spilling light and charged textures.

Artist Philip Briel sets out to capture the episodic and fragmentary, the subtler energies driving nature.

You think about windswept beaches, tidal estuaries and phoenix fynbos: in short, freedom. The work is suggestive with an elusive quality: attention to nuance is what Briel is all about.

His abstract mixed media canvases are inspired by a fierce sense of place. "I'm not into iconic mentors. I started out in architecture, a disciplined and exacting profession in which you have to learn to visualise dimensions and do an enormous number of calculations."

"Art opened me up to different possibilities. Now I look at planes and elevations as if they are the surface of a canvas, shifting and fluid, not fixed. As in the art, my design work now is all about freedom, mobility and uncluttered spaces."

"Sometimes I work on a canvas just erasing and editing down. The alchemy of the moment is decisive."

Entrance to the exhibition is free of charge.





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The EU Funds Programming and Policy Coordination Division within the Ministry for EU Affairs and Implementation of the Electoral Manifesto notifies that electronic tenders in respect of the following notice will be received up until the 26th May 2015 at 9:30am. Tenders are to be submitted online ONLY on: (<http://www.etenders.gov.mt>).



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