

Icons with individuality

Tapping into a wealth of creativity, Christine Mund offers a new approach to iconography

Unique icons created by noted artist Christine Mund and based on 13-18th century originals are on show at Forza 9 Gallery in Polis Chrysochous until the end of December.

Unlike many other icon painters, Mund uses rough pieces of wood, thick blocks and even old wooden shutters as carriers for her paintings which give the icons an individuality rarely seen in this genre. The pieces included in this exhibition are mainly based on Russian and Greek Orthodox icons.

Mund studied graphic design and illustration. She lived in Egypt, teaching at the German School and exhibiting her art work several times.

During the many years Mund spent in Tanzania, teaching at the University of Dar Es Salaam and Njumba Ya Sanaa (House of Art), she worked with a writer to publish books for children, one of which won a prize at the prestigious Bologna Bookfair. Mund also created Tanzania's commemorative stamp for the International Year of Apartheid.

Now in Cyprus, Mund has donated paintings of cats to raise funds for animal welfare.

Besides icons, Mund paints portraits, landscapes and still-lives. She uses a variety of techniques including pastel, acrylic, oils and colour pencil.

Mund's icons, featured in the current exhibition, are painted in egg tempera on wood with gesso primer. In used the same technique to created paintings of olive trees, which can also be seen at Forza 9.

The Gallery is located in the centre of Polis Chrysochous, just behind Chix Chox Restaurant and next to Petrides Car Rental. Forza 9 Gallery is open Monday - Saturday from 10am-3pm and by appointment. **For more information call 99-127428 or visit www.artgallery-forza9.com.**



On-line exhibitions for arm-chair art-lovers

Nothing can beat seeing a beautiful work of art hung to highlight its best qualities in a space especially created for the purpose.

However, the confines of space in the case of galleries, and time in the case of prospective buyers has prompted a new way of showing works to collectors.

On-line exhibitions such as the one created by Kypriski Gonia Gallery at www.gallerykypriskigonia.com/cy/on-line_exhibition.htm provide a great platform for someone interested in buying a work of art to see a wide variety of quality works in one place- and in the comfort of their own home.

Kypriski Gonia's on-line painting exhibition opened on December 17 and will remain on until the end of January 2010.

According to the organizers: "Art lovers will have the opportunity to enjoy a variety of paintings of innovative subjects, different aesthetic trends and striking colours that originate from Cyprus, Greece and the United Kingdom" when visiting the website.

Works on show include pieces by Alexos Fassianos, Stas Paraschos, Vassilis Speranzas, Anna Sklavounou, Nicos Papatouzas and many others.

Another on-line gallery worth viewing is the one at <http://kypriski.com/art/index.htm>. Paintings, sculptures, ce-

ramics, pottery and photography are all featured with some of the pieces available for sale directly from the artists, whose contact details are available on the website. Featured creators include Silvia van Hattum, Adonis Pelendrides, Maria Dossi and the Shamaelas Brothers and there are many more quality works on show by noted artists.

