

UNIVERSAL COLOURS

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ART
LIFE.....

ART & LOVE WITHOUT COLOURS, WITHOUT WINGS, WITHOUT SEX. Art is a language that every in all the multicultural nations understands.

Artists open other borders to peace, happiness and ability.

Artists bring joy to and touch their souls. This is the primary point in every living and developing society.

Multicultural nations are always in need of the diversity in opinions, but the criteria of humanity should be agreed of.

Art's duty everywhere in all times is to strengthen the stability of the humanity. Furthermore a democratic society always needs other, differing opinions, other visions.

Migrant artists can change the bad image of migrants that the native Europeans seem to have, help in the field of multicultural life in general, and deepen the truly live interaction between all ethnic groups and all people.

Amir Khatib
EU-MAN

ART HARMONIZES THE WORLD

After five months of existence, EU-MAN is ready for its first public event - a nine artists' exhibition in the city of Turku, the place where it all began.

The creator of the network has been working like a dog to get things together, but here it stands with the works of network-members living in different parts of Finland, each one presented by three works.

With one exception they have been here for less than ten years. The exception is the exhibition's only female artist, Tamara Niskonen, painter, born in the USSR - now Russia, Leningrad - now St. Petersburg, in Finland since 1982.

Most of the artist are painters. Ahmed Aziz Selim, born in Kurdistan Iraq, has been in the art field since 1936 and has been involved in archaeology as well. His (almost) fellow countryman Rahbar Mamash (in Finland since 1988) stepped into the field about forty years later. Zhang Hong from China, Beijing, who came here five years ago is creating an interesting blend of far eastern-western imagery.

Iraq has given birth to many interesting artists in different fields. Amir himself - artist-writer, in Finland since 1990 - was born there, as well as the now participating painters Al Rammahi Qassim and Muhsin al Azawy.

Raed Aboaskar who came from Palestina some three years ago works with ceramics and is the only one of his kind in this expo. Bela Czitrom from Transsylvania, sculptor-painter-drawer, living and working in Turku since 1990, shows strong and expressive reliefs made in an interestingly treated blend of metals.

We hope this exhibition will be followed by many others - in Finland and all around, where there is an EU-MAN. Next here in Turku will be a 45 artists' expo in August 1998, during that yearly celebrated night when Turku is dedicated to the arts. This exhibition, a bit reduced will later be taken to Denmark and the Netherlands.

But today EU-MAN wishes you welcome to the first exhibition held in Ateljé Kämpe, in the very heart of Turku.

ARS LONGA VITA BREVIS



SABAH NORE

EU-MAN - European Union Migrant Artists' Network

Universal Colours - issue number one

What is any publicly orientated activity without a channel for information? Universal Colours is the information channel for EU-MAN, and it will provide the network-members with information - both network news and other important matters.

The first issue naturally contains mainly the basic facts about EU-MAN. In the future we hope to see a somewhat extended version, with news about the network; in which members are introduced - by themselves or by a UC-reporter, actualities in the art field etc. We hope to find collaborators around the EU-area so that the paper won't become a matter for the migrant artists in Finland only.

As you can read on our first page, EU-MAN has reached the point of setting ideas into reality. It demands work, of course, but we are sure the work will be fertile. One of the activity's aim being to promote multiculturalism in accordance with the EU-aims as such, maybe we can hope for union support of some kind. Anyhow the contribution of every member will contribute to give the network its shape and identity.

What is the idea of a network as the EU-MAN?

It is a very natural, and as such, simple idea. The aim is to help and support communication between migrant artists in the EU region. There is an evident need for such a network - more than other people migrants need contact with each other, and more than other migrants (maybe) migrant artists need each other. Art is in itself communicative and has a special need for open channels.

EU-MAN was established on January the 10th in Turku on the idea of Amir Khatib, with the assistance of Bela Czitrom and Zhan Hong.

EU-MAN members communicate directly between them, and each country has its coordinator. The main issue is of course to facilitate exhibition work and international exhibition exchange for its members.

No less important, though, is the aim to make it easier for migrant artists to integrate in the society in the new home-country - to get in contact with the people you need, to get to know how to get on here. To keep the strength to remain the one you are.

Concretely it means that there will be exhibitions turning in Europe, seminars, workshops and other cultural activities - all of course depending on the members' activity and initiatives.

And who can join the network, who are the members? Artists in the visual field - all from painters to designers and architects.



**JIANGNE
LIANG**

DECLARATION OF EU-MAN'S STATUTES

the aims of the EU-MAN are to

- * promote a multicultural Europe
- * combine ideas and put them into reality
- * introduce migrant art and artists to the EU-area.
- * promote interaction between migrants and native Europeans.

Thus, the idea of the network is to create a basis also for more organized activities. It will work actively to promote the interaction between the native and the migrated population.

Never an empty form

Bela Czitrom was the first artist to join the network. He is also the person who gets the EU-MAN mail sent to Turku, where he lives since 1990, now in an asbest house by the river of Aura surrounded by what else than a sculptor garden - a little complex that makes an astounding contrast to the recently riseb architecture along the riverside. The romano-hungarian Bela was born in Transsylvania in 1951. He studied and worked a.o. in the ION ANDREESCU fine arts institute in Bukarest.

Bela is mainly a sculptor, working mainly in bronze. I have known him and his art, seen him working only for a short time, but I experience his art deeply fascinating. Fascinating on the one hand 'formally' - the surface is worked in an intricate way, plenty of details and other, maybe secondary forms. On the other hand, there is never an empty form - all works together in an almost thrilling way.

His visual language is ex-

pressively symbolic, with frequent links to arts history, mythology and literature. Still he remains himself; he does what he does with a personal strength that handles the advanced cultural all-round education with brio.

He puts thought and feeling into his work, to a degree as it seems beyond the expected, like distilled. Pain, agony, frustrated strength, but also



humour, irony and empathys-worm in his work - still submitted to an evident discipline.

Like many migrants Bela came from one kind of disaster to meet another. Only the latter touch the foreigner, in-

dividually whereas the former involved more or less the whole society. Maybe because he is not a quotient refugee, because he does not accept anything whatever and because he believed this was a friendly place to be, he has had an in many ways tough time here.

He applied for Finnish citizenship two years ago, to be able to travel - something of utmost important for an internationally recognized artist - and to be treated like full-worthy citizen. Nothing happens. Not having the rights of and be trated as a normal citimay be acceptable if there are acceptable reasons for it, but just the slowness of foreigner-byrocracy can not be considered as such a reason. Fortunately Bela seems to be a strong person and will probably stand the waiting without breaking down, just turning harder. If nothing happens soon, maybe he will turn into a stone. That would be a great loss. (BG)

EU-MAN TODAY

The projekt for exhibition exchange goes under the name of Alfa-man. Exhibitions are prepared for next year in Holland and Denmark. The participating works will be selected by a jury, and a bibliographic book with presentations in English and the language of the hostland will be made. Next issue will proba-

bly know more about these events.

By the day this was written, 49 artists had joined the network. Not bad!



TAMARA NISKONEN

JOIN THE EU-MAN - you would like it!



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INVITATION

EU-MAN (EUROPEAN UNION MIGRANT ARTIST'S NETWORK) has been founded in Finland, more precisely in the city of Turku, the ancient capital of Finland, by a group of professional artists. So, all professional artists that make art actively and that have migrated to EU may join the network. In case you are interested in joining EU-MAN, please send four photos of your own works, and your CV to our address showing below:

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