

Press information

-EXHIBITION OPENING-

Eleni Mavrou, mayoress of Nicosia/Cyprus, introduces the **touring exhibition „This is my Land“ by HULUSI HALIT**, a Turkish Cypriot artist who is living in Berlin. The exhibition is dedicated **to the Turkish and Greek Cypriots that have been missing since 1963 and 1974.**

Date of exhibition: **6th of March 2009, Friday - 7:00 pm**

Location: **Information Centre Ledra Street Nicosia /Cyprus**
Ledra Street / Green Line



Hulusi Halit was born in Koloni/Cyprus and has been living in Berlin since April 1974.

With his trans-European touring exhibition he aims to call attention to the fates of the Greek and Turkish Cypriots who have been missing since the wars of 1963 and 1974.

It's his concern to further the mutual understanding of the fates of the people in both parts of the island and to forge links between the two population groups.

He started the touring exhibition successfully in July 2008 in Polis/Cyprus, together with Sevgül Uludag, a Turkish Cypriot journalist, who is considered to be a pioneer of clarification of a great number of fates. For her work she received several international awards. She is the author of "Oysters with the missing pearls", telling the story of missing persons from both communities of the island.

With his exhibition, Hulusi Halit takes up the vigorous efforts of the dedicated journalist to create an exchange that enables the two population groups to negotiate the mental border and to resume the intercultural dialogue.

Hulusi Halit tries to mirror a part of this experience realm with his paintings.

The positive reactions of Greek and Turkish Cypriots at the exhibition opening made him sure to be headed in the right direction:

„With his art he tries to mediate and to contribute to mutual understanding, the healing of emotional wounds and the reduction of recriminations.“



For the second station of the touring exhibition the Greek Cypriot artist George Tornarides and Michael Kyriltsias joins the project, artists, who are dealing with the same subject.

The Bicomunal Committee of Relatives of Missing Persons and Victims of War will report about their experiences in their search for their missing relatives an friends and their work on the search for the truth.

Sevgül Uludag will introduce her work and Panicos Chrysanthou, a Greek Cypriot film director from Akamas/Cyprus, will show a short film on the "Fig Tree" to allow the audience to get an impression of the experience realm of the divided island.

The issue of missing persons in Cyprus shall be open to the public all over Europe. Therefore, the exhibition will keep on touring. The next date is the 27th of June 2009 in Worms/Germany, the 10th anniversary of the German-Cypriot Forum. Other dates can be found on www.halit-art.de.

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