



Δελτίο Τύπου Press Release

"This is my Land" – Art exhibition

The inauguration of the art exhibition featuring Turkish Cypriot artist Hulusi Halit and Greek Cypriot artists George Tornaritis and Michael Kyriltsias at the Ledra Information Center on 6 March 2009 proved to be a great success. In her welcome address, the Mayor of Nicosia, Ms Eleni Mavrou, said among other things: "In this exhibition, Turkish Cypriot artist Hulusi Halit from Berlin and Greek Cypriot artists George Tornaritis and Michael Kyriltsias, express their past experiences – but also their hopes and dreams – in a remarkable way, through their individual painting skills. The touring exhibition, which started in July 2008 in Polis and is accompanied by Turkish Cypriot journalist Sevgül Uludag serves two equally important purposes. On the one hand, it aims to remind us of the yet undetermined fate of so many fellow citizens of Cyprus from both communities. Disturbing as their unknown fate may be, and while we must persevere in our efforts until every single person is accounted for, we must not allow this sad page in our island's past to deter us from seeking a brighter future for all Cypriots. Historical documentation and artistic expression aim to help us, and especially the younger generation, to realize and understand the tragic events our island has endured. This understanding, however, should at the same time help us alleviate each other's pain, and encourage us to overcome it. Hulusi Halit is joined by George Tornaritis and Michael Kyriltsias in an attempt to rebuild bridges between our two communities; to resume intercultural dialogue, which is the only effective means of healing wounds and paving the way for mutual understanding».

The inauguration was attended by over 110 Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot art enthusiasts. The exhibition will remain open until 27 March 2009 and offers the public the opportunity to admire the work of Greek and Turkish Cypriot artists presenting their interpretation of the title "This my Land".

For the Nicosia Municipality

March 7, 2009