Grapevine : Artscene

Profile on Hulusi Halit

Hulusi Halit, a Turkish Cypriot Artist, has been living in Berlin for 34 years. He was born in Koloni, Paphos, in 1954 and started painting at the age of 6 years. In 1969 he was given the highest award in a youth contest - of all Turkish-speaking secondary schools in Cyprus - for the painting 'Young Couple'. In 1974 at the age of 20, he moved to Germany, studied there to become a teacher and later as a professional tutor. The experience of his youth

and the invasion of 1974 have had a strong impact on his paintings. Since 2004, he has represented Cyprus in many EU and national events in Germany, also in the hope that his homeland will eventually be reunified. He has exhibited many times in Berlin, also in Nicosia in 2005, and will now have an exhibition in Polis from 19th July – 5th August this year (see July Diary of Events section in this month's issue).

Following the opening of the exhibition (19th July, 7.30 pm) by the Mayor of Polis, Angelos Georgiou, there will be a power-point presentation by Sevgüluludag with photos about 'the missing' and 'mass graves' in Cyprus, then part of the film 'Our Wall' will be shown by Panicos Chrysanthou, and finally a presentation by relatives of the missing (Turkish Cypriot and Greek Cypriot), who will express their feelings.

To quote Pefkios Georgiades, former Minister of Culture and Education: "Halit's work is not just a labour of love, it is a labour for and about love". "Halit's art, along with his personal way of life, bears true testimony to the fact that Cyprus, our common home, is truly too small to bear so much hatred, intolerance and injustice".

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