

# GALLERY HOPPING IN ATHENS

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**Special points of interest:**

- Petros Dellatolas, of the Dellatolas Marble Studio in Tinos, was on the organizing committee for Tinos exhibit at the Athens Art Center
- 2000 Tin Cans exhibited at – where else – the Bazaar Discount Super Markets
- Lily Bacoyianni, former visitor to Canada, and Banff Center for the Arts Resident, sets up her clay works exhibit at the Stigma Gallery in Athens

## TINOS OF THE ARTS AND CIVILIZATION

**H**ow fortuitous to be in Athens for the opening of "Tinos, of the Arts and Civilization" (May 17-24, 2000) at the Art Center of the Municipality of Athens.

The exhibit was sponsored by the Municipality of Tinos, and it focused on the long standing marble carving tradition in Tinos. It included ethnographic segments, such as a recreation of a traditional marble carving workshop, as well as one of a traditional household. It exhibited many samples of artworks/artifacts used in

homes, church buildings, and other decorative, or functional pieces. It also showed work produced by the students of the School of Fine Arts in Panormos, and that of other contemporary artists.

**Sketch by Yiannouli Halepa, "Sculpture"**

Needles to say I was most pleased to see the ArtExchange's adopted creative home base becoming more widely known to the Greek public. It was also good to see that one of the



members of the organizing committee was none other than Petros Dellatolas - our teacher and one of the master

*(Continued on page 2)*

## ATHENS-MUNICH: ART AND CULTURE IN THE NEW GREECE

This is long awaited historical exhibit at the National Gallery/Alexandrou Soutzou Museum. It purports to examine the socio-

political and artistic influence that the Bavarian Court of Greece's first King, Otto (1833-1862) had (along with returning Diaspora

Greeks after the successful overthrow of the Ottomans) in the transformation of Athens from a medieval

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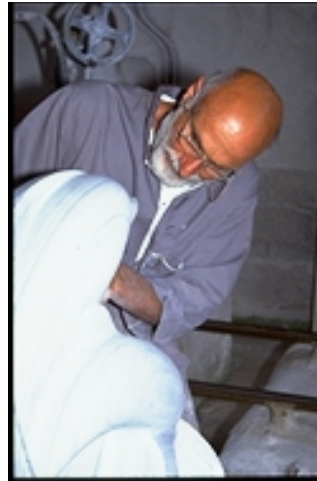
## TINOS EXHIBIT: FOCUS ON MARBLE

(Continued from page 1)

carvers of Tinos! Of course those of you joining us this fall will have ample opportunities to experience first hand the treasures of the Tiniot artists, as well as see the contributions of the island to the establishment of the Greek contemporary visual arts tradition. The names that make up the founding fathers of Greek paint-

ing and sculpture are those of Tiniot artists: Gyzis, Lytras, Gaitis, Varlamos, Halepas, Sohoh, Vitalis, Filipotis - and the list continues to date.

Petros Delatollas at work in his studio at Spitalia, Tinos



## ATHENS-MUNICH: THE NEW GREECE

(Continued from page 1)

village to a European capital. It is a rather uneven exhibit – it seems unable to decide if it will be a showcase for the arts proper, or a documentation of the city planning, public building architecture, and photographic records of all of the above. I found the ethnographic segment showing how the members of the court dressed, the furniture they used, etc., rather gratuitous; it contributed neither knowledge nor pleasure of viewing. The Tiniot artistic connection was evident on the walls (works by Lytras, Gyzis and oth-

ers), and in the marble work on the neoclassi-

cal buildings – public, and private. There is a catalogue available with historical essays, but it is in Greek only.



ΕΘΝΙΚΗ ΠΙΝΑΚΟΘΗΚΗ-ΜΟΥΣΕΙΟ ΑΔΕΣΣΑΝΑΡΟΥ ΣΟΥΤΣΟΥ  
 ΑΘΗΝΑ-ΜΟΝΑΧΟ  
 Τέχνη και Πολιτισμός στη νέα Ελλάδα  
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 ΣΟΦΙΣΤΟΣ  
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*“The ‘Tinos, of the Arts and Civilization’ exhibit included ethnographic elements, such as a recreation of a traditional marble carving workshop, as well as one of a traditional household.”*

# TSAROUCHIS...A FEAST FOR THE EYES

I was lucky enough to catch an extended “Yiannis Tsarouchis: Between East and West” exhibit, showcasing some of the artist’s best work. Tsarouchis is one of Greece’s top – many will say most important – artists. It was indeed a feast for the eyes to see again work that has documented so much of what Greece has experienced in its cultural development in the twentieth century. The works were provided



Yiannis Tsarouchis, “the bather,” 1968, The Tsarouchis Foundation

by the Yiannis Tsarouchis Foundation – a place that those of you joining us this fall for an “artful escape” in Greece will have the opportunity to visit – and they were shown at the newly established Center for the Contemporary Arts. This new Center is

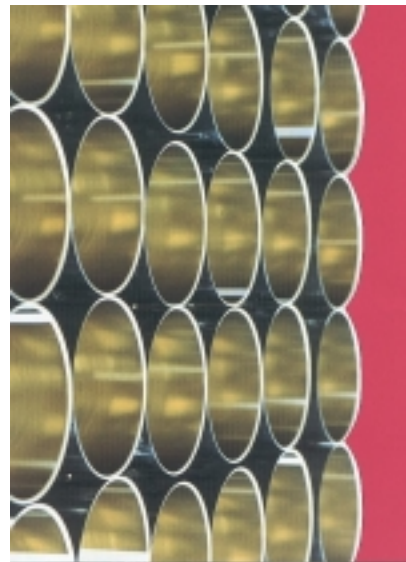
housed in the oldest Greek brewery, The Fix, and is part of a contemporaneous renaissance taking place at the moment in Athens in preparation for the upcoming Olympic games of 2004. There is a catalogue in Greek and English.

“There were hundreds of artists and probably thousands of cans used to create work that ranged from the whimsical, to the beautiful...to the ridiculous.”

## (AT LEAST) 2000 TIN CANS!

Another exhibit that I attended was entitled “2000 Tin Cans: Painting, Sculpture, Multimedia.” (25 May–30 June at the Bazaar Discount Super Markets). Organized by a loosely gathered group of artists calling themselves “The Lithography Shop of Pireos Street,” it is a show of a wide variety of artists – Greek and foreign, emerging and established. They took the opportunity to look back on the uses of “tin” cans by artists such as Marcel Duchamp, Jasper Jones, Andy Warhol, Christo

and others, and to give their own “take” on the use of tin cans to create art. There were hundreds of artists and probably thousands of cans used to create work that ranged from the whimsical, to the beautiful...to the ridiculous. But it was all great fun, and a very refreshing space to be on a day when the mercury had reached the mid-thirty degrees in Athens!! The work shown can be purchased by directly con-



tacting the artists; there might be a catalogue produced, and apparently there will be more shows coming out by this group of artists.

“2000 Tin Cans: Painting, Sculpture, Multimedia,” Bazaar Discount Supermarkets, from the exhibit brochure

the artexchange news

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art education through travel

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Greece...an artful escape," the artexchange's Fall educational travel tour (October 6 – 24, 2000) will let you see for yourself the dynamic art scene in Athens.

We'll not only take in the best of the permanent exhibits in Athens...we'll sample the exciting new artists in Athen's many commercial galleries.

Be inspired by the views of Greece's masters – and the influx of foreign artists who now make Athens their home! As we make our way down Athen's narrow cobblestone streets we'll never be far from the substantial presence of the Parthenon, and the layers of artistic achievement that we will see in Athen's many neighborhoods.

## "ROSA HYBRIDA"

### A ROSE BY ANY NAME

"Rosa Hybrida" was to open on June 7<sup>th</sup> – the day after my scheduled departure back to Canada – at the Stigma Gallery in Psyrri, the "happening" place in Athens (and a mere ten minute walk from our hotel in Plaka). I was determined to pay a visit while the show was being set up, because one of the exhibiting artists, Lilly Bacoyianni, is a dear friend (see photo). Lily, one of Greece's fore-



Lily and her art

most clay sculptors, made many friends during her residency at

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