

Presences...

By Dora Iliopoulou Rogan

"Presences"....twofold presences balancing on a thin line between what is earthly and what is metaphysical and not just simple paintings...that is what the works of Vangelis Rinas are – an artist of international standards. His eternally lively creations are indeed important overflowing with an inexhaustible power of submission, penetrated by his inherent and constantly renewed passion for his art. Significant "Presences", rigorous evidence of supreme talent, well-known to a wide range of people; the exact reason why he guarantees a unique way of expressing his creativity in a modern artistic chaos of repetition, of superficial solutions, of replicas produced by artists of weak personality, whom we visually confuse as to their identity.

-2-

Constantly and creatively renewed through the course of time, from an inner view Rinas's artistic style was never wasted on superfluous easy solutions and repetitions. On the contrary he derives a continuously new breath from deep inside his eternally spiraling work. A breath which totally changes the substance of each one of his compositions- not only the DNA of the painter's original stimulus but of the actual aura of the creation. It is a quality which grants his paintings a

special light as it transfuses the artist's essence of his real stimulus. In "Presences" there is an inexhaustible range of action/reformation, conference, memories, stimuli, impressions all which emerge with a twofold and self-powered meaning as Rinas's artistic style identifies with his poetic temperament. It is a gift which indeed grants any figure and shape with the power to endogenously impose on powerful figures and situations. In continuous speed, action and change of pace which penetrates them, any figure and shape appearing in Rinas's "Presences" causes different feelings every time, a different interpretation, as they are only apparently and technically static. Targeting our biological optical range, figures that seem continuously changing for our soul which emerge in an immaculate, not made by hand style, identified with the element/ghost of creation, reveal themselves and develop through a continuously exciting succession of compositions and pictures in seeming metaphysical visions; or even better in fluent "hints" of the different aspects of the supreme energy defined by the universe. "Presences" created in Light and vice versa. Treasured memories, associations, experiences that encourage us to feel what is not immediately clear, but "exists" unclearly. Creations which are orchestrated in the idiomatic for Rinas's light, charm not only our eyes but also our soul. The light here is gifted and reveals itself first as a leading element and then as a related element/ghost of the power of the creator's talent, as it creates a unique in texture and stimulus atmosphere. An atmosphere inhabited by an

unspoken spirit which multiplies the parts of metaphysical communication with the viewer. Untouched by man gates of an "uncontainable" content, Rinas's creations are proof of something very rare for a contemporary artist.

By offering us the feeling of an artistically expressed

orchestration of the mind, they prove through the existing "stimulus", Rinas's ingenious ability to change spirit to matter, and vice versa. Agents of destiny, as Rinas's works coherently submit us –as much as it is artistically possible- to the actual "Idea" of cosmogony, they comprise the supreme confirmation of Plato's definition of real art. That art is not an imitation but an expression of an idea. The artist's work is a microcosm in the exact likening of a macrocosm, and they submit us, in the most resourceful way, to an almost artistically impossible element: the part of a charismatic incarnation of the invisible and intangible through the painting.

The "Presences" of our artist present in a most obvious way that the spirit and matter comprise nothing more but two different aspects of the supreme truth: The energy that flows through the universe, and which in Rinas's case, uses as a medium the creative passion of this most important significant artist, who manages to silence the distracting calls of our times and create totally personal and metaphysical works. Works which are painted by light itself and using the artist's ingenious

sensitivity of a creator, the charismatic incarnation of "destiny" emerges.

Without a doubt, Rinas's work remains an excess from the beginning of his career to his present day "peak". A peak in the career of an artist who, with very strict criteria, is considered very significant among his contemporaries, both nationally and internationally.

Dora Iliopoulou- Rogan, Dr. Art historian-art critic
officier des Arts et Lettres.