

He is sailing from the Aegean
First personal exhibition of the Greek artist
Vangelis Rinas in China

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In the beautiful Aegean Sea, there is a magical island, near Asia Minor, known as Samos. Since 3000 a.C., it inspired many great civilizations and it promoted the art of navigation. Many ancient Greek and Roman monuments still exist up to this day, such as the Tunnel of Eupalinos (Efpalinio), the temple of Hera (Heraion) etc. Vangelis Rinas, an exceptional Greek contemporary artist, was born and grew up there and that's the place where he creates.

Rinas is a son of the Aegean Sea with eyes like the crystal clear water of the sea and with a heart full of deep and “multi-coloured” love: for the sky, the land, the sea, the white clouds, life and ships..... as well as for the distant and vast Orient. His love is deep and bold, beyond time and space, and it is pure and precious, like an angel coming down to earth from heaven. Therefore, he surpasses the rules of art and he enters an environment free from Ego, thus creating artworks that contrive to: render the realistic forms a medium to create the dimensions of the vision. The beloved subject of his works are the specific excellently crafted and finely worked ships, which are either placed in the emptiness of the universe or stand beside dreamy “deities”. Those ships do not seem frozen and hard the way we experience them through our senses;

on the contrary, they seem to have acquired their own soul and body.

Another magical feature of Rinas is: either the element of “water” and “ink” that he has left impulsively in his watercolor works or the strokes and figures, real and fictitious ones, in the oil paintings, secretly transmitting messages of matching with the Oriental aesthetics. He sealed unintentionally his own symbol of matching of the Western art with the Eastern art. Those hardly discernible divine ruins, those female figures, alive and beautiful, divine and human, created by the torch-like glowing brush of Rinas, shoot flares that go through the centuries.

Before this exhibition, Vangelis Rinas was not known to the Chinese artists and public. I believe that after this exhibition, this artist, his ship and his works will be impressed deeply on the hearts of the Chinese people. His exhibition is related to the ancient Greek art and it is associated with the contemporary Greek art, giving a taste of the Aegean; it is a humid scent that inundates our heart and saturates our dry and thirsty soul filled with filth and smut of the modern era.

Vangelis Rinas comes to Beijing in Spring 2010 with the warm feeling of repatriation from the sea. This artistic journey is treasured by both Chinese and Greek artists and public!

23 – 11 – 2009