

# ART

By GLYN HUGHES

## Artistic round day by day

YES, Minister, it's day by day.

Education Minister **Christophoros Christophides** is in great demand these days and will be opening exhibitions continually throughout next week. Tonight, however, Finance Minister **George Syrimis** will be opening a show. If this surprises you, it proves that you're not up to date with Cyprus contemporary art.

George Syrimis is an artist too.

Earlier this week I was in Cyclades Gallery (framers) and Leonidas showed me scores of newly framed paintings. They are soon all off to London for an exhibition. Tonight the minister/artist will open an exhibition, a retrospective of **Emilios Symeonides** at Apocalypse. This exhibition is surely due, as is a full appreciation of Symeonides as an outstanding painter of the landscape. What is little known is that the artist is a highly-gifted portrait painter, too.

Tonight's exhibition will establish him in the forefront of his generation's talents. Like many Cypriot male artists -- and he was born in 1923 -- he has become extremely prolific as he reaches maturity.

### TONIGHT Apocalypse

I HAVE always considered that **Emilios Symeonides** is one of our best artists and he has gone unsung for too long.

He has his own vision and, although he has studied in Britain and, when very young, was taught by **Kissonergis** and **Diamantis** (learning from within, from the best), he stands out from many of the better known mainstream artists because his art

is not imbued with sunlight and over-charm.

He looks at the landscape quite unsparingly.

He looks in winter, too.

And he looks at landscapes elsewhere. His works on Northern Greece: Pindos mountains, Meteora monasteries, Galambika, Ioannina are seen with his eye.

He captures the essence of that landscape but gives it his own "feel". A civil engineer, it is not surprising that his pictures of buildings have considerable structure, but his formal strength is poetic. He is a draughtsman, but it is his aesthetics which rule.

I find considerable feeling in his watercolours.

Look at those black "shadows" going across his *Meteora Monastery of Metamorphosis*. He can also be the most abstract of our landscape artists.

Those youngsters from the plain airs of Kalopanayiotis and Omodos can learn a lot from his deceptively simple adaptation of form. Tonight should be quite an event and I also look forward to taking a longer look at his portraits. **Natasha**, of Apocalypse, will be filling all three floors of her gallery with his works.

### SATURDAY Kyklos

ARTISTS are lined up for exhibiting this month in droves. Tomorrow night, **Rinos Stephani** and **Susan Vargas** have an opening at Kyklos, Paphos. They have called their show *Ultra-Marine*.

Susan and Rinos met at Lemba Art School.

Susan is from Bogata, Rinos is a Paphian.

This summer they both



**BLUE HAVEN:** Rinos and Susan with Aris. *Ultra-Marine* opens tomorrow at Kyklos, Paphos.



**HOOK, LINE AND THINKER:** Iraqi architect **Maath Alousi** at the Rauplan exhibition at the old Nicosia Electrical Power House.

stayed at the Omodos/EKATE plein air and much of the work will be an extension of that very creative visit.

The title points to the use of blues for sea and skies and this exhibition emphasises the recent use of the Cyprus scene by outstanding young artists.

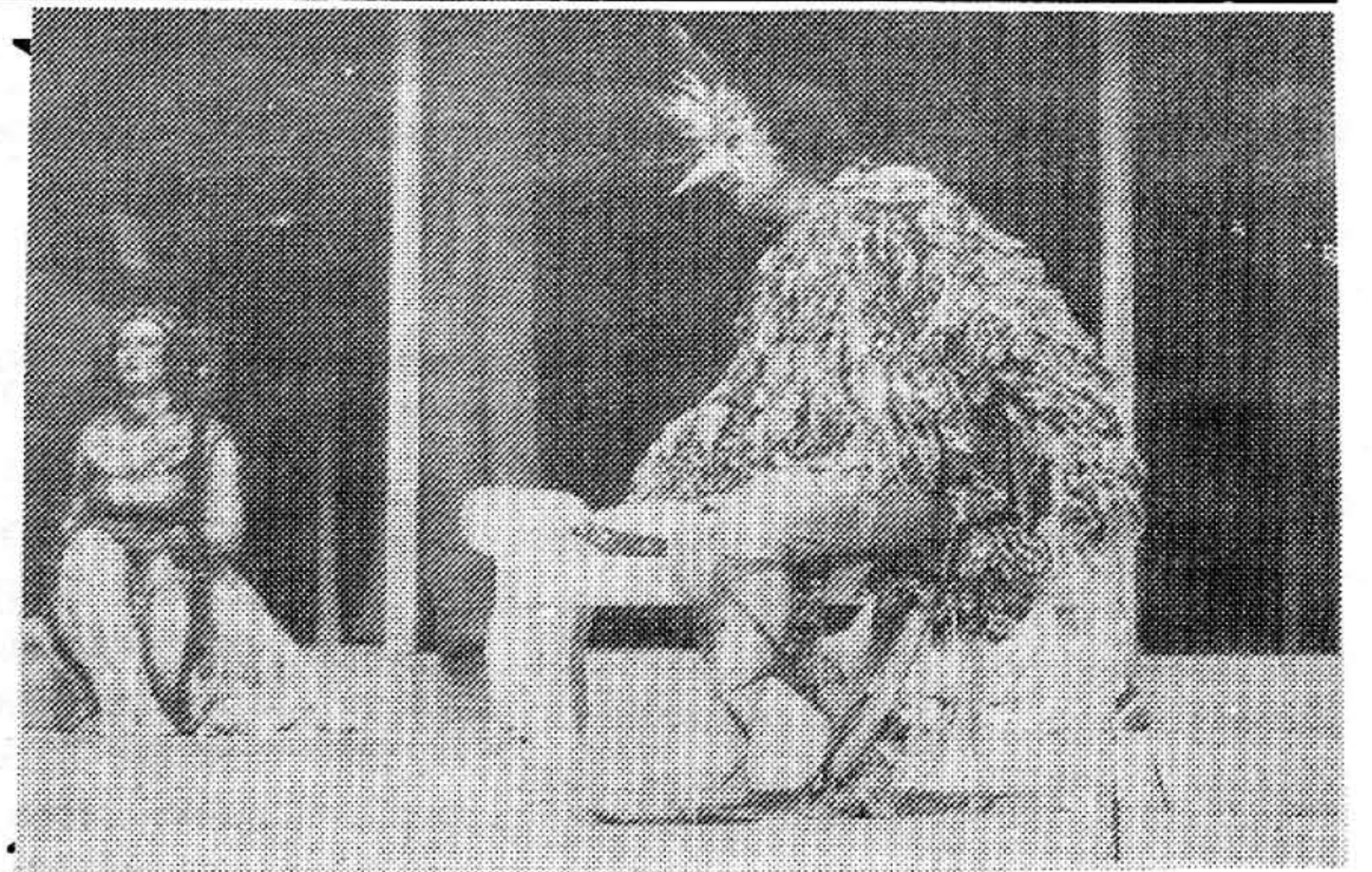
It began with the first-rate exhibition of paintings by **Aristoteles Demetriou** in Nicosia earlier this autumn at Gloria's (Aristoteles is also from Paphos), and suggests there are the beginnings of a Cyprus Landscape Group; artists who extend our understanding of the Cyprus scene.

I suggest the group is called 'Pyli Paphos' as this will also cover those also opening the gates of the landscape who live as far away from Paphos as Nicosia, where Paphos Gate is -- and all creative studies in between, and even further.

### SUNDAY Opus 39

**NITSA Hadjigeorgiou's** exhibition can be seen from Sunday although the official opening will be on Thursday when the Minister of Education will speak at 7.30 pm.

Nitsa is a Delhi prizewinner and is right here in the very front rank of Cypriot painters. Her work can be abstract or evoke the landscape/cityscape and at New-Delhi she showed haunting pictures related to pollution. Recently -- at Aglandjia and the Cyprus University -- she has suggested a change of direction by using the motif of musical instruments, but all her work is stamped with her own visual sensibility. Viewers, as well as the many supportive artists, who will



**TWITTERER:** The brilliant **Andreas Tsouris** in *The Game of Madness and Wisdom*.

by Friends of the Earth (Paphos) and the Laona Project is taking place at Kathikas village next weekend on Saturday and Sunday.

It promotes the work of local and expatriate artists from the area and has attracted considerable interest in the past because of its reasonable prices and its variety.

Well known Lemba potters **George** and **Soteroulla Georgiades** have some lovely pieces on show. **Michele Howard** and **Fiona Fraser** are exhibiting soft watercolours including hand-painted cards and **Andreas Constantinou** will have a lively stand of hand-painted grounds. **Nancy Hocking** and **Ara Nigogossian** who produce unique museum reproductions of ancient pottery, using unique museum reproductions of ancient pottery, using stone-ground colours will be exhibiting and also **Parthena Kyriakou** and **Anthoulla Delphini** who weave rugs on the traditional loom.

The exhibition takes place in the village cultural centre restored by the Leventis Foundation and is open from 10 am to 6 pm.

from finely-meshed wire netting and plaster.

In the top hall of the Leventis she has placed a wire and plaster sculpture whose head has sweeping hair flying high, as if **Edvard Munch** had given a lending hand. This is a clever extension of the charcoal drawings the artist showed at her studio last winter.

By the door and on the floor little mesh shoes lead us to the exhibition. The two plaster figures inside are excellent. In one, little feet give you a jolt, while, in the other, a brass lower arm and hand send out a shudder of survivalistic toughness.

Elsewhere the room is full of very delicate wire models and a few wire shoes scattered here and there. However, the main thing about these objects is the shadow thrown onto the walls.

Because the wire mesh is made of fine squares, the shadow suggests cross-hatching. The overlaps of the mesh caused by forms in the original object create the illusion of extra pencil shading while any piece of paper (usually thin) makes a soft 'filled

### MONDAY Gloria's

**MACHI Papadopoulou** is a new young artist who will also show works related to the landscape at her exhibition.

More after I have seen them opened by the Minister of Education at 7.30pm.

### TUESDAY Diaspro and Famagusta Gate

A DOUBLE creative evening. **Ioannis**, I suspect, will spring a complete surprise at his Diaspro show.

Highly intelligent work, which can also contain considerable passion.

Surely Ioannis is the most inventive and original of our young artists. More later. The exhibition continues until November 28.

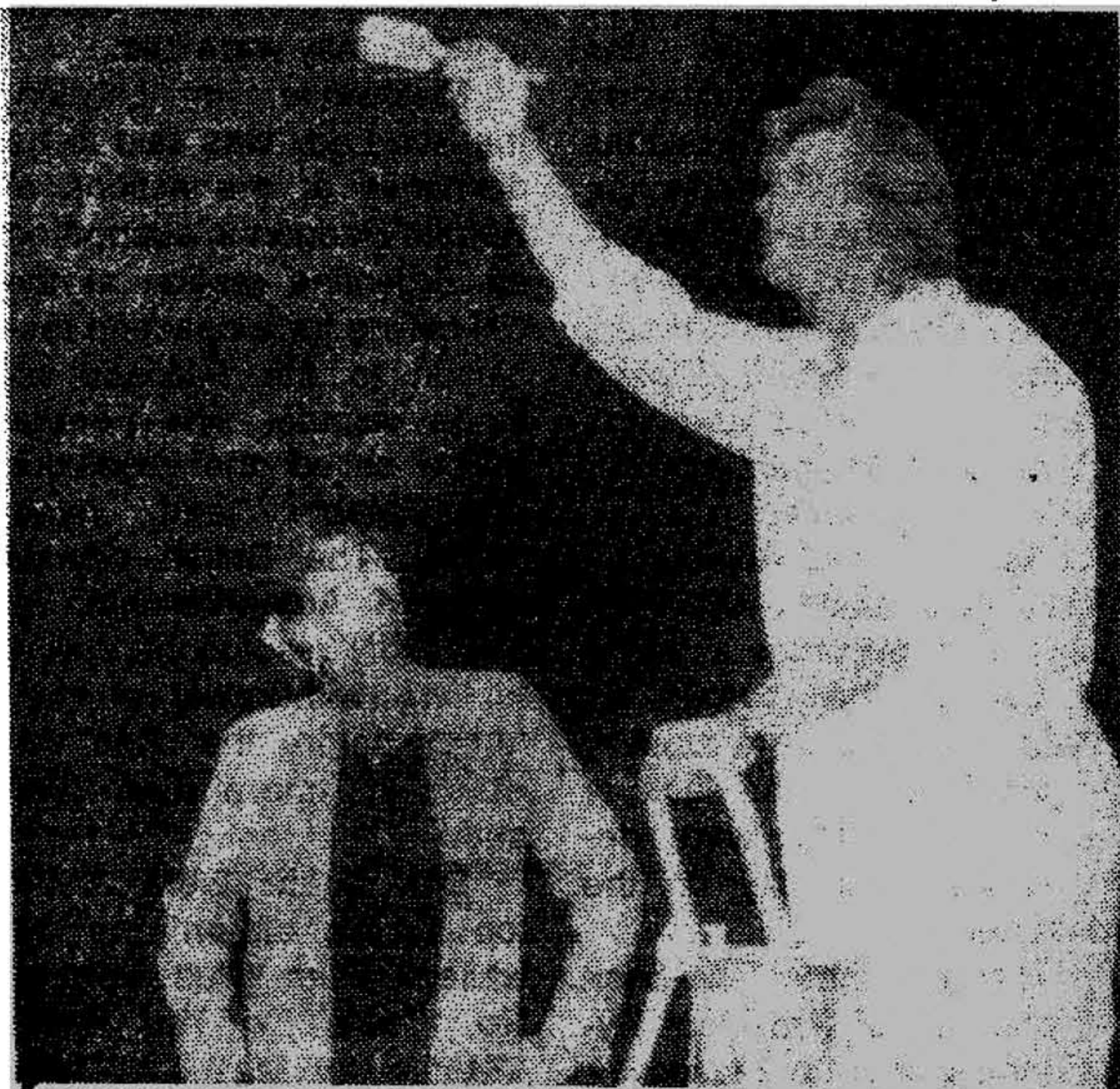
Greek Engravers at Famagusta Gate. The Cultural Service of the Ministry of Education and the Art Society A. Tassos have organised an exhibition of 16 new Greek engravers which will be opened by the Minister of Education at 7.30 pm at Famagusta Gate Cultural Centre. The exhibition aims at projecting and presenting new artists according to the wishes of **Tassos**.

Cypriot engraver **Hambis** will be there I am sure.

This exhibition will move to Larnaca Town Hall on December 2.

### WEEKEND Kathikas

A COLOURFUL exhibition and sale of arts and crafts organised



**BRUSH OFF:** Tina Austin and Jonathan Ayre in ACT's *Interior Designs* directed by Linda Fawson.





**FACE OF THE TIMES:** A magnificent coloured-stone carving by Maath Alousi at his Limassol office. Maath exhibited his designs for a mosque at the Antichi Granai during the Architecture and Sacred Space in the Modern Age, La Biennale Di Venezia last month.