

## **METAMORPHOSIS – GLOBAL EYES**

Stefan Maguran

If you live in Australia you are blessed. Not only to be in the best country on Earth, but more importantly, to witness the emergence of the most collectable artist of the 21st Century and the 3rd Millennium right here, in your own country.

Stefan Maguran started painting last July. After a few promising works using materials bought at his local KMART, he discovered some old cans of house paint while cleaning his garage.

The rest, as they say...

Since last July, Stefan Maguran have begun to appear in private collections all over Adelaide and Paris.

His paintings have once been described as:

‘Spontaneous. His technique is simply to put paint to canvas with a ‘no rules’ freedom of expression approach. Stefan has developed a unique contemporary style, as he brings each canvas to life...’

Ivana Distasio

Stefan leads the paint using gravity as a paintbrush. His technique has evolved from ancient times and poverty, combined with his strong preoccupation for the environment, particularly recycling.

He uses old materials such as boards, house paint, miss-tints, etc.

The exhibition, curated by Sarah McCarthy, that runs at the Premier Art Gallery, 284 Rundle Street, Adelaide between 27 June and 27 July, is the result of Stefan’s friends and relatives getting together and organising funds for the show, with Jim’s Hill Reasonable Shiraz offering a few bottles of their craft.

The artworks are sized and priced for people wanting to have a Pollock without the price tag, insurance and climate control requirements. They fit in normal apartments and typical houses quite nicely.

The works are profound, very decorative and highly collectable. It has been estimated that, based on the performance so far, their value is growing at a rate of 100 times per year. (Past performance is just an indication and does not necessarily guarantee future performance – consult your art expert for advice).

Astute investors are already lining up to put their hands on a bargain.

Not without significance is the fact that the gallery is at the first floor of an Arts Supplies shop. It is hoped that following the sale of his works, Stefan will be in a position to explore real paint and real paintbrushes. A great loss, if you ask me.

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Born in a Communist state, I was always ready to speak my mind, but learned quickly that there are always consequences.

The regime had organised the most complete system of creating fear at the time.

The obsession with controlling the internal forces to avoid the collapse from within had transformed friends and relatives into informants.

I decided early in life, after a period of intense creation (I studied music and art and wrote a series of short stories) that, in order to protect my friends and relatives from themselves, I would not produce anything that might force them to inform the authorities.

Keeping a journal, painting, even talking, could have caused trouble for my friends, my family, or myself.

Once I had kids, my responsibilities grew even more. So, I confined myself to silence.

Now, as I live in my new country and my children have grown and are almost ready to stand on their feet, I feel that I can break the silence without the risk of harming them or my friends.

I am very much interested in all that happens around me and this is what my works talk about: love, landscapes, drought, too much rain, the war on terror, the terror of war, faith, nature, colour, Australian life and culture, recent disasters.

Since July last year I have worked continuously with a lot of passion, creating works that make me feel good.

I discovered, amongst many other things, the immense pleasure of watching paint dry.

During this time, it has been extremely significant and important to me to see my friends and family supporting my actions. It is so humbling and incredibly nice.

I hope you enjoy my work at least as much as I do.

