Michalis Charalambides

       I consider Michalis Charalambides to be one of the most prominent , talented people of his generation in Cyprus, an understatement though this most probably is. A talent which has not remained static, that is a talent not only by means of virtue, but through transubstantiating  his natural gifts - his education, his spiritual inclinations and the environs of his home and the town where he has lived and still lives - into works of value before which all pause,gaze and enjoy. No one passes them by with indifference. When once viewers have felt that initial sense of pleasure on their very first glance , they are impelled to study and interpret them. They are attracted by the modern architectural synthesis , seduced by the boldness and harmony of colour, guided by reference to life and the stimulus of reality.

     If we take into consideration his age and the present era we may say we are dealing with a truly contemporary painter with a modern perception of his art, and yet the result of his work brings out aspects of Cyprus, especially of Paphos from within its structures, its plant life, its atmospheric surroundings.

     Well-known art critics both in London and Athens have engaged with his works and have praised his attainments. The present note is intended to offer a general account of his work, provide an outline of Michalis Charalambides' unique persona. He has created this alone and it clearly belongs to him. In confirmation of this I will close by mentioning the following.Even though he grew up against a background in which his father's artistic work was of overriding importance given that the latter's presence as an artist was both ground-breaking and popular, Michalis was not affected by this but he had led himself on to something that was completely personal and independent, an identity which bears his own stamp.His creative work clearly involves a "creator" but that creator hardly needs defining. His work has in itself, acquired its own identity. It has no need to answer the question of "Who could have created this ?" as confirmation is immediate, "This is Michalis Charalambides'". This is irrefutable proof of his identity, persuasive testimony to the quality and recognition of his work.

Costas Serezis

Journalist, author.

(Argo Gallery) Athens, April, 2015.