

Lifestyle on Saturday

New art gallery in Gozo



Following the success of their first pop-up exhibition in November 2015, **Lazuli Art** is proud to announce the launch of a permanent new gallery in the heart of Gozo. The stunning exhibition space is in Palm Street in Victoria, just a short stroll from St George's Square.

Lazuli Art opens the 2016 season with a showcase of distinctive and original metal work. The gallery features pieces by three artists from the Caribbean island of Haiti; including lead artist Rony Jacques, who came to Gozo in November and enthralled audiences with a live demonstration of his unique artistry. The art work centres on the transformation of industrial steel drums into magical works inspired by nature, mythology



and local legend.

Alongside the Haitian artists, *Lazuli Art* is also showing diverse and mesmerising work by metal artists from Zimbabwe. The Zimbabwean artists are

based in the capital Harare, and work together as part of a Fair Trade Co-op. Using recycled metals - car parts, industry scrap, fridges and cookers - these innovative artists bring to life intricately beautiful birds, fish and cacti.

There is more incredible metal work to come from Madagascar, Burkina Faso and Morocco, as well as new initiatives such as educational workshops for schools, and cultural evenings that will infuse the art gallery with music, wine tasting and topical lectures. With each new season *Lazuli Art* will introduce a new medium and present Fair Trade art work by artists making waves in their profession.

The ethos of *Lazuli Art* is the commitment to Fair Trade and the celebration of cultural diversity and integration.

'I have been running two Fair Trade retail businesses in Gozo - *Organika* and *Lazuli* - for the last eight years but in my previous professional life I was a cultural manager. I fell in love with the Haitian metalwork I discovered in Paris two years ago and was touched by some of the similarities with Gozo and themes in the artwork: the maritime landscape; flora and fauna; subsistence agriculture and fishing; religious faith and symbolism; colonialism and insularity. French gallerist Anne Mucci's Fair Trade involvement with the Haitian artists inspired me and we decided to collaborate in exhibiting their work to promote it in the Maltese Islands. I saw an opportunity in Gozo to link art, craft and business; promoting Fair Trade in a North/South dynamic,' says *Lazuli Arts* owner and curator Charlotte Lombard.

Lazuli Art will open with a private viewing for invited guests in the presence of French Cultural Attaché Laurent Croset on Friday 20 May at 7pm.

To keep updated with events and new artists please 'like and share' our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/lazuliart or contact *Lazuli Art* on 99436443.

Lazuli Art - 83 Palm Street- Victoria - Gozo.

Opening time : Monday to Friday from 10 am to 6pm and Saturday from 10 am to 4pm



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Cara Delevingne

Stars at the Grand Palais

It's an atmosphere of calm and serenity that emanates from the Grand Palais on 26th January. Within a large neat garden, at the bottom of which sits a beautiful wooden house, Karl Lagerfeld celebrated nature with the Chanel Spring-Summer 2016 Haute Couture collection.

This was applauded by many including Diane Kruger, Gwyneth Paltrow, Monica Bellucci, Cara Delevingne and Marine Vacth.



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