

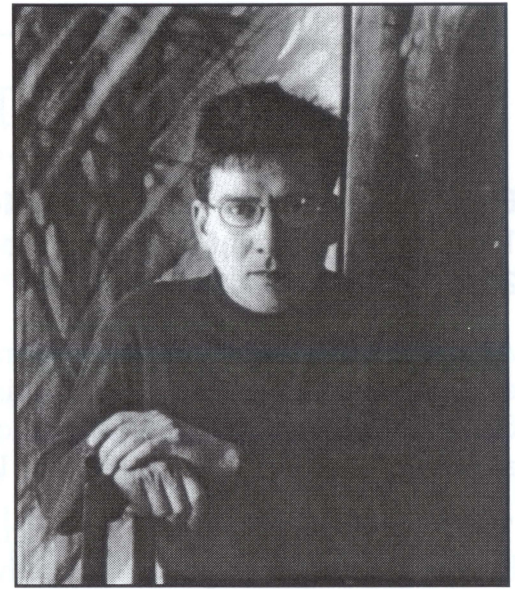
Profile:

George Scicluna

Born in 1996, George Scicluna is perhaps one of the best exponents of the rising generation of artists.

He organised his first personal exhibition in May 1998 and a second one which bore the title of 'Passion, Power and Struggle' was held in November 2001 at the Exhibition Hall, Ministry of Gozo.

George has won several prizes but his main concern is to deliver his message in an expressive idiom. His ambition is to share it widely.



"Through my paintings I wish to express my inner conflict, my fear, and my hope in Salvation through Jesus Christ" he says. These feelings come out very strongly in his latest exhibition which contains strong religious imagery, as well as reference to the pain and suffering of humanity.

In his painting entitled: *Suffering Humanity* (2000): "You watch those figures reach out imploringly, pleadingly begging unashamedly. Hands outstretched and stressed, fingers tensed, trying to catch at a straw. They seem betrayed, deceived, misunderstood and rejected. They are not begging for food, clothes, shelter or money. It is a matter

of life and death. Their despair turns to fear – the threshold of violence. It is now or never."

In marked contrast his *Innocent* (pencil on cardboard, 2000) is characterised by a profound tranquillity.

George believes that "for something to be worthwhile in paintings, the artist has to use his ability to reveal his misery and that's when his genius appears."

