## Understanding the context of contemporary visual art in Malta from 1989 to 2018: A curator's perspective.

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## **Catalogue**

This catalogue is an image-led, chronological timeline that works as a quick guide to the many artists, exhibitions and events that I refer to in the thesis from 1991 to 2017. It also includes additional references to other notable events within this time period that are not discussed in the thesis. The catalogue is intended to help the reader and future researchers to navigate their way through the rich yet relatively unknown maze of contemporary Maltese art and to locate the primary material drawn from diverse public and private institutions, collections and archives during this research. In this sense it acts as a form of documentation and archive.

The catalogue has only been possible through the full collaboration and kindness of local artists, organisations, and gallery owners who were willing to show me works, archives, and personal documents.

The catalogue is arranged by year with each entry including a catalogue number, event title and a succinct contextual statement, followed by an image.

Catalogue Number	Event Title and Context	Image		
The 1990s				
1991  1	Image re fo copyright	r reasons	Image removed for copyright reasons  Norbert Francis Attard, Soliste (1990)	
	Image removed for copyright reasons  Luciano Micallef, Painter of Thoughts (1989)	Image remov for copyright reas Pawl Carbonaro, U (1991)	ons for copyright reasons	
	Number	Number    Maltafest - Four Maltese Painters - International Arts Festival, July - August, Valletta, Malta, National Museum of Fine Arts.  (Author's archive)    During the summer of 1991, the annual Maltafest summer exhibition was, for the first time, entirely dedicated to abstract painting. Such a big public event had never solely focused on pure abstract work by Maltese artists.    The participating artists were: Norbert Francis Attard (b. 1950), Luciano Micallef (b. 1954), Pawl Carbonaro (b. 1948), and	Number    Number   The 1990s	Number  The 1990s  Image removed for copyright reasons  Exhibition was, for the first time, entirely dedicated to abstract painting. Such a big public event had never solely focused on pure abstract work by Maltese artists.  The participating artists were: Norbert Francis Attard (b. 1950), Luciano Micallef (b. 1954), Pawl Carbonaro (b. 1948), and Marco Cremona (b. 1951).  Image removed for copyright reasons  Image removed for copyright reasons  Luciano Micallef, Pawl Carbonaro, U (1991)

1991	2	Gabriel Caruana, <i>Totempoles</i> , 1991, wood and paint, c. 500 x 20 cm, Golden Bay, Għajn Tuffieħa, Malta. Private collection.  Gabriel Caruana (1929-2018) was one of the first artists to create and exhibit artworks in public spaces. This particular work might have been destroyed.	(Private colle	ector's archive)
1992	3	Caesar Attard, <i>Life and Passion</i> Exhibition, October 28 - November 18, Valletta, New Gallery Auberge de Provence.  (Caesar Attard's archive)  These works by Caesar Attard (b. 1946) were not the usual representations of the 'Life and Passion' that were frequently presented locally. The compositions were experimental since the traditional symmetrical approach was dismissed as were the typical figurative representations.	The Healing of the Blind (1988), ink on paper, 28.5 x 38 cm	The Transfiguration (1990), ink on paper, 28.5 x 38 cm

1993	4	Malta International Arts Festival Collective Exhibition, July - August, Valletta, Auberge De Provence.  One of the landscapes by Isabelle Borg (1959-2010), Dead Boats (1993), oil on canvas, 167 x 247 cm, featured in the catalogue.	Image removed for copyright reasons  Exhibition Catalogue (Private collector's archive)
1994	5	Raphael Vella, <i>Conversations</i> Exhibition, March 12 - 24, Valletta, National Museum of Fine Arts.  This was Vella's (b. 1967) first solo show. He questioned the power of the image and asked whether the current generation could relate to past artworks. He argued for the importance of context and how images should be selected since misunderstandings can arise.	(Raphael Vella's archive)

1994	6	Arti Independenza 1994 Collective Exhibition, curated by Dennis Vella, September 20 - 30, Valletta, Auberge de Provence.  This exhibition involved works by Christopher Azzopardi (b.1972), Pierre Portelli (b. 1961), and Paul A. Stellini (b.1971).	ARTI INDIPENDENZA 1994	Acknowledgements  Exhibition selected and co-ordinated by Dennis Vella for the National Festivities Committee, Ministry for Youth and the Arts, Malta.  Acknowledgements to the Director of Museums.
		In this collective exhibition, Pierre Portelli stood out because he exhibited several assemblages which were described as installation and as objets trouvés on a local newspaper. It was the first time that an art work was described as an installation in a newspaper caption.	CHRISTOPHER AZZOPARDI: sculptures PIERRE PORTELLI: assemblages PAUL A. STELLINI: paintings  Salon, Auberge de Provence, Republic Street, Valletta.  20th – 30th September, 1994  National Festivities Committee,  MINISTRY FOR YOUTH AND THE ARTS	
			Exhibition (Pierre Portel	

curated by Dennis Vella, October, Valletta, National Museum of Fine Arts.  A page from the exhibition catalogue showing Pierre Portelli presented <i>HEX</i> , 1995, mannequin, spray paint, wire, fabric, snails, etc., 155 x 250.  HEX can be considered a unique work at the time. The work was centrally positioned like a group of sculptures. Mannequins were used to represent women of the present.	Plane Partiell.  Plane Partiell.  Plane Partiell.  Plane Partiell.  Date of Both  150 Mentioner Soiner, National fee: 250024, 40000  Plane of Both  257 192 3 Sounded Solitors of that it being; (Diplorate in Complex Design)  Personal Endirectors: 1998 Acti Indigeneeus, A. Morgo die Privation, Valletia  Dates grigold appeals of the production-time fluor their beaven, or die made any difference. Discussional and overground by cases and activated once on or anisative toward and advances or die made any difference. Discussional and overground by cases and activated up, the desiral feast was sift amount and, were or diel, Partie could not made up to made.  Determined up, the desiral feast was sift amount and, were or diel, Partie could not made up to made.
	(Pierre Portelli's archive)

1995	8	Raphael Vella, <i>Graven Images</i> Exhibition, September 1 - 25, Valletta, New Gallery, Auberge de Provence.  Statements were included as part of the figurative compositions placed against no particular context. The position and the clothing were used to identify the liturgical figure.  Critics and even philosophers reviewed this exhibition; the weekly art critics questioned this sort of art, while others realised that Vella was trying to communicate and create some form of discourse through his work.	GRAVEN IMAGES Raphael Vella
			1 - 25 September 1995 New Gallery - Auberge de Provence - Republic Street - Valletta  (Raphael Vella's archive)

1996	9	Pierre Portelli, <i>Magical and Mystical</i> , 1996, holy pictures and tarot cards on board, 240 x 120 cm, exhibited at the <i>Maltafest Summer Exhibition</i> , July 13 - 27, Valletta, Mediterranean Conference Centre. Private collection.  The thought-provoking approach by Portelli presented in these collective exhibitions made him stand out as a contemporary art practitioner especially when compared to a sizable number of artists who were still treading	
1997	10	traditional forms of expression.  Malta International Arts Festival, July 1 - 18, Valletta, Manoel Theatre Foyer.  A page from the exhibition catalogue shows Hobżna ta' Kuljum, 1997, mixed media/objet trouvé, 216 x 26 cm.  The other image depicts a drawing from the artist's sketchbook showing the material proposed by the artist; that is Maltese Bread	Magical and Mystical and detail (Pierre Portelli's archive)

(Hobż tal-Malti) and Copper Cartridges (Skrataċċ tar-Ram).

Exhibition Catalogue (Pierre Portelli's archive)

1997	11	Norbert Francis Attard, <i>Order</i> = <i>Chaos</i> , 1997, and <i>Order in Death/Disorder in Life</i> , 1997, mixed media, 40 x 30 cm, private collection.  (Norbert Francis Attard's archive)  These two works from the same series were awarded the first prize at the 'Most Talented Artists'. This was an art competition held at the Addition International Gallery in Stockholm. The original works are not within the artist's collection.	Order = Chaos (1997)	Order in Death/Disorder in Life (1997)
1997	12	Ruth Bianco, <i>Space in a Fish Box:</i> A Conceptual Work, 1997, metal rods, wood, can of sardines and text, 170 x 40 x 20 cm, exhibited at Maltafest' 97, July 1 - 18, Valletta. Private collection.  Bianco (b.1955) is using her works to describe the very crowded exhibitions of the time in which conflicting works were exhibited one next to the other (like sardines in a can). The text was written by Bianco and in which she describes her work as a poetic text about little fish suffocating in the fish box.	(Ruth 1	Bianco's archive)

1998	13	Ruth Bianco, A-Political Seat, 1998, chairs made of wood and text, dimensions vary according to set up, exhibited at Maltafest '98, July - August, Valletta, St James Cavalier. Private collection.  This work forms part of the Retrievals series. One of the chairs chosen had three legs and no seat. Typed text (reflecting change in technology of the time) was included and attached in the area where there was a missing seat. She recalls that there was a political incident at the time and she used her work to make a cheeky comment.





(Ruth Bianco's archive)

1998	14	Austin Camilleri, Sacred Austin: Works 1992 - 1998 Exhibition, May, Victoria, Gozo, St James Church.  Austin Camilleri (b. 1972) opted to show an experimental process within a very traditional building, that of the Roman Catholic Church. Camilleri investigated the notion of public interaction with art, particularly with the art that is shown in religious institutions.  The opening was on a Good Friday, a very important feast in the Roman
1998	15	Catholic calendar.  Ruth Bianco, <i>Anima Mundi</i> , 1998, mixed media, 100 x 100 cm, Paola, Malta, Corradino Prison. MUŻA Heritage Malta Collection.  This mobile installation work was used by the artist within the premises of the local prison. It can be referred to as an aesthetic relations act or a site intervention.  The original title of the work is <i>Cell Boxes</i> .



(Austin Camilleri's archive)





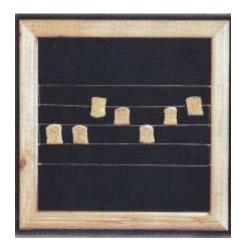
(Ruth Bianco's archive)

1998	16	Austin Camilleri, 'Blank', 1998.  In an interview the artist was asked to discuss his art work and instead of giving a verbal reply he decided to keep it blank.  The image shows the title page with the text, 'The Interview: Formal expression by Austin Camilleri'.	L-Orizzont News (Austin Camil	
1998	17	Vince Briffa, <i>Relic 1996 - 1998</i> Exhibition, November, Valletta, National Museum of Fine Arts.  (MUŻA Heritage Malta Archives)  This exhibition can be considered a quantum leap in Briffa's (b. 1959) artistic career. The artist moved away from painting, the medium he was known for. Instead he is including human hair, a bird skeleton, cloth, earth and x-rays on the art work surface to discuss time, past and present.	Tam bella non aspiret Christ (1998)	One's Reliquary (1997)

1998	18	Pierre Portelli, Breadworks
		Exhibition, July 1 - 29,
		Connecticut, USA, Central
		Connecticut State University.
		(Pierre Portelli's archive)
		The artist here presents items or
		symbols that could be associated
		with one's personal experience b
		using bread as a medium. Unlike
		other materials, bread eventually
		dries out, grows mouldy, and
		ultimately perishes. Bread was
		twisted in a way that sometimes made it look like a piece of
		sculpture captured in chicken wi
		like a cage, while other loaves
		resembled faces that experienced
		journey or daily emotions.



Panem (1998)



Allegro (1998)

1998	19	Norbert Francis Attard, <i>Temple of Earth</i> , 1998, timber round poles, earth and pebbles, exhibited at <i>Transkuton Tollwood Festival</i> , Summer, Munich, Germany.  This can be considered as Attard's first site-specific installation. This was a collaborative art project entitled <i>Transkuton</i> , which formed part of the international summer cultural festival of Tollwood, in Munich.	(Norbert Francis Attard's archive)
1999	20	Reinterpreting Preti, Multi-site Exhibition, January, Valletta: National Museum of Fine Arts, St James Cavalier, and St John's Co- Cathedral.  (MUŻA Heritage Malta Archive)  Curated by the National Museum of Fine Arts curators: Dominic Cutajar, Therese Vella, and Adrian Bartolo.  This can be considered as the first site-specific exhibition on a national scale where works by local artists were exhibited in public	Norbert Francis Attard'at St James Cavalier

spaces and the public had the opportunity to be partakers in contemporary art practice. It formed part of the events commemorating the 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of the Baroque artist Mattia Preti, where the curators explored the idea of inviting Maltese contemporary artists to re-interpret Preti's work.

## The artists were:

Caesar Attard, Norbert Francis Attard, Isabelle Borg, Vince Briffa, Anthony Calleya, Austin Camilleri, Gabriel Caruana, Marco Cremona, Savio Deguara, Charles Gatt, Madeleine Gera, Joseph L. Mallia, Pierre Portelli, Tom Scicluna, Anthony Spagnol, Raphael Vella, and Darrin Zammit Lupi.



Pierre Portelli at St John's Co-Cathedral



Vince Briffa at the National Museum of Fine Arts



Austin Camilleri at the National Museum of Fine Arts



Darrin Zammit Lupi at the National Museum of Fine Arts

Austin Camilleri, Stones Exhibition, October 1 - November 7, gilded stone, several dimensions, exhibited in four different locations in Malta and Gozo: Valletta City Gate, Dingli Cliffs, Marsaxlokk, and Marsalforn.  It was multi-site exhibition made from six gilded stones in four locations around Malta. This was the largest and most adventurous art project by an individual artist to this date. Camilleri envisioned the exhibition on the two main islands of the archipelago, Malta and Gozo, by placing six huge stones on four points of the compass around Malta.	
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1999	22	A Happening, Art Project by Austin Camilleri and Pierre Portelli, March 4 - 5, Biagio Steps, Valletta, and Cittadella, Gozo.  (Pierre Portelli's archive)  The project was a collaboration between Austin Camilleri and Pierre Portelli, and probably led to important future collaboration between the artists.  The artists here worked with situations, conditions, textures and motions which reflected their state of mind and mirrored the then contemporary circumstances of dark events including the Gulf War, the Bosnian War, and the Rwandan Genocide.	Work in progress after A Happening	Artists during the performance
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1999	23	Pierre Portelli, <i>ism</i> Exhibition, May 13 - June 1, Valletta, National Museum of Fine Arts. Write-up by Kenneth Wayne.  Portelli placed a number of blank surfaces of different materials with different tools which were to be used by the viewer to interact with the work. To do so the viewer had to physically interact with the work by piercing or cutting the surface. On the opening night the artist fixed a camera to record this action with the documentation becoming a separate art work in its own right.





(Pierre Portelli's archive)

1999	24	Malta's Pavilion, 48 <sup>th</sup> edition of the Venice Biennale, May - November, Giardini, Venice, Italy.
		This was the first event of its sort after Malta became an independent country. Owing to several negative occurrences following the event, eighteen years had to pass to see Malta again at the Venice Biennale of 2017.



Norbert Francis Attard, Larger than Life II



Ray Pitre, *Guerriero* and *Guerriero* 1 (left) Vince Briffa, *Hermes* (right)

## This page from the Venice Biennale 48<sup>th</sup> Edition Exhibition Catalogue is about Malta.





Venice Biennale 48th Edition Exhibition Catalogue
(Venice Biennale Archive and Author's archive)

			2000s
2000	25	David Camilleri, <i>Il-Gaġġa / The Cage</i> , March 3 - 27, Valletta, National Museum of Fine Arts.  ( <i>Times of Malta</i> Archive)  In the small Contemporary Hall, the visitors engaged with an aluminium cage which measured two metres by two metres. The attention shifts on to the projection of a black and white video.  A video and sound installation	Image removed for copyright reasons
		juxtaposing a caged man and a caged bird caused quite a stir among the local hunters and trappers.  This was most probably the first solo exhibition showing a video and sound installation at the National Museum of Fine Arts.	Image removed for copyright reasons  Monticola Solitarius Screenshot

2000	26	Art in Malta Today Exhibition,
		curated by Joseph Paul Cassar,
		September 22 - November 22,
		Valletta, St James Cavalier Centre
		for Creativity.
		(Spazju Kreattiv Archive)
		This was the first exhibition at St
		James Cavalier Centre for
		Creativity.
		The participating artists were:
		Angelo Agius, Anton Agius, Harry
		Alden, Vincent Apap, Caesar
		Attard, Norbert Francis Attard, Ray
		Azzopardi, Frank Baldacchino,
		Ruth Bianco, Ganni Bonnici, Harry
		Borg, Isabelle Borg, John Martin

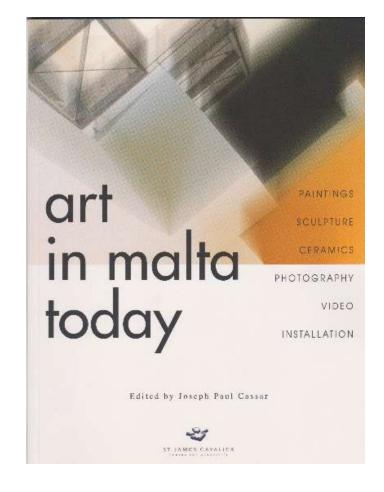
Borg, Lino Borg, Vince Briffa, Samuel Bugeja, Lawrence

Camilleri, Antoine Camilleri, Antoine Paul Camilleri, Austin Camilleri, Pawl Carbonaro, Gabriel

Caruana, Mary Rose Caruana, Josette Caruana, Joseph Casha, Charles Cassar, Alfred Chircop, Alex Dalli, Raymond Darmanin,

Savio Deguara, Andrew Diacono, Victor Diacono, George Fenech,

Buttigieg, Anthony Calleya, Alfred



Art in Malta Today Exhibition Catalogue Cover

Patrick Fenech, Neville Ferry,
Mario Galea, Charles Gatt, Anton
Grech, Anna Grima, Eman Grima,
Kenneth Grima, Paul Haber, Pia
Magro, Joseph Lawrence Mallia,
Albert de Marco, Luciano Micallef,
Frank Portelli, Pierre Portelli,
Joseph Saliba, Richard Saliba,
Charles Sammut, Tony Sciberras,
Joe P. Smith, Victor Spiteri, Paul
Vella Cretien, Joseph A. Vella,
Raphael Vella, and Joe Xuereb.

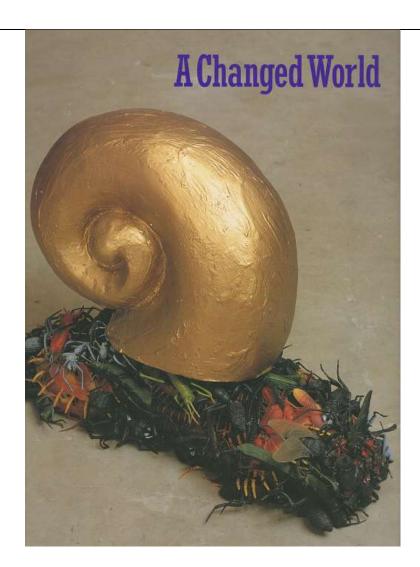
Photos showing the exhibition opening





2000	27	Caesar Attard, <i>Graphicon</i> , exhibited at the <i>Art in Malta Today</i>		
		Exhibition.		D. 60
		(Caesar Attard's archive)		5261 () 5
		Graphicon was a controversial work by Attard. It is a three-part		(D) (AA
		multi-media project taking as its theme the human body imaged in		L'and
		three ways. The work challenged the visitor to bring to mind personal		The second
		images of the body in his/her effort at interpretation.	She was a second	126
		By many, and especially school		(16) 71)
		educators, the project was considered as immoral and school	A general view of <i>Graphicon</i> at St	
		children were not allowed to see this part of the exhibition.	James Centre for Creativity (2000)	
				Caesar Attard, Four <i>Graphicon</i> Drawings, acrylic on masonite, 57.5 x
				45.5 cm, private collection.

2000	28	A Changed World Collective
		Travelling Exhibition, October 3 -
		November 3, Valletta, St James
		Cavalier Centre for Creativity.
		This exhibition was brought about
		through the initiative and assistance
		of the British Council in Malta. It
		focuses on the various
		transformations British sculpture
		underwent over the past forty years.
		The participating artists were:
		Edward Allington, Anthony Caro,
		Helen Chadwick, Tony Cragg,
		Michael Craig-Martin, John
		Davies, Cathy De Monchaux,
		Richard Deacon, Ian Hamilton
		Finlay, Barry Flanagan, Gilbert &
		George, Antony Gormley, Nigel
		Hall, Tim Head, Damien Hirst,



Exhibition Catalogue Cover (Spazju Kreattiv Archive)

Shirazeh Houshiary, Anish Kapoor, Philip King, Langlands & Bell, Tim Lewis, Richard Long, David Mach, Martin McGinn, David Nash,

Eduardo Paolozzi, Hadrian Piggott,

Tim Scott, William Tucker, William Turnbull, Boyd Webb, Richard Wentworth, Rachel Whiteread, Alison Wilding,

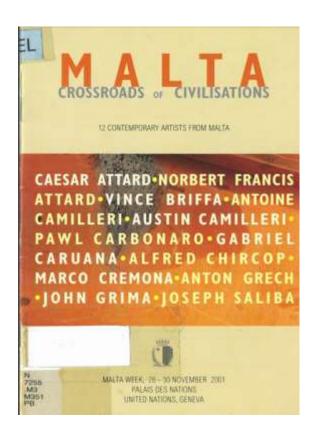
Richard Wilson, and Bill

Woodrow.

2001	29	Malta: Crossroads of Civilisations: 12 Contemporary Artists from Malta, curated by Dennis Vella, November 26 - 30, Geneva, Switzerland, Palais des Nations  The exhibition was held as part of the Malta Week Celebrations held between November 26 - 30.  The works were a mix of painting, ceramic, and mixed media including porcelain, mirrors, and polaroid negatives.
		The participating artists were: Caesar Attard, Norbert Francis Attard, Vince Briffa, Antoine Camilleri, Austin Camilleri, Pawl Carbonaro, Gabriel Caruana, Alfred Chircop, Marco Cremona, Anton

Saliba.

Grech, John Grima, and Joseph



Exhibition Catalogue Cover (University of Malta Library Archive)

2001- 2002	30	Patrick J. Fenech, <i>Noontime in the Boatyard: Photography Composites</i> (1996-2000) Exhibition, curated by Dennis Vella, December 2001 - January 2002, Valletta, National Museum of Fine Arts.  (Patrick Fenech Archive)		
		Fenech presented alternative photography using composite images. This was one of the first solo exhibitions at the National Museum of Fine Arts showing photography as a fine art medium.	Sea in a Boat (1999)	
				Day and Night (1998)

2002

40

Über Exhibition, curated by Mark Mangion, February 1 - 14, Portomaso, St Julian's, Malta.

(Norbert Francis Attard's archive)

This was the first exhibition by several contemporary Maltese artists who soon after were known as Start. This was the catalyst for all those events that followed and that were organised by the Start artists.

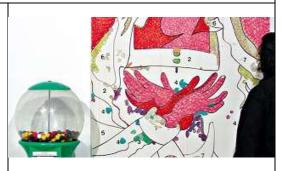
The participating artists were: Norbert Francis Attard, Chris Bianchi, Ruth Bianco, Vince Briffa, Kurt Buttigieg, Pierre Camille, Austin Camilleri, Adrian Fenech, Madeleine Gera, Victor Grima, Mark Mangion, Margerita Megally, Pierre Portelli, and Raphael Vella.



A photo showing Über Collective Exhibition at Portomaso, St Julian's



Austin Camilleri, Kuruna (2002)



Pierre Portelli, Rosa Mistica (2002)

2002	41	Cityspaces Exhibition, curated by Raphael Vella, July 12 - August 4, Valletta, 78, Old Mint Street.	biancov attard	
		(Patrick Fenech and <i>The Times of Malta</i> Archive)	cifenech	0 50 0 00000
		Artists transformed an old house in Old Mint Street Valletta public space for visual arts. This house	pitre mangfon portell	The state of the s
		was formerly used as a brothel.  This collective can be considered	Cityspaces Exhibition Catalogue Cover	Gabriel Caruana, <i>Going Round</i> (1970-2002)
		the first official Start exhibition.  The artists were: Norbert Francis Attard, Vince Briffa, Gabriel Caruana, Raymond Pitre Austin Camilleri, Anton Grech, Ruth Bianco, Charles Gatt, Pierre Portelli, Patrick Fenech, Mark Mangion, and Raphael Vella.	fo	emoved or t reasons
			Some of the partecipating artists. From Grech, Pierre Portelli, Raymond Pitre,	David Darmanin (YMCA Organiser),

Raphael Vella, Charles Gatt, and Norbert Francis Attard.

2003	42	Borders, curated by Raphael Vella and Richard Davies, February 6 - March 2, Pinto Wharfs, Floriana, Malta.
		(Archives of Patrick Fenech, Pierr Portelli, and Mark Mangion)
		Start: Borders Exhibition

The artists involved perceived this exhibition as an event that would change perceptions and break down entrenched borders to allow a more innovative contemporary art idiom to become accessible to the Maltese public.

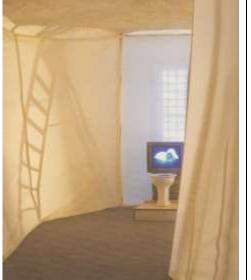
The participating artists were: Norbert Francis Attard, Ruth Bianco, Vince Briffa, Austin Camilleri, Savio Deguara, Patrick Fenech, Charles Gatt, Anton Grech, Mark Mangion, Pierre Portelli, and Raphael Vella.



Borders Exhibition Catalogue Cover



Boys of Bremen (2002) by Mark Mangion



Patrick Fenech,

Steps to an Ecology of Mind (2002)



Anton Grech, *Take a trip Around the World* (2002)

Charles Gatt, detail from sective Guilt, Collective Punishment (2003)
all control of the co

2003	44	Raphael Vella, <i>Book</i> Exhibition, exhibited at Cittadella, Gozo, Palazzo Vilhena, Mdina, and other venues.
		The work formed part of a series of works in which the artist questions the concept of the book. <i>BOOK</i> is an artist's book which focuses on the artist's artistic work with books and book pulp between 2001 and 2003. It includes texts by Ivan Callus, a poem specifically written for the artist by Joan Michelson, and an essay by the artist himself.
2004	45	Breakthrough Collective Exhibition, July 1 - August 29, Grote Kerk, The Hague, Netherlands.  (Archives of Ruth Bianco, Austin Camilleri, and Times of Malta)

release.

Ruth Bianco and Austin Camilleri were the two artists selected by a

works of art originating from the ten new member states of the EU.

This exhibition had no publicity in local media except for a short press

curatorial panel in Holland for *Breakthrough*, an exhibition of





(Raphael Vella's archive)



Austin Camilleri, Gnadelshul (2004)



Ruth Bianco, Wall of Prayer (2001-4)

2005	46	Blitz, curated by Raphael Vella,	And the state of t	
		March 31 - June 1, Birgu Shelters,	CTAIT	NAME OF TAXABLE PARTY.
		Birgu, Malta.		THE RESERVE TO SERVE THE RESERVE THE RESER
		Start: Blitz Exhibition.		
		(Archives of Ruth Bianco, Charles	COOPE DOLL HOUSING DECEMBERS.	Manager and the second
		Gatt, Patrick Fenech, and Pierre	A SECOND CONTRACTOR	THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF THE
		Portelli)	Blitz Sign	
		1 Greenly	2111, 21811	
		Blitz was a site-specific		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
		intervention in dialogue with this		Ruth Bianco, Solution (2005)
		World War II shelter.		
				4
		The challenges provoked by the		
		artists' work were an invitation to		
		the viewer to explore the labyrinth,		
		immerse themselves in its		
		memories, and seek out the art		
		therein. It engaged the viewer with		
		a reality that our ancestors		
		experienced as a starting point.		
			A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR	vintak V
		This exhibition was reviewed by		Charles Gatt, <i>Unplugged</i> (2005)
		local art reviewers. According to	A STATE OF THE STA	
		these reviews a large number of		
		people visited this exhibition. No	Savio Deguara,	
		number or statistics are available.		
			The Day Before (2005)	
		The participating artists were:		
		Norbert Francis Attard, Ruth		
		Blanco, Austin Camilleri, Savio		

		Deguara, Patrick Fenech, Charles Gatt, Anton Grech, Pierre Portelli, and Raphael Vella.		
2005- 2006	47	Digital Discourse The first event to exemplify this was Digital Discourse – an international collective exhibition of electronic and digital art organised between November 2005 and January 2006 [Figure 50]. This was curated by Vince Briffa as part of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) activities in Malta. A number of artists from various countries— namely Chris Meigh-Andrews (UK), Catherine Richards (Canada), Raqs Media Collective (India), Melita Couta (Cyprus), Daniel von Sturmer (New Zealand), Margaret Tan (Singapore), Minette Vari (South Africa), and Mark Mangion (Malta)—presented digital and video works.	AN INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF ELECTROPIC AND CHATAL AFT Current by Vince british on McCommick Catherine Richards.  Catherine Richards.  Meta Couta  Meta Couta  Mark Mangion Mana  Daniel von Sturmer Name  Minorite Vari  Chris Meigh-Andrews. UK	AN INTERMIDIONAL CONTINUES OF ELECTROPIC NO DICTAL ART. If and contain them for contains social.

Ruth Bianco, Don't Run Over the Birds, Please, March 17 - April 10, Valletta, National Museum of Fine Arts.  This can be considered one of the first solo exhibitions at the National Museum of Fine Arts in which a video piece is exhibited as the main and only artwork.  When in Brixton in 2003, Bianco improvised an installation which turned into a video piece of fifteen minutes in 2006.  (Ruth Bianco's archive)				
	2006	48	Birds, Please, March 17 - April 10, Valletta, National Museum of Fine Arts.  This can be considered one of the first solo exhibitions at the National Museum of Fine Arts in which a video piece is exhibited as the main and only artwork.  When in Brixton in 2003, Bianco improvised an installation which turned into a video piece of fifteen	OVER THE BIRDS, PLEASE  Offine by  RUTH-BIRNCO  17 March - 10 April 2006  Adding fails 1000on; 3.00 pm  NATIONAL MUSEUM OFFINE ARTS South street, volletto  Grass Addings of the Control o

2007 49 Artifecture, Malta Today on Sunday
Newspaper, regularly published
between January and April 2007,
curated by Vince Briffa.

Start: Artifecture Art Project.

(Vince Briffa, Patrick Fenech, and *Malta Today* Archive)

For this art project the artists used a local newspaper as an art space platform.

The reader of the *Malta Today on Sunday* paper would come across a large image of a local popular landmark or icon that covered the whole page. A closer look at this image would reveal unusual alterations. Most images were deliberately edited, while others had unconventional compositions.

No information was given to indicate what this was about except for the title of the works, the place where the photo had been taken, and the project title.





This is how it used to be shown on *Malta Today*. In this issue of February 2007 we see Raphael Vella's 'This Time We Are Ready for You'.



Vince Briffa, Happy People



Patrick Fenech, RTO (Riservato)

2007	50	In Search of Space Exhibitions		
		(Mark Mangion's archive)  The Search for a Space, Questioning Spaces was an art project lead by Mark Mangion. The aim was to look for a space which contemporary art could inhabit and grow within.	Image removed for copyright reasons  Fragments from a Studio	Image removed for copyright reasons
		There were five exhibitions with different topics which took place around Valletta and Marsa. These exhibitions were available for the audiences only for a few days, usually for less than a week. These were held between April and the first week of June. The participating artists were local and international artists.	Image removed for copyright reasons	
		The exhibitions were:	Asylum Seekers	Chroma
		Fragments from the Studio, April 5 - 8, Biagio Steps, Valletta; Duration, April 19 - 22, Waterfront Vault, Valletta; Asylum Seekers, May 5 - 6, Open Centre for Migrants, Marsa;		

		Chroma, May 17 - 20, Private Flat, Valletta.; Forbidden Spectacle May 31 - June 3, Valletta, Museum of Fine Arts, Valletta.	Image removed for copyright reasons  Forbidden Spectacle
2007	51	6collaborator8, August - September, Feldkirch, Austria, Palais Leichtenstein, and later in the Citadella, Gozo.  Two catalogues were published, one in Austria and another one was published in English and German.  This exhibition was a collaboration between three Maltese artists and three Austrian artists. The Maltese artists were Pierre Portelli, Vince Briffa, and Austin Camilleri, and the Austrian artists were Roland Adlassnigg, Arno Egger, and Herald Gfader.  No coverage or review on local media was found. Only a short	6 collabor 8 Austin Carelleri Negres Purselli Verice Birlis Austin Carelleri Peres Purselli Verice Birlis Austin Carelleri Peres Purselli Verice Birlis Austin Carelleri Peres Purselli Peres Pursell Peres Purselli Peres Purselli Peres Purselli Peres Purselli Per

		press release published on two leading local newspapers were available.	
2007	52	Quoting Caravaggio, curated by Keith Sciberras, July 25 - August 19, different locations around Valletta.  (University of Malta Library's Archive)	
		This exhibition formed part of two projects which celebrated the four hundred years since Caravaggio resided in Malta, and it was the main Visual Art Event of the Malta Arts Festival.	Vince Briffa, B
		The participating artists were: Gabriel Caruana (ceramics), Anton Calleja (painting), Vince Briffa (video installation), Guzeppi Schembri Bonaci (mixed media), and Caesar Attard (installation).	



Vince Briffa, Body of Glass – After Caravaggio (2006-7)



Caesar Attard, Searching for Caravaggio (2007)

## Raphael Vella, Reading Cabinets, 2007 -53 2007, installation piece: red cabinet 2008 and drawings of various dimensions, MUZA Heritage Malta Collection and Private Collection. (Raphael Vella's archive) Reading Cabinets presents and at the same time hides controversial subject matter drawings in red cabinets that must be opened and closed. These were shown in different places, including Modern Art Oxford (UK), Domaine Pommery (Reims, France) and St James Cavalier Centre for Creativity (Valletta, Malta). The drawings explore the links between religion, fundamentalism, and

terrorism.

## Image removed for copyright reasons

Modern Art Oxford (2007)



St James Cavalier Centre for Creativity (2008)

2008	54	Pierre Portelli, <i>Greymatter</i> , concrete, fabric, and mixed media, August 18 - September 21, Valletta, St James Cavalier Centre for Creativity. Private Collection.  With <i>Greymatter</i> Portelli created a small ecosystem within an enclosed space. The work was made up of three parts: a large block of concrete and two constructed upright walls found at either end of the large block of concrete. The element which ties the three segments together is a narrow strip of grass embedded within the concrete block. The strip of grass, which is watered regularly, has generated a certain amount of life.	
2008	55	Norbert Francis Attard, <i>Where are you from? Min fejn Int?</i> , 2008, 50 photographs, 3 x 2 m, September 25, 2008 - January 8, 2009, Freedom Square, Valletta. Part of Intercultural Dialogue Art Project. National Collection.  The photographic installation was placed in Freedom Square to raise awareness among Valletta visitors	STATE IL TORRE E PARAMENTA ANTONIO ANT



(Pierre Portelli's archive)



		about the different physiognomies of the Maltese people.  This can be considered the first contemporary public art installation commissioned by the government. Former contemporary works were placed in public spaces, but these had not been commissioned by the government.	(Norbert Francis A	ttard's archive)
2008	56	Malta Contemporary Art, Marsa, Malta, and <i>MCA 01</i> . [  (Archives of MCA, Pierre Portelli, and Author)  On December 4, 2008 the first official contemporary art space was inaugurated. The space—or rather a		eight eighteen 18 contemporary artists a Start project  Man Stare International Contemporary artists a Start project  Man Stare International Contemporary artists Act Contemporary Act Contemporar
		concept—was called Malta Contemporary Art, best known as MCA, and its founder was the artist Mark Mangion.	Malta Contemporary Art, Marsa	The state of the s

MCA was a warehouse measuring 450 square metres in Marsa. Before this date temporary spaces around the islands had become available for artists but none of these had the best overall environment required for contemporary art. MCA foundation introduced a space with large white walls with suitable lighting ideal for exhibiting contemporary art.

MCA 01, held between December 4 - 24, 2008, and entitled eight eighteen, was launched by MCA. This exhibition was curated by the artists' group Start, founded in 2002.

The participating artists were: Ruth Bianco, Elisa Von Brockdorff,



Mark Mangion, Depart (2008)



Anton Grech, Chimera (2008)



Austin Camilleri, *Kelma bejn Tnejn* (2008)



Ruth Bianco, *Black Island* (1997-2008)

Vince Briffa, Mark Anthony Lughermo, Austin Camilleri, George Mario Attard, Savio Deguara, Adrian Scicluna, Patrick Fenech, Kristina Borg, Anton Grech, Anabel Cordina, Mark Mangion, Fabrizio Ellul, Pierre Portelli, Karen Caruana, Raphael Vella, and Emanuel Bonnici.



Vince Briffa, *Double Portrait* (2008) Mark Anthony Lughermo, *Thanatos* (2008)



Patrick Fenech and Kristina Borg, Buy Two Get One Free (2008)



Raphael Vella, *Intercultural Dia(rrhoe)* (2008)



Pierre Portelli, GUN 1938 HATE 45 GUN 1940 LOVE (2008)



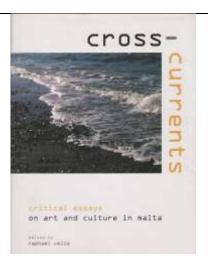
From left to right:
Adrian Scicluna, Fill in the blanks (2008)
and
Elisa von Brockdorff, Because you have
many reosons to forget you are going to
die (2008)



Emanuel Bonnici, *Choco(t)olic* (2008)

2008	57	Cross-Currents: Critical Essays on Art and Culture in Malta, edited by Raphael Vella (Malta: Allied Publications, 2008) and Seminar at MCA, Marsa, March 15, 2009.  (Author and Mark Mangion's Archive)
		Cross-Currents: Critical Essays on Art and Culture in Malta is a collection of essays that proposes new theoretical readings of the visual arts in Malta in 2008. This book can be considered the only available publication which deals with the development of contemporary art in Malta.

A seminar at MCA followed the publication of this book. This was the first time the public was invited to discuss contemporary art in Malta together with the authors of the essays.



Cross-Currenss: Critical Essays on Art and Culture in Malta Book Cover



Seminar at MCA, Marsa

2009	58	Mark Mangion, <i>MCA 03 Blackout</i> , March 5 - 18, Marsa, MCA.  (Mark Mangion's archive)  Black Out is a series of films and sculptures by Mark Mangion which pay homage to the dangerous and often tragic exodus of African migrants to the Western world.  Using a spatial, physical format of real-time documentary, these films	Image removed for copyright reasons  MCA 03 Blackout
2009	59	focus on situations based on integration as a space for discussion and storytelling.  Between 2007 and 2011, Malta was on the front line of the Arab Spring.  Exhibitions at MCA, Marsa.  (Mark Mangion's archive)  A number of important contemporary solo and group exhibitions were held at MCA, Marsa, most of which were curated by Mark Mangion.  The exhibitions were: Rupert Ackroyd, MCA 02 Moon Under Water;	Image removed for copyright reasons  MCA 02 Moon Under Water  Image removed for copyright reasons  MCA 04 New Plane

		Tatiana Echeverri Fernandez, MCA 04 New Plane; Martina Schmuecker, MCA 05 Visual Mechanics; MCA 06 The World Next Door, curated by Ruth Bianco, featuring Reem Bader, Maria Papanastasiou, Sumita Chauhan, Linda Gibson, Leah Decter, Jospehin Turalba, Esin Croft, and Ruth Bianco; Douglas White, MCA 07 Masquerade; Stuart Croft, MCA 08 The Death Waltz.	Image removed for copyright reasons  MCA 05 Visual Mechanics	Image removed for copyright reasons  MCA 07 Masquerade
2009	60	Square, curated by Pierre Portelli, April 3 - 19, Valletta, No. 68.  (Blitz and Pierre Portelli's Archive)  No. 68 was launched in October 2008 by Alexandra Pace. It is an old house in Valletta which was turned into a new contemporary exhibition space. A number of important exhibitions took place here, including Square.  The aim of this art project was to present a collective exhibition of square artworks from a diverse spectrum of artists following one	No. 68	Square Exhibition Catalague, first page

		restriction; all the exhibited work had to be 10 x 10 inches in measurement.	
2009	61	Raphael Vella, <i>Pornolitics</i> , September 4 - October 4, photography, 30 x 20 cm (x 10), Valletta, St James Cavalier Centre for Creativity. MUŻA Heritage Malta Collection.  Pornolitics was commissioned for the Malta Arts Festival but was subsequently censored by the organisers themselves. After being excluded from the festival, Pornolitics was exhibited at St James Cavalier Centre for Creativity in Valletta.  In the context of the controversies, Raphael Vella decided to cover each 'offending' image of Maltese politicians with a thin film of silver acrylic paint that could be scratched off by members of the public. During the opening, people took turns to scratch off the paint and thus 'liberate' Malta from censorship, exposing the images beneath.	(Raphael Vella's archive)
1			(Kaphaci v cha s archive)

2010 62 MCA 09 A New Generation, curated by Mark Mangion, January 14 - February 7, Valletta, MCA, St James Cavalier Centre for Creativity. (Mark Mangion's Archive) This exhibition marks the move to MCA's new galleries in Valletta and its collaboration with St James Cavalier Foundation. A New Generation was a group show of 10 emerging Maltese artists all of whom formed part of MCA's Studio & Research Programme, which commenced in November 2009.

The participating artists were: Adrian Abela, George Mario Attard, John Paul Caruana, Maria Bonnici, Karen Caruana, Dustin Cauchi, Selina Scerri, Teresa Sciberras, Elisa von Brockdorff, and Michael Xuereb. 2010s







Exhibition Catalogue Cover and general views of the exhibition

2010	63	MCA, Upper Galleries, St James Cavalier Centre for Creativity, Valletta.  (Mark Mangion's archive)  After the move of MCA from Marsa to Valletta, more focus was given to group contemporary exhibitions curated by foreign	Image removed for copyright reasons	Image removed for copyright reasons
		curators.  The exhibitions were:  MCA 10 Upon Arrival. Spatial Explorations, curated by Margit Neuhold, and featuring Sabine Bitter/Helmut Weber, Michael Gumhold, Nikola Hansalik, Veronika Hauer, Andreas Heller, Nicole Six/Paul Petritsch, and Gerald Straub.  MCA 11 Transit Station, curated by Kris Van Dessel, and featuring Kris Van Dessel, Christian Noirfalise, Olphaert Den Otter, and Jean Marie Bytebier.	Image removed for copyright reasons  MCA 12	Image removed for copyright reasons  MCA 13
		MCA 12 Embassy of the Liquid States, featuring Ingrid Buchwald		

Eguia, Jaume Simo Sabater I
Garau, and Manuel Saiz.

MCA 13 The Fight Against Vegetation, curated by Mark Mangion and featuring Cyprien Gaillard.

MCA 14 'The Grid System' A Regime, curated by Mark Mangion, featuring Jess Flood-Paddock and Spartacus Chetwynd.

MCA 16 Austin Camilleri

Image removed for copyright reasons



MCA 16

MCA 14

2010	64	MCA 15 Geography Of Proximity, October 14 - November 14, curated by Roberto Daolio and Alessandro Castiglioni, Valletta, MCA, Upper Galleries, St James Cavalier Centre for Creativity.  (Mark Mangion's archive)	Image removed for copyright reasons	Image removed for copyright reasons
		This collective exhibition formed part of the Little Constellation Art project which was later published.  The participating artists were: Barbara Bühler, Rita Canarezza and Pier Paolo Coro, Giancarlo Norese and Umberto Cavenago, Haris Epaminonda, Nina Danino, Irena Lagator, Ingibjörg Magnadóttir, Pierre Portelli, Mark Mangion, and Trixi Weis.	Ingibjörg Magnadóttir, <i>The Anxiety of Now</i> Performance (2010)	Rita Canarezza and Pier Paolo Coro, Winston Churchill Avenue (2010), video, sound 4"52 sec.

2011	66	Launch of the National Cultural Policy  The policy was launched for the first time in 2011.  In 2008, culture became a political priority. The Creative Economy Working Group was appointed to draft Malta's national cultural	
		The National Cultural Policy draft was presented to the Cabinet of Ministers and launched for public consultation in 2010. The final cultural policy document was launched in July 2011.	
		The policy's vision was to transform cultural and creative activity into the most dynamic facet of Malta's socio-economic life in the twenty-first century.	Politika Kulturali Nazzjonali Malta 2011

National Cultural Policy Cover (Author's archive)

2011	67	Vince Briffa, <i>Terrain Vague</i> , April 21 - May 22, Valletta, Upper Galleries, St James Cavalier Centre
		for Creativity.
		(Vince Briffa's archive)
		After the official closing of the
		MCA, the same space within St
		James Cavalier Centre for
		Creativity was used to exhibit high-profile exhibitions.
		One of the first exhibitions was

One of the first exhibitions was *Terrain Vague*. This had a body of work in video, painting, and photography.

It was also one of the first exhibition collaborations between the National Museum of Fine Arts and St James Cavalier Centre for Creativity,



Between Smoke And Clouds (2010-11)



The Length of Breath (2010-11)

2011	

68

Contemporary Sounds, July 10 - 24, Valletta, Upper Galleries, St James Cavalier Centre for Creativity.

(Archives of Spazju Kreattiv, Pierre Portelli, Ruth Bianco, Austin Camilleri, and Author)

The exhibition was organised by the Malta Association for Contemporary Music in collaboration with St James Cavalier Centre for Creativity. For the first-time composers and visual artists worked together in an interdisciplinary process to create visual art and a contemporary music piece.

The collaborating artists and composers were; Pierre Portelli with Albert Garzia (*Spokes*), Ruth Bianco with Mariella Cassar (*Daria's Vision*), and Austin Camilleri with Reuben Pace (*L-Aħħar Moll*).



Contemporary Sounds
Programme



Austin Camilleri with Reuben Pace, *L-Aħħar Moll* (2011)



Ruth Bianco with Mariella Cassar, Daria's Vision (2011)



Pierre Portelli with Albert Garzia, *Spokes* (2011)

T				
2011	69	I Fought the X and the X Won, July		
		15 - August 15, Valletta, National		
		Museum of Fine Arts.	Image removed	Imaga ramayad
				Image removed
		(MUŻA Heritage Malta Archive)	for	for
		This exhibition formed part of the <i>Malta Arts Festival</i> and it brought together artists from Malta, Romania, Greece, Italy, France,	copyright reasons	copyright reasons
		Poland, Austria, Albania, Slovakia, Canada, and the United States. This was the first exhibition at the National Museum of Fine Arts where most of the works were video art installations or conceptual contemporary pieces. It was curated	Adrian Scicluna, Billiards 2 (2011), aluminium colour print, 42 x 59.4 cm	Dimitrios Antonitsis,  Where the Queen Stands Guard #1, #2 (2007), bubble-jet on gold foil, 62 x 40 cm (x4)
		by Raphael Vella in collaboration with Muzeul de Artă, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, and organised by artists Dionisis Christofilogiannis and Adrian Scicluna		removed or
		The participating artists were: Dimitrios Antonitsis, Vince Briffa, Gabriel Brojboiu, Austin Camilleri, Dionisis Christofilogiannis, Radu		nt reasons
		Comsa, Baptiste Debombourg, Sharon Engelstein, Petra Feriancova, Ry Fyan, Helidon Gjergji, Gabriele Grones, Ewa Kuras, Eva Mitala, Michal		The School of Athens (2010), s, 74 x 126 cm

		Moravcik, Tarohei Nakagawa, Adrian Scicluna, Artan Shabani, Katharina Swoboda, Dimitris Tataris, Raphael Vella, and Siebren Versteeg.		
2011-2012	70	Aux Armes, December 9, 2011 - January 15, 2012, Valletta, Upper Galleries, St James Cavalier Centre for Creativity.  (Raphael Vella's archive)  This exhibition was a collaboration between Raphael Vella and Baptiste Debombourg. The title, Aux Armes, references the call to arms in 'La Marseillaise', the French National Anthem. The exhibition is an artistic statement against the increasing rate of violence and terrorism that is present around us.  The Upper Galleries served as a space to narrate contemporary issues.	AUX ARMES  Upper Carteries, St. Aurent Consider Desperter Consider, Valentia 9th December 2011 - 15th January 2012  MAFE 191  Aux Armes Exhibition Poster	Image removed for copyright reasons  Baptiste Debombourg, Arc (2011) (Raphael Vella's Archive)

2012	71	6:6, May 26 - June 16, Sliema, Lily Agius Gallery.  6:6 presented works by six emerging and six established contemporary Maltese artists. This multimedia exhibition showcased a cross section of Maltese contemporary art. Contemporary and innovative exhibitions in private owned galleries were an isolated experience in Malta.	Ritty Tacsum, Streets of Valletta (2011) (Ritty Tacsum's archive)
			Emanuel Bonnici, Go Figure (2011) (Emanuel Bonnici's archive)

2012 72	Wicc Imb'Wicc /Images of the Self, curated by Austin Camilleri, July 4 - 22, Valletta, Upper Galleries, St James Cavalier Centre for Creativity.  This exhibition formed part of the Malta Arts Festival.  In this collective exhibition, the visitors could experience works by Tracey Emin, Zarko Baseski, Domenique de Beir, Jessica Harrison, Davor Ljubicic, and Asa Riton; together with the works of Vince Briffa, Raphael Vella, John Paul Azzopardi, Elisa von Brockdorff, and Joseph Calleja. A nineteenth century self-portrait by Guseppe Hyzler was also on exhibition and was on loan from the National Museum of Fine Arts, Malta.	Wićć Imb'Wićć /Images of the Self Exhibition Catalogue Cover (Author's archive)
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2012	73	Threshold, November 2 - December 2, Valletta, Upper Galleries, St James Cavalier Centre for Creativity.  (Spazju Kreattive Archive)  St James Cavalier Centre for Creativity in collaboration with the British Council brought to Malta Thresholds. For this exhibition artist Paula Rego selected a number of works from the British Council Collection which were initially exhibited at the Whitechapel Gallery. This exhibition travelled to Malta and then to Macedonia, Skopje, Museum of Contemporary Art.

This exhibition had over fifty works by artists of the twentieth century which were mostly works on paper. The exhibition included Gwen John, Wyndham Lewis, Cecil Beaton, Edward Burra, Graham Sutherland, and Lucian Freud.



Threshold Exhibition Poster



Threshold Book Cover

2012- today	74	Divergent Thinkers Exhibition, curated by Raphael Vella, different venues around Malta.  Agenzija Żgħażagħ (Youth Agency), in collaboration with St James Cavalier Centre for Creativity and other local entities, organises a yearly collective exhibition to empower young artists.  Every year one of the participants wins a month-long residency in Virginia University. One winner	Emanuel Bonnici, <i>Quintet</i> (2012) (Emanuel Bonnici's archive)	Darren Tanti, Mother and Garment (2013) (Darren Tanti's archive)
2013	75	also went to Japan.  Milkshake, March 8 - May 7, Valletta, Upper Galleries, St James Cavalier Centre for Creativity.  The project coordinator was Gilbert Calleja. It curated by Lisa Gwen Baldacchino, in collaboration with the Malta Gay Rights Movement.  (Gilbert Calleja's Archive)  The queer body and the Maltese were the main subjects of Milkshake, a four-part, multi-media artistic project focusing on the way	Gilbert Calleja, Madame J' Adore (2012)	Image removed for copyright reasons  Alexandra Pace, Soldierboy14 (2012)

		the body is seen, shown, flaunted, hidden, or concealed. This project questioned Malta's conservative values and its outlook on gender.  The participating artists were: Caesar Attard, Norbert Francis Attard, Alexandra Pace, Robert Zahra, Pierre Portelli, Phil Sayers, Luke Galea, Caldon Mercieca, Sue Mifsud, Austin Camilleri, Nadine Noko, Adrian Gauci, Glen Calleja, Ritty Tacsum, Matthew Attard Navarro, Ryan Falzon, Emanuel Bonnici, Sarah Maria Scicluna, Roxanne Gatt, and Simon Bartolo.	Adrian Gauci, Sheep Dissection (2012)
2013	75	Re-Visit, the Contemporary Face of Faith, curated by Vince Briffa in collaboration with the Jesuits, March 22 - April 7, featured in five Roman Catholic Churches around Valletta.  Re-Visit is a different take on the seven visits to the alter of repose that is for many Catholics a habitual ritual which takes place on Holy Thursday or Good Friday during Lent.	Image removed for copyright reasons  *Re-Visit* Exhibition Poster*

		The participating artists were: Vince Briffa, Austin Camilleri, Charles Gatt, Pierre Portelli, Malcolm Bonello, and visiting artist Jesuit Daniel LeBlond JS.	Pierre Portelli, <i>Anastasis</i> (2013) (Pierre Portelli's archive)	Austin Camilleri, <i>Deposition</i> (2013) (Austin Camilleri's archive)
2013	76	Swim: Fragile Interventions, curated by Austin Camilleri, July 2 - 31, Birgu, Malta, Malta Maritime Museum.  (Austin Camilleri's archive)  This exhibition formed part of the Malta Arts Festival.  This exhibition explored peripheral identities, geopolitics, and territory issues. The participating artists were: Alicia Eggert + Mike Fleming, Pierre Portelli, Denis Pondruel, Ulrika Sparre, Pawl Carbonaro, Adrian Abela, Filippo	Swim Exhibition Catalogue	Image removed for copyright reasons  Alicia Eggert + Mike Fleming, You are on (an) Island (2011)

		Leonardi, and Strijdom van der	
2012	77	Merwe.	
2013 -	77	Foundation of Blitz –	
ongoing		Contemporary Art Space in	
		Valletta, Malta.	
		DII	
		Blitz was founded in June 2013 as	
		an artist-run contemporary arts	Image removed
		space.	
			for
		The same space in 2009 was known	101
		as No. 68 but the owner of the	convicient reacons
		place, Alexandra Pace, decided to	copyright reasons
		change it to a non-profit	
		organisation in 2013.	
		<b>T</b>	
		Important contemporary	
		exhibitions, residency programmes,	
		and talks both by Maltese and	(Blitz Archive)
		foreign creators are held within	
		Blitz.	

2013	78	Hermetik, curated by Michael Bock, October, Sliema, Malta, Fort Tigné.	Norbert Francis Attard Raphael Vella Tom Van Malderen	
		(Archives of Norbert Francis Attard, Tom van Malderen, and Raphael Vella.)	INSTALLATIONS Curater Michael Book	
		Hermetik was a site exhibition installation which grouped three artists: Norbert Francis Attard, Raphael Vella, and Tom Van Malderen.	Fort Tigne Typne Point Diama Stulla Date 1202 and Out 18-20 2013 18 one 101 8 per Insugarassim Out 18 Spen Hermetik Exhibition Leaflet	(P)
		This exhibition was a unique opportunity for the artists to work on a large scale while presenting their personal interpretation of the place Fort Tigné and the space.		(Pa
		Hermetik was about self-protection from an external source of danger; this is also the whole point of a military building like Fort Tigné.		
			Norbert Francis Attard, De-fence (2013)	



Raphael Vella, *Arcadia* (Parasites in Paradise) (2013)



Tom Van Malderen, Dancing in the Dark (2013)

2014	79	Made in MT: Maltese Art Now, curated by Vince Briffa, April 28 - May 20, Brussels, Belgium, Dar Malta.  (Norbert Francis Attard and Vince Briffa's archive)  A collective exhibition showcasing Maltese contemporary art coincided with the tenth anniversary of Malta's membership in the European Union.
		The participating artists were: Caesar Attard, Norbert Francis ttard, Ruth Bianco, Austin Camilleri, Pawl Carbonaro, Alfred Chircop, Patrick J Fenech, Charles Gatt, Pierre Portelli, Joseph Saliba, and Raphael Vella.



Made in MT Exhibition Poster



General View of Exhibition

2014	80	Startle: A Start Documentary, curated by Patrick Fenech, May 5 - 25, Valletta, Spazju Kreattiv (previously known as St James Cavalier Centre for Creativity).  The Startle exhibition was about the contemporary art group Start. This exhibition formed part of the fourth EU OMC artist-in-residency programme at Spazju Kreattiv.  The purpose of the exhibition was to illustrate the achievements of the Start group between 2002 and 2007.	STARTLE ASTARDOUMENTARY
		2007.	Total Day of State and Action of State and Act

2014 -	81	VIVA: Valletta Visual Art Festival,
ongoing		September, held in different venues around Valletta, Malta.
		It is a festival coordinated by Raphael Vella and later by Spazju Kreattiv. It was supported by Government Entities.
		The main purpose of <i>VIVA</i> was to create a platform for contemporary art in Malta in the local cultural scene.
		This programme comprises public art works, exhibitions, talks, and screenings of art films. It also launched the Curatorial School. This is a pedagogical event which is held annually.

Image removed for copyright reasons

Nicola Trezzi interviewing Mieke Bal, at Pjazza Teatru Rjal, Valletta © Elisa von Brockdorff



Curatorial Summer School, Old University Building, Valletta

(Spazju Kreattive Archive)

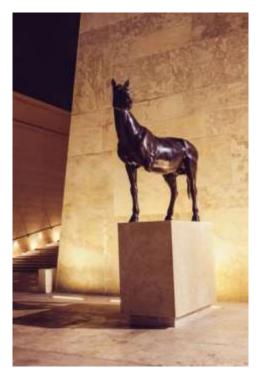
Austin Camilleri, *Zieme*, bronze, 400 x 90 x 260 cm, *VIVA*, Valletta. Private Collection.

Zieme was one of the public art works which were on show during

Zieme was one of the public art works which were on show during VIVA 2014. Due to its elegant but at the same time provocative nature, this work can be considered one of the first contemporary works which really made the general public, the media, and politicians question the role of contemporary art.

This was installed in front of the newly built Maltese parliament in Valletta.

In 2016, *Zieme* headlined the exhibition, *The Last Oland Horse*, at the Kalmar Konstmuseum, Sweden.







(Austin Camilleri's archive)

2014	83	Contemporary Art Projects held at Pjazza Teatru Rjal (Open Theatre Square)
		(Norbert Francis Attard's archive)
		The board at the Pjazza Teatru Rja (PTR) supported contemporary art practitioners by commissioning site-specific contemporary artwork which were exhibited around the theatre premises.
		For the site-specific art projects

For the site-specific art projects, leading artists such as Norbert Francis Attard, Vince Briffa, Tom van Malderen, and Pierre Portelli; but also up-and-coming artists including Adrian Abela, Maxine Attarrd, Aaron Bezzina, Elisa von Brockdorff, and Victor Agius were involved.



Vince Briffa, Kiss the Sky (2014)



Maxine Agius, Inhabit (2016)

2015 - ongoing	84	Mdina Contemporary Art Biennale  The Mdina Biennale is a collective	
		art exhibition which traces its roots back to the previous Christian and Sacred Art Biennale which was inaugurated the first time in 1968 and was still being organised in the 1990s.  Until 2017, there were two editions, the first of which was held between November 2015 and January 2017, and the second between November 2017 and January 2018. Local and international artists participate.	Image removed for copyright reasons
			Printscreen from Mdina Contemporary Art Biennale 2017-2018 Edition

2016	85	Arts Council Malta launched the <i>Malta Showcase</i> in February 2016. The <i>Malta Showcase</i> was a curated collection of contemporary dance, music, visual arts, and performance created in Malta and available for programming internationally by cultural organisations.  The programme was based on a public call for proposed events and considered work that had already been created by Maltese artists. The 2016 edition included fifty-four artistic projects, including thirteen	PORTFOLIO 2015  PORTFOLIO 2015  MAL TASHOW
2016	86	Norbert Francis Attard, <i>Exile</i> , October 2016, juxtaposed photographic collage, different dimensions, exhibited at Strasbourg, the Council of Europe.  This works was censored by a European Member of Parliament.  The images used were comments on controversial and political subjects related to different countries and religions.	Malta Showcase Porfolio (Author's archive)  Norbert Francis Attard, Exile (Norbert Francis Attard's archive)

2017	87	Homo Melitensis: An Incomplete	
		Inventory in 19 Chapters, curated	
		by Raphael Vella and Bettina	at 20 at 10 lb 10
		Hutschek, May 9 - November 22,	
		Malta Pavilion, 56 <sup>th</sup> edition of the	
		Venice Biennale, Arsenale, Venice.	(pi 20 20 20 1
		The Maltese Pavilion returned after	
		seventeen years of absence. Arts	
		Council Malta acted as the	homo melitensis
		commissioner on the behalf of the	
		Maltese Government.	
			malta pavilion
		The participating artists were:	
		Aaron Bezzina, Gilbert Calleja,	Manual Sections Secretaria State Control of
		Darren Tanti, Austin Camilleri,	
		Karine Rougier, Roxman Gatt, Pia	Harris M. Program Forbible of Control of Control
		Borg, Adrian Abela, Teresa	Homo Melitensis, Malta Pavilion Exhibtion Catalogue Cover and
		Sciberras, and John Paul	The Word's Future, Venice Biennale Exhibition Catalogue Cover
		Azzopardi.	The word's Future, Venice Biennale Exhibition Catalogue Cover
			(Author's archive)

2017		TIT D 0 1 22721	T
2017	88	The Re-Opening of MCA	
		Malta Contemporary Art (MCA) reopened in June 2017 and was relocated in Felix Street, Valletta. This was managed by Mark Mangion.  In 2017 three exhibitions were held:  A Tranquil Star featuring works by Salvatore Arancio, Haris Espaminonda, Anthea Hamilton & Nicholas Byrne, and Basim Magdy;  I am the body of a human by	Image removed for copyright reasons  Fenêtreproject, No Minimum Presence Required
		Andrew Birk; and No Minimum Presence Required by Fenêtreproject.	(Fenêtreproject and MCA Archive)

2017	89	Valletta Contemporary, East Street, Valletta.  Valletta Contemporary (VC) was launched in December 2017. Norbert Francis Attard is the founder and artistic director and it is run by the META Foundation.  This contemporary art space was designed to host local and international art works and exhibitions. The official opening was in April 2018.	
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Interior, Valletta Contemporary (Norbert Francis Attard's archive)