

Front Cover

Mother's Day oil on canvas 168×145

ITHAKAS Zenon Jepras

JUNE 2021 • ALPHA C.K. ART GALLERY



What These Ithakas Mean

Σὰ βγεῖς στὸν πηγαιμὸ γιὰ τὴν Ἰθάκη, νὰ εὔχεσαι νἆναι μακους ὁ δοόμος, γεμάτος πεοιπέτειες, γεμάτος γνώσεις.

> As you set out for Ithaka hope the voyage is a long one, full of adventure, full of discovery.

So begins the famous poem of C P Kavafy about the journey of Odysseus back to his rocky island home. Just as generations of sailors can empathize with the vagaries of the sea, so artists and writers down through the ages have re-imagined the myth. In contemporary allegorical and symbolic terms we characterize the many trials and obstacles, monsters and temptations that block and distract from life's path. Odysseus is the Everyman that elevates us all from merely human Nobodies tiptoeing through the everyday, to captains of spectacular adventure. Like the Poet, it is the painter's job to recognize the heroic in everyone who navigates through the turmoil of events, the existential threats and anxieties that come at us everyday. But in so doing, as the destination comes into view, we grow richer and wiser; the paint dries, the layers thicken.

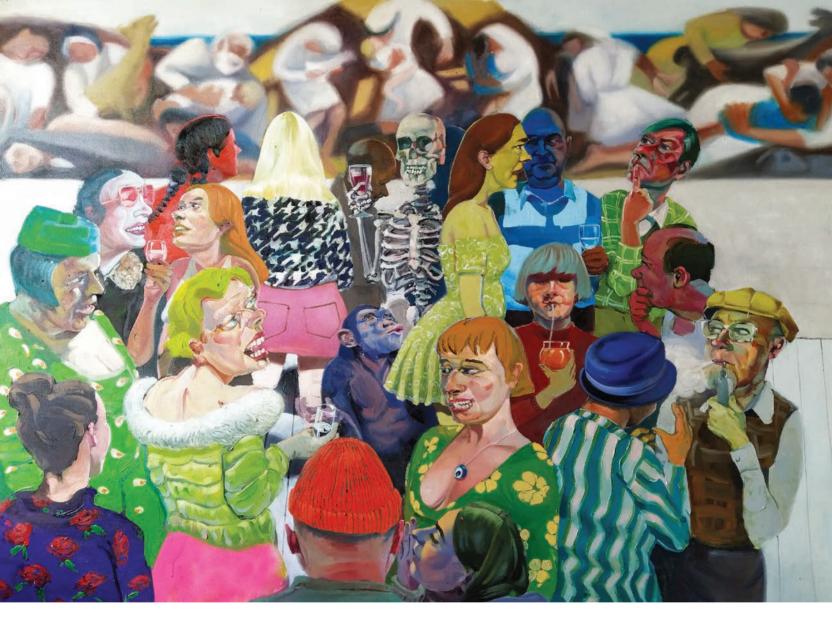
Κι ἂν πτωχική τὴν βρῆς, ή Ἰθάκη δὲν σὲ γέλασε. Ἔτσι σοφὸς ποὺ ἔγινες, μὲ τόση πείρα, ἤδη θὰ τὸ κατάλαβες ή Ἰθάκες τί σημαίνουν.

> And if you find her poor, Ithaka won't have fooled you. Wise as you will have become, so full of experience, you will have understood by then what these Ithakas mean.

[C.P. Kavafy "Ithaka". Translation copyright © 1975 by Edmund Keeley. Princeton University Press]

Zenon Jepras, 2021

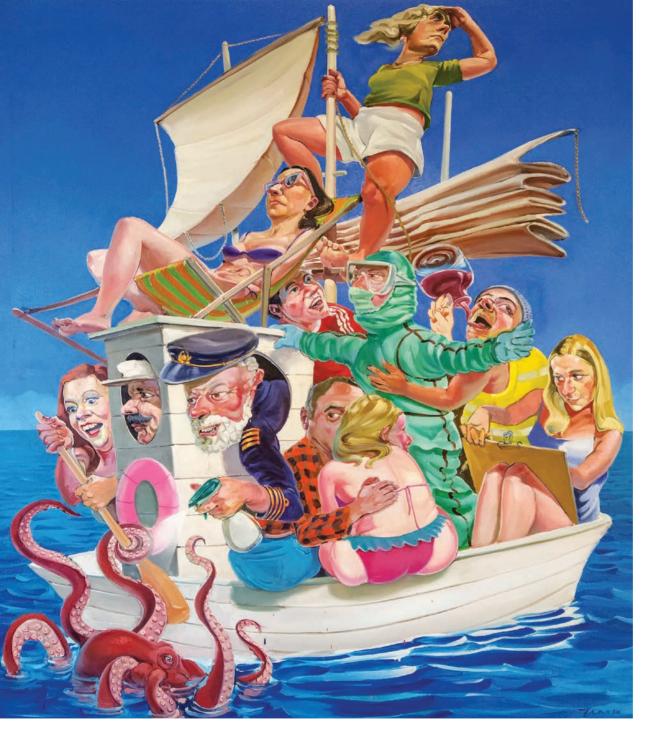
Opposite Page Odysseus Unbound (original version) oil on canvas 180×160



Private View oil on canvas 140x200



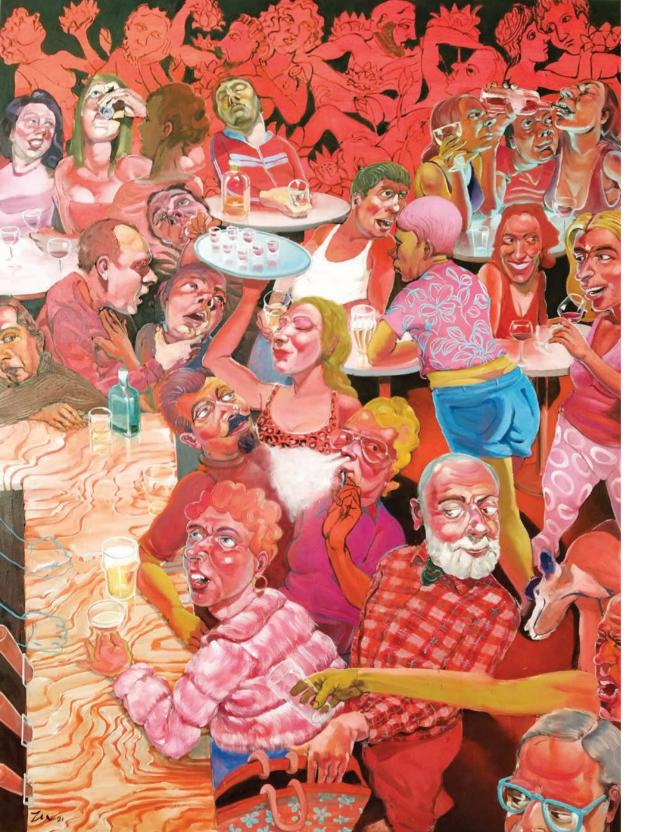
The Moths of Ithaкa oil on canvas I 50x200



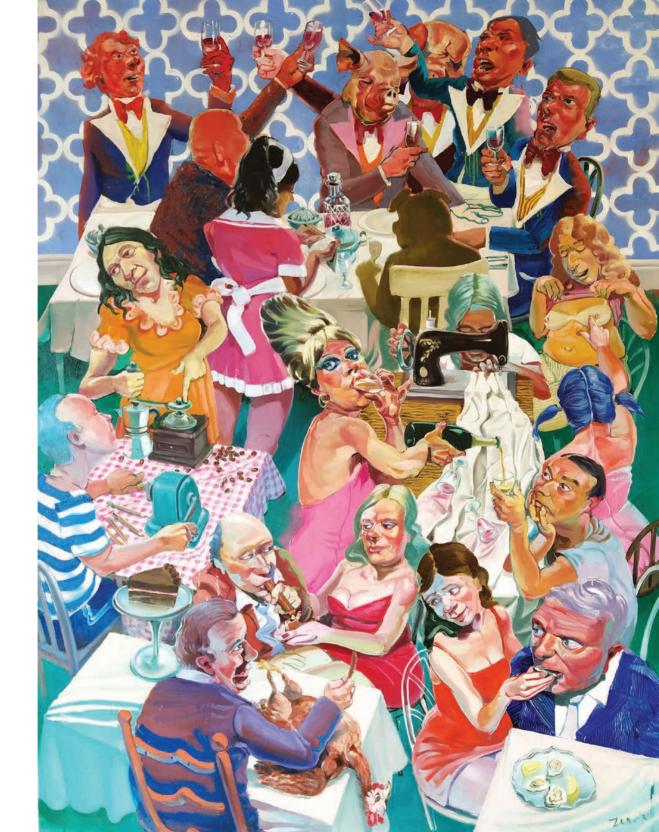
Scylla oil on canvas 180×160



The Raft oil on canvas 180x150



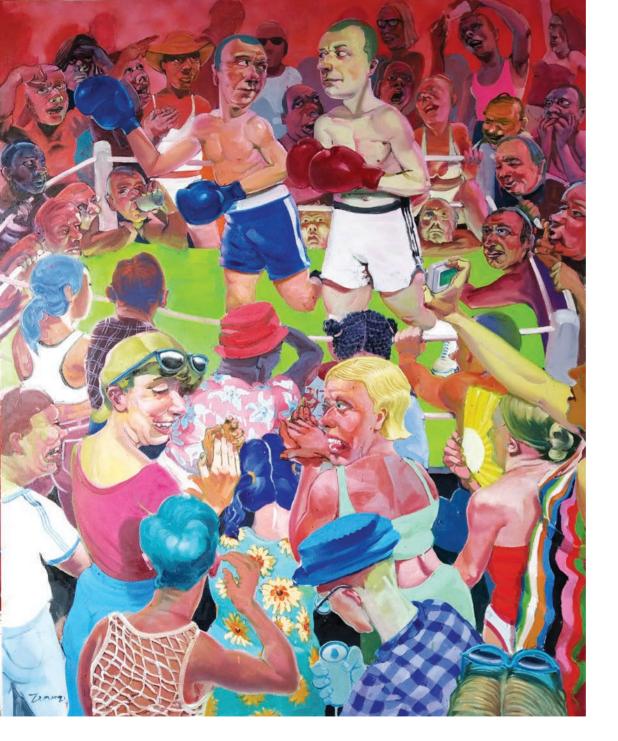
The Lotus Eaters oil on canvas 200×150



Circe's Private Members Club oil on canvas 200×150



Diogenes of Green Lanes oil on canvas 162x240



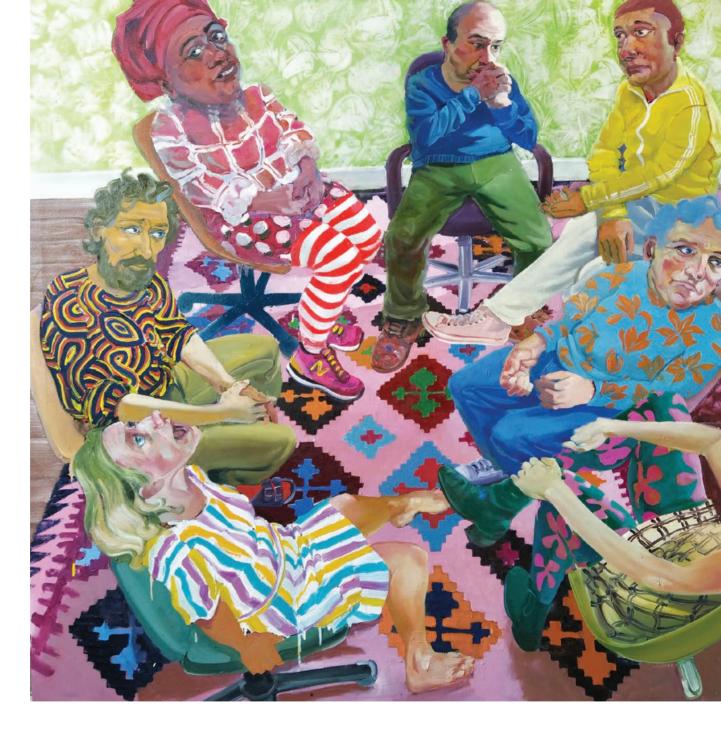
The Ring oil on canvas 180×150



Polyphemus's Cocktail Bar oil on canvas 180x160



The Rule of Six oil on canvas 160x168



Artists' Group Therapy oil on canvas 150×150



Έχω Παττίχα oil on canvas 200×150



ZENON JEPRAS

He was born in 1969 in Cardiff, Wales. He studied painting at the Glasgow School of Art in Scotland from where he graduated with Honors.

A genuine figurative artist, Jepras' work focuses strongly on the tradition of narrative painting and telling stories through the using the language of painting - colour, texture, emotion and symbolism. Mythology and history blend with current social and political trends to produce powerful and vivid that create a narrative for the viewer to decode and unravel.

He presented his work in many solo and group exhibitions in Cyprus, Greece, the UK, Portugal, and Germany. His work is in the permanent collections of the Cypriot State Collection of Contemporary Art, the Central Bank of Cyprus Collection, the Bank of Cyprus Collection, the Nikos Pattichis Collection, the Luciano Benetton Collection and in numerous private collections in Cyprus, Greece, the US and the UK. He is the 1993 winner of the "Liquitex International Painting Prize", awarded by the American Art Council, New York.

Solo Exhibitions (selection)

- 2019 How to Be Happy, Alpha C.K. Art Gallery, Nicosia
- 2017 Killing Time, Alpha C.K. Art Gallery, Nicosia
- 2015 Zenon Jepras: Painting, Morfi Gallery, Limassol
- 2014 Playgrounds of Forgetting, Alpha C.K. Art Gallery, Nicosia
- 2012 Not Exactly Memory, Alpha Gallery, Nicosia
- 2011 Personal Moments, DP Gallery, Limassol
- 2010 Out of the Sand, Alpha Gallery, Nicosia
- 2009 Gorilla, Gloria Gallery, Nicosia
- 2009 Lost Heritage, Gallery K, London
- 2008 Deconstructing Troy, Royal Commonwealth Society Club, London
- 2008 Recent Work, C.K. Art Gallery, Nicosia
- 2007 Small Rooms, Morfi Gallery, Limassol
- 2006 Cacophony, Gallery K, London
- 2006 Short Stories, Gloria Gallery, Nicosia
- 2004 Maternity, Gallery K, Nicosia
- 2003 Kiss, Gallery K, London
- 2002 The Colour of Memory, Gloria Gallery, Nicosia
- 2001 Angelopathia, Gloria Gallery, Nicosia

Group Exhibitions (selection)

- 2014 The Lovely Gallery, London
- 2013 Art-Athina International Contemporary Art Fair, Athens
- 2012 a arte do previsível, Cordoaria Nacional, Lisbon
- 2010 1960-2010: Glances at Cyprus Art, Gallery Hotel de Sauroy, Paris
- 2010 Visual Rhythms, Municipal Cultural Centre-Melina Mercouri, Nicosia
- 2009 Five Cypriot Artists, Brom Gallery, Helsinki
- 2008 Where Do We Go From Here?, Municipal Arts Centre, Nicosia
- 2005 Municipal Gallery, Thessaloniki
- 2004 Kulturaljahr der Zehn, Gallery Tammen & Busch, Berlin
- 2000 Twelve Cypriot Artists, Ioannina City Hall, Ioannina



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