ANTON AGIUS - ILLUSTRATOR

Submitted by Joe Scicluna



Sunday, 26th October 2008

Humble man who created great works

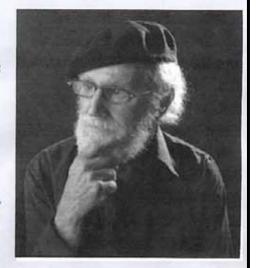
Pauleen Micallef, St Paul's Bay

The artist Anton Agius, who died last Sunday aged 74, was a humble man with eruptive talent. He delved deeply in every subject - every sculpture he produced is so eloquent. His public monuments depict stories of past suffering, struggles and triumphs of our society.

Even though he went through some very bad experiences in life, he kept producing works, sometimes triple his size, in his studio in Rabat, with his usual friends and unwanted dogs, also becoming his mates, watching over him. His lovely wife Marie Louise would also check on him, as she was his constant supportive pillar.

I feel privileged to have taken part in a few exhibitions alongside this master. Three years ago, I was also fortunate to join Mr Agius on a cultural tour of Paris organised by Fr Marius Zerafa. It was a great experience. Thank you, Anton.

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Portrait of Anton Agius by Kevin Casha.

Anton Agius (1933 - 2008) is my favourite Maltese First Day Cover Illustrator, mostly for the detail he put in his art work mostly during the 1960's - 70's before he became one of the better known Maltese sculptors. His obituary, which gives a good account of him is shown above.

I am enclosing a list of all the illustrations that I could find produced by him. I am certain that there must be more that can be added to this list. Reports of additional philatelic material by Anton Agius will be appreciated.

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F.D.C. Illustrations overleaf

- (1)1966 Malta Trade Fair
- (2)1966 Christmas
- (3)1967 St. Peter & St. Paul
- (4) 1967 Melchiore Gafa
- (5) 1967 Architecture
- (6) 1967 Christmas
- (7) 1968 Trade Fair
- (8) 1968 La Valette
- (9) 1968 Christmas

- (10) 1969 Ghandi
- (11) 1969 International Labour Org.
- (12) 5th Anniversary of Independence
- (13) 1969 Christmas
- (14) 1966 Kennedy
- (15) 1970 Art Exhibition
- (16) De Soidanis & Dun Karm
- (17) 1971 Religious
- (18) 1970 Definitives

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