

28<sup>th</sup> February, 2007 **Press Kit**



Enabling great talents to  
shine the way they deserve...

# North-West Exposure:

## *"China Laid Bare"*

An exhibition of fine artworks by **Frank MacKenzie**

Paintings & Drawings will be on display from  
13 April to 13 May and 27 May till 30 June 2007

**the coffee connoisseur "The Gallery"**  
51 Circular Road

Opening Hours :

Sunday to Thursday & Public Holidays 11am to 12am

Friday, Saturday & Eve of Public Holidays 11am to 2am



presented by:



the coffee connoisseur

another art event by:



Enabling great talents to  
shine the way they deserve...

with the kind support of:



Australian Government

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

tcc's latest exhibition at "The Gallery" will be showcasing more than 20 unique Paintings & Drawings by Australian artist Mr **Frank MacKenzie**.

The exhibition will be on display from 13 April to 14 May and 27 May to 30 June 2007

Media enquiries for the exhibition.

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Australian artist Frank MacKenzie, best known for his unique and confronting charcoal, ink and pastel renderings of the nude human figure, has now turned his attention and his skills to China's little known far north-west corridor, where people, land, desert and townscapes are still cloaked in an aura of mystery.

In a series of paintings and drawings, this free spirited Australian observer brings us the fruits of an exploratory foray commencing at Urumgi , progressing along the Silk Route, to the edges of the Gobi. His subjects include the spectacular Flaming Mountain, the ruins of Jiaohe with their ancient & decrepit fortifications, the 5000 year old Dunhuang Grottoes and the rich Turpan Basin punctuated with it's humble farms of a proud peasant tradition.

MacKenzie's artistic perception brings us rare insights into lives and places left behind by China's march towards prosperity. Not much has changed in the last few hundred years as a certain fatalism - almost verging on contentment, preserved the architecture, way of life and rituals from a time past, born of the harsh, sparse region it's people have inhabited for uncounted generations.

These new works reveal the keen eye and honed skills we have come to respect and expect from this artist. In drawings and paintings as various as the Great Wall's far-flung extremities crumbling into ruin and abstract shapes and patterns of desert sand dunes, timeless images of camels and drivers are contrasted with unbelievably spectacular mountains and breath-taking Yellow River gorges.



**Frank MacKenzie's** new solo exhibition, which opens April 13 at **the coffee connoisseur** "The Gallery" 51 Circular Road brings us visions from a time capsule.

*"The Emin Minaret"*

71

*Mosque (Turpan)  
North ancient city of Anle*

53x64cm 2007  
Ink on Chinese rice  
paper

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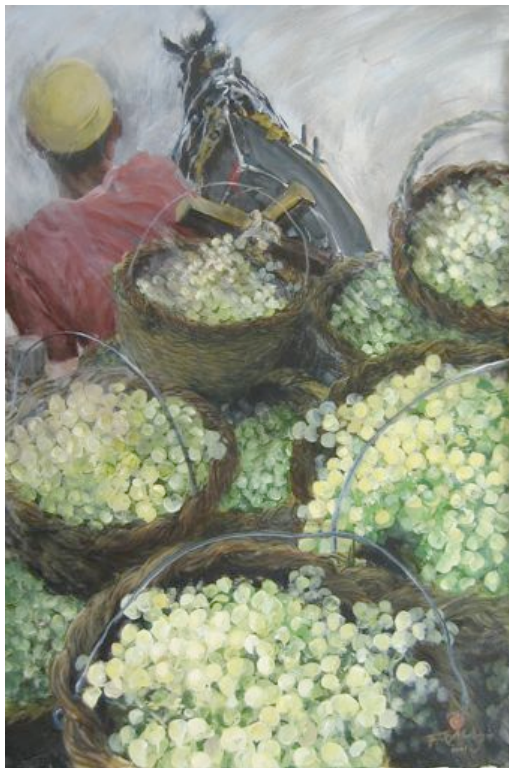
60 *"Drivers resting their Camels"*

55 x 78cm 2007  
Pastel and ink on acid  
free Chinese paper  
180gsm



61 *"Camels passing"*

55 x 78cm 2007  
Pastel and ink on acid  
free Chinese paper  
180gsm



62 *"Donkey, driver and grapes"*  
(the Green Pearls of China ).

90 x 60cm 2007  
Oil on canvas

- **An Art Space for Everyday Use:**

At the coffee connoisseur Circular Road art boutique caffè we have created an Art Gallery where a whole range of work by both local and foreign artists will be featured through constantly changing exhibitions. Something new will be on view approximately every three months.



the coffee connoisseur

The old heritage building that backs on to Singapore's historic river district lends itself perfectly to an art gallery. The ground floor offers the more conventional seating for those in a rush, while those who want to escape from outside pressure and stress can slip upstairs out of sight and away from the sound of the busy street outside.

Here the seating is even more unconventional; beanbags that let you sink into oblivion are scattered across the space. Here you can read the art magazines provided and enjoy the paintings on the wall. Art, like a great cup of coffee, shouldn't be rushed.

tcc created this very special art space in a city that seeks to nurture the arts because we want art to communicate in a relaxed atmosphere. And let's face it! It's so easy to relax over a good a cup of coffee.

The artists whose work appears at the tcc, "The Gallery" have a wonderful opportunity to reach a wider audience through a space that is frequented by people from many areas of work, and especially those who may not have the time nor inclination to visit more conventional art spaces like museums and galleries.

- **Special Partnerships:**

tcc recognises the benefits not only of supporting the arts by forging creative partnerships with people who specialise in the arts, we also let art experts do what they're good at while we get on and do what we're best at – providing excellent service and great coffee.

We work exclusively with art-management.com, a company dedicated to promoting and managing visual artists both in Singapore and overseas.

art-management.com has, from its beginning focused on linking the artists it represents with leading brand names in a way that will be of benefit to both artist and brand. tcc is the latest in a long list of leading brands that art-management.com has been proud to work with.

Claude Verly, Managing Director and Founder of art-management.com has commented in relation to his partnership with tcc, "One of the biggest challenges in managing art and artists in Singapore today is finding new and unusual venues in which to present the art, and then matching up the artist with the venue. This latest venture with tcc takes art-management.com into a new phase; together we can take art into the public arena rather than relying on people coming to the art. At the tcc "The Gallery", the art will be there whether people look at it or not."

Through art-management.com, tcc is able to provide space to artists free of rent, and as a chain business we can further support them by providing publicity and exposure through media coverage and other events. tcc can help absorb many of the costs that artists find it hard to deal with.