

RIVKA ROSENTHAL...LUMINOSITY



A Time to Build Up - 1998 - Oil on canvas, 100 x 80 centimeters

January 17-February 28, 1999

The Jacksonville Museum of Contemporary Art

In association with
One World Foundation, Inc.

RIVKA ROSENTHAL
LUMINOSITY

JANUARY 16 - FEBRUARY 28, 1999

JACKSONVILLE MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART
ONE WORLD FOUNDATION, INC.



THE JACKSONVILLE MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART



Rivka Rosenthal, *A Time to Rend*, 1992 Oil on canvas

Israeli artist Rivka Rosenthal's brightly-colored and festive paintings depict her ideal world in which peace, prosperity, and brotherhood are achieved.

January 17th - February 28th

RIVKA ROSENTHAL...LUMINOSITY

In association with One World Foundation, Inc.

4160 Boulevard Center Drive
Call 398-8336 for hours and directions

RIVKA ROSENTHAL
LUMINOSITY

1 17 '99



A Time To Gather Stones, 1992

Oil on canvas
90 x 80 centimeters





A Time To Hate

Mixed Media on Canvas
80 x 100 centimeters

ART perspectives



Rivka Rosenthal...

Luminosity

JMoCA is bringing to light the work of Israeli artist Rivka Rosenthal. Walking through the museum's Main Gallery is certain to feel like swimming open-eyed in a pool made of stained glass windows. The exhibition opens with a Member's Preview Party on January 16th from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. and will be on view to the

public from January 17 through February 28, 1999.

Living near Tel Aviv, Rosenthal began painting in the 1970s. Although her style has changed over the years, a long-standing focus for Rosenthal has been the study of light. She spent three years researching the "external light" in Rembrandt's works. After a number of exhibitions on this subject, she began to explore the "internal light" contained within her own work. Rosenthal projects her personal philosophy of balance into her paintings. The external light relates directly to nature while the inner light exemplifies the mystical and spiritual.

In Rosenthal's abstract compositions, color seems to burst forth through the darkened corners. "What motivates me in painting is the playfulness in colors and the surprise of meeting new tones. I take part of every day's reality and turn it into a colorful festival," says Rosenthal. This contrast of tones creates an atmospheric mood of colors as seen by candlelight.

Vestiges of human figures at times emerge from Rosenthal's richly colored abstract creations. Basing many of her compositions upon themes in the Old Testament, Rosenthal celebrates the essence of humanity in her works. "In my paintings I do not look for painful political messages, rather, a way back to peacefulness and the simplicity of beginnings," she says.

The Jacksonville Museum of Contemporary Art is located in the Koger Center at 4160 Boulevard Center Drive. (904) 398-8336.



A Time To Plant, 1998

Oil on canvas
60 x 60 centimeters

GREETINGS FROM CONSUL RAEI GAMZOU

As Israel's Consul for Cultural Affairs in the USA, I am proud to congratulate the Israeli artist Rivka Rosenthal on the occasion of the opening of her exhibition in Jacksonville on January 16th, 1999.

I also am delighted to congratulate and thank sincerely Mr. Henry Flood Robert, the Director of the Jacksonville Museum of Contemporary Art as well as Mr. Scott McLucas, President of the One World Foundation, who have made this exhibit possible. I look forward to being able to work with these two prestigious organizations in the future.

This exhibition, LUMINOUSITY, and the light that emanates from Ms. Rosenthal's works of art will be another link forged between the people of Florida and the people of Israel. Two peoples who share an appreciation of luminous light, a love of life, peace, freedom and democracy.

I send you warm regards and much success.

Shalom,

R. Gamzou

Rafi Gamzou
Consul for Cultural Affairs in the USA





A Time To Pluck, 1998

Oil on canvas
80 x 60 centimeters



January 19, 1999

Mr. & Mrs. Scott McLucas
830-13 A1A North
Apt 307
Ponte Vedra Beach FL 32082


Dear Nancy & Scott,

On behalf of the Consulate General of Israel I would like to express my gratitude to you for hosting the exhibition of Rivka Rosenthal in the Contemporary Museum of Jacksonville.

It warms our hearts that an Israeli artist's work is represented in Jacksonville.

Please convey our best regards to Rivka and we look forward to continuing our collaborations in the future.

Kind regards,



Shai Bazak
Consul General





A Time To Cast Away Stones, 1992

Oil on canvas
100 x 70 centimeters

Inspired by light

For Israeli artist Rivka Rosenthal, there is always a season of hope

By Roger Bull
Times-Union staff writer

The name of the exhibit is "Rivka Rosenthal ... Luminosity." The subject is light. In the desert of Israel, Rosenthal said, there is a certain intensity to the light. And Jews have always searched for light and hope. "That is the theme," she said.

Rivka Rosenthal and her paintings come from Israel. The titles of her paintings come from the Old Testament, Ecclesiastes, to be exact. However, some people undoubtedly will recognize them from the words from The Byrds' recording of Pete Seeger's *Turn, Turn, Turn*: "A time to be born, and a time to die ..."

The exhibit of about 40 paintings, bright colorful works in plain wooden frames, opens today at The Jacksonville Museum of Contemporary Art.

Rosenthal was born in Israel and has lived her life there. She speaks some English, only some. She came to the United States once about 20 years ago. But this is her first exhibition here.

And that was made possible by One World Foundation, a private foundation funded and run by W. Scott and Nancy McLucas. A career in television and advertising, along with a couple of inheritances, have given McLucas an enviable lifestyle. Half their year is spent in Ponte Vedra Beach, where the foundation is based, and the other half in the south of France, where he is vice president of a Renoir museum.

There's an international art festival each year in Cagnes sur Mer. And it was there in 1996, in an 11th century castle that the McLucas first saw Rosenthal's work.

They met Rosenthal and were taken by both the artist and her work. They bought four of her paintings.

"I think what struck me was the heart that I saw in her paintings,"



An exhibit of Rivka Rosenthal's paintings opens today at the Jacksonville Museum of Contemporary Art.

— Bob Self/staff

A Time to Embrace



A Time to Keep Silence



LUMINOSITY

• **What:** "Rivka Rosenthal ... Luminosity", an exhibit of about 40 paintings by Israeli artist Rosenthal at The Jacksonville Museum of Contemporary Art.

• **When:** It opens today and continues through Feb. 28

• **Where:** The museum is in the Koger Center at 4160 Boulevard Center Drive.

• **Tickets:** Admission is \$3 for adults, \$2 for seniors and students. It's free to museum members and free to everyone from 5-9 p.m. Thursdays

• **Information:** (904) 398-8336



A Time to Get is among the paintings by Rivka Rosenthal exhibited at The Jacksonville Museum of Contemporary Art.

Artist: Paintings reflect a belief in brotherhood

From Page E-1

batik.

Flowers adorn many paintings, three-dimensional flowers raised from the canvas.

"It's not coming from the ture," she said, "it's outside. The flower is not a flower. a touch of color."

For one work, she a little sheepishly admitted that she cut flower designs from a magazine and glued them to the canvas as painted them. On others, she becomes part of the painting.

"If you can paint on canvas," she said, "you can paint on every kind of cloth. It's family. It's that sense of family, of brotherhood that McLucas talked about that gave the paintings their titles: *A Time To Mourn*, *A Time To Dance* ..."

Ecclesiastes, where to ever thing there is a season, cover all major religions, Rosenthal said.

"Everyone," she said, "can look at it and see something

McLucas said. "Then when I met her, I saw how firmly she is attached to a belief in brotherhood. And that's striking since she lives in Israel, a country threatened every hour with annihilation."

Rosenthal is 50 years old. She paints and teaches painting in Israel. Her work used to be realistic, landscapes and portraits. "Like a photograph," she said.

But then her teacher told her she needed to develop her own style. So about 10 years ago, she started going abstract, and she kept going. The evolution of her work is there in paintings that will hang in the exhibition.

The older ones, she calls more realistic. They are abstract, to be sure, but there, sometimes hidden in the bright and bold splashes of color, are scenes of Israel — buildings and palm trees.

Her newer works have gone farther still, into more imaginary splashes of color. They are more fanciful, some with an East Indian feel of detail and



Everything Has Its Season (Summer), 1994

Oil on canvas
60 x 60 centimeters

A New Artist From Israel

By Mika Ginsburg, PH.D

It was a pleasure to be asked to write an essay from an academic viewpoint on the work of Rivka Rosenthal. I am well acquainted with her background in art in her early years, and I have been specially fortunate in being able to observe carefully the development of Ms. Rosenthal's work over the last ten years.

In fact, she discovered brushes and paint in her first schoolroom, and her teachers soon chose her to decorate the room on festive occasions. Later, she studied the theory and practice of art with established private teachers. In her early twenties she began her career as a professional. She started as a nature artist painting in the figurative-realistic tradition, using an impressionistic style and a soft color scale featuring browns and greens. She concentrated on the essential vitality of humanity and nature and skillfully transcribed her impressions of the natural world to canvas. Eventually, she was attracted more to abstraction, and therein found a style uniquely her own.

Teaching art also became an important part of her life, and she now teaches seven classes a week with students ranging in age from 9 to over 70. While she has often proved that beautiful art can be created by people with minimal talent, proof of the versatility of her teaching skills is that her advanced classes include fellow professionals with exhibitions of their own art to their credit. Several of her students have risen quite high in art in Israel and in other countries as well.

As a mature artist, other rewards beside the joys of teaching have come to Ms. Rosenthal, such as being honored in 1990 as a new member of the Israeli Association of Painters and Sculptors. In 1995, she won first prize for her series of biblical paintings in an exhibition with 80 artists competing at the Israeli Bible Museum. Thus, her work in 'Luminosity,' based on Ecclesiastes, had a winning precedent. By 1998, her work had advanced in quality to establish her in the higher ranks of the Israeli art community.

In the following pages of this brochure about 'Luminosity,' readers will see that Ms. Rosenthal herself and the presenters of her exhibition, Mr. McLucas and Mr. Robert have been quite eloquent about her current techniques and styles and I enthusiastically agree with their comments. Thus, there is no need for me to add to them, except to say that not only does Ms. Rosenthal steadily maintain an important place in Israeli art today, but also her rise to the international museum level of art exposition is a worthy compliment to an accomplished artist with a bright future.

Dr. Ginsburg earned both BA degrees in Archeology, Art and Prehistory and an MA in Physical Anthropology from Tel Aviv University. Her Ph.D. in Art and its uses in Psychopathology was awarded by Hamburg University. Founder and past president of the Israeli Miniature Art society, she is currently chairperson of the Petach Tikva Artists Association and director of the Tel Aviv Bible Museum.



Everything Has Its Season (Autumn), 1997

Oil on canvas
100 x 80 centimeters

Foreword

In the summer of 1996, my wife and I attended the annual international art exhibition in the Chateau of Cagnes-sur-Mer, France, the community in which we live half the year. During that exhibition, we were specially touched by two paintings that seemed to express the joy of new beginnings - both by Rivka Rosenthal of Israel. We then arranged to meet the artist as we were very interested in acquiring her paintings.

At our first meeting, Ms. Rosenthal turned out to be not only as bright as her art but also charmingly modest. Before purchasing her paintings, we discussed art and her relationship to it and, as a result, we became increasingly impressed with her very generous philosophy of life. We interpreted it to be a passionate interest in the brotherhood of humanity. We have since come to realize that her art expresses this unifying concept in fresh and imaginative ways. In addition to buying her art, we began thinking of how to help Ms. Rosenthal show her art to a wider audience.

Our not-for-profit corporation, One World Foundation, Inc., which had recently been transferred to Jacksonville after eight successful years in New York, seemed ideal to undertake this project. Our foundation is a producing organization and its main purpose is to foster and develop new work in the arts and education internationally, with emphasis on co-operative projects near the foundation's home base. Thus, we were very fortunate to meet Henry Flood Robert and to be offered by his Board a co-presentation of Ms. Rosenthal's American debut at The Jacksonville Museum of Contemporary Art in January, 1999.

In discussions led by Henry Robert and the museum's registrar, Nadine Johnson, we decided to call Ms. Rosenthal's exhibition "Luminosity" because of the particularly effective use of light in her art. For the principal theme of the exhibition, we agreed that the verses of Ecclesiastes from the St. James version of the Old Testament were appropriate because they reflect most beautifully the philosophical principles behind Ms. Rosenthal's images. The author Ecclesiastes was also known as Solomon, the royal preacher, and his view of humankind is as valid today as it was several thousand years ago.

The writer and art expert Fritz Eichenberg has written, "Perhaps more than any other part of the Old Testament, Ecclesiastes has had an almost irresistible appeal to men of all seasons and to intellectuals, artists, and writers of all denominations. Its grandiose yet succinct poetic cadences, its despair over the transient joys...yet deep faith in the imperishable power of the spirit speak eloquently to man of the Atomic Age. It seems to bind together East and West - It goes well with contemporary literature, with Kafka and Sartre, with Zen and Lao-tse." *

We believe that Ecclesiastes speaks to Rivka Rosenthal and her paintings speak of a love for humankind and of a hope for an exchange of good will among us all.

W. Scott McLucas
President, One World Foundation, Inc.

*Courtesy of the Museum of Modern Art, New York City



A Time To Love

Mixed media on canvas
80 x 90 centimeters



"פרחים"