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The art of '5'

By ANNE HILTON Monday, March 22 2010

“YOU’VE come early before going on to the Glenn Roopchand, Carlisle Harris and Ken Critchlow exhibition in the RVI” remarked a patron of the arts at the opening of “5” in Horizons Art Gallery on Tuesday.

I didn’t reply because at that moment another guest at the function who wanted a word with me distracted me and I was intent on checking my photographs of the works on exhibit in Horizons that night.

When you know you’re not likely to have space for more than six photographs and there are five artists exhibiting, it’s best to feature only one piece of each artist in photographs illustrating a review of the work on display.

It was the cloudscape in “Setting out at Mayaro”, an oil painting by Peter Soo Ping Chow that first caught my eye — and reminded me of some of the works of Shannon Hutchinson. However, the lone man walking the beach, the fishermen in the pirogue lent this piece an air of melancholy, even at that early hour in the morning.

There is pathos, too, in Karen Hale Jackson’s “House on the Hill” in the structure braving the Trade Winds while a larger home nestles below, sheltered from the sea blast.

I couldn’t help but smile when I spotted the moth in Michael Phillips’ “Midnight Snack”, these pair of owls seeming surprised to see supper being brought to them, as it were, on a platter. Well, OK it’s not great art, it’s not Picasso or even Leroy Clarke, Glenn Roopchand, Pat Bishop et al — but why shouldn’t one relax from time to time and have a little fun?

I was just leaving “5” when someone (I can’t remember who) asked me if I was going on to Glenn Roopchand, Carlisle Harris and Ken Critchlow’s exhibition in the National Museum. I was puzzled, I count Glenn Roopchand among my artist friends and, barring accidents, never miss an opening of exhibition of his work.

“What exhibition?” I queried, “I’ve not had an invitation, neither by post or by e-mail”. Later it occurred to me that my invitation to the opening of Dutch artist Yashmin Campagne’s exhibition “Identity” on March 9 in the temporary exhibition rooms of the National Museum and Art Gallery came not from the Ministry of Culture or the Museum itself but from the Dutch Embassy. Now I wonder why ... don’t you? ... Or don’t you?

Finally, note that “5” at Horizons closes on Saturday. Make time to drop by this exhibition of lovely works that are balm to the soul in these hot, dry days.

click on pic to zoom in



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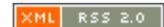
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