

Pick of the Pics

which sells selected art books, foreign as well as Greek, lovely, not-too-expensive jewellery (there's one ring I'm planning to buy myself as a pre-Christmas present), and some very striking postcards. Along with all this is a small "amphitheatre" for lectures and poetry readings etc. Since 1988, an impressive number (40) of individual painting and sculpture exhibitions have taken place; 23 photography exhibitions; 11 jewellery exhibitions, and eight group exhibits. Frequently the exhibitions are accompanied by talks given by guest lecturers from such faraway places as Hanover, New York, Paris, Louisiana and Dublin. The gallery is not just centred on the usual concept of Art. The Technology Section is devoted to such esoteric subjects as experimental music and cinema, video art and computer graphics. They went so far as to organise a meeting, with guests from all over the European Community, with the aim of exchanging views and information on the subject of suchlike modern technology.

I left the Ileana Tounda Gallery loaded with lovely slides and information, uplifted - and not a little shame-faced!

Lots of things are going on this winter, at present there is an exhibition of paintings by Leda Papakonstantinou, whose bright and striking works (on exhibit since the end of November and until the end of the year) definitely contributed to the appealing atmosphere. Papakonstantinou's works were *"inspired by nature, and are constructed with two frames containing painted transparent fabric. When lit from behind the light itself becomes part of the painting, as does the wall from which the painting is suspended. This makes many visual levels, with 'real' space intermingling with the 'false' spaces created by the paintings themselves. The whole combines to give a strange feeling of depth which is impossible to capture with the camera"*.

In the New Year Ileana Tounda will host an exhibition by Theodoulos.

A Cypriot by birth, Theodoulos has won many international prizes for his sculpture and 'use of space', utilising all kinds of different media such as fibre-glass, cement, wood, stone and marble. This is his second personal exhibition at the gallery.

Simultaneously, from 15 January, Ira Papamihail will be presenting an exhibition of her photographs entitled: "MNHMH

ΓΥΝΑΙΚΑΣ, ΓΥΝΑΙΚΑΣ ΜΝΗΜΗ", roughly translated as: "Memory of a Woman, Woman's Memory". Papamihail was Director of Photography for Flavor Magazine in the USA, while here in Greece her work has been published in a myriad of publications such as Klik, Odyssey, Gynaika etc.

The exhibits are small polaroid photographs mounted on aquarelle paper and framed in metal. She says of her methods: *"...the aesthetic results take us back to "romantic" eras, when the word "romantic" still retained its charm"*.

I will definitely not give any of these exhibitions a miss. Be there from December through February 10.

