

Artist Demi Mcleod with one of her artworks



## Labour of love

**Zimbabwean artist Demi Mcleod's ethereal works are an expression of her impressions of life.**

For a woman who grew up on a 75,000 acre farm in Zimbabwe with elephants, giraffes, hippopotamus, lions, ostriches and rhinos, Africa remains an indelible part of her existence. Perhaps, this explains the presence of African bush elephants, flamingoes and nature on her canvas. Titled 'Ephemeral space' Demi paints Africa's wildlife and cherubs reminiscent from the Renaissance period. She also combines colourful toffee wrappers together to create distinct abstract works.

The subjects on her canvas appear as if suspended in motion. Each has a defining form, shape and structure, finer nuances which she pays great attention to. "The subjects are suspended as if held in time. It's a fleeting moment from my memories, experiences and life," says Demi McLeod.

Demi studied art in the Royal College in London followed by a brief stint as

an interior designer before moving to South Africa with her husband. The family later migrated to Perth in Australia where she revived her passion for art by participating in several group exhibitions. She also collaborated with Australian artists as a curator to run promotional exhibitions and opened her own art gallery in Perth

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which she ran successfully before coming to Bahrain.

After moving here Demi pursued art more aggressively. "Bahrain gives you the opportunity and the time to pursue your dreams. If you have the chance to do something you must explore your potential," she says. Although a professional artist, Demi understands

the importance of learning new trends and techniques which is why she takes art tutorials from Bahrain's acclaimed artist Freed Abu Qais. "The more you learn the more you realize you don't know and the more it drives you to master it," she says.

The exhibition from January 29 to February 3 will be Demi's first solo-stint. Is she excited? "Yes," she says. "I'm very conscious of my work. The focus is to make it archival. I employ different mediums and techniques and even make my own ink, resins and shellac. It's the science of materials that fascinates me and the feel of different textures," she explains.

Demi describes her artworks as positive and harmonious. "This exhibition is a compilation of my love, labour and passion. I want people to visit it and take home happy feelings. Each of my work is thought-provoking. If art lovers can relate to it I'll know it's a success," she says.

**Where: The Gulf Hotel.  
When: January 29 to February 3  
Tel, 3 6425-701 or visit  
[www.demimcleod.com](http://www.demimcleod.com)**

— Cheryl Rodrigues

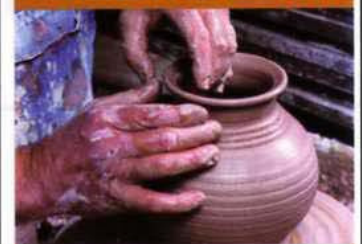
## Editor's Choice

Bahrain's bookworms have every reason to rejoice as the country's landmark Shaikh Isa National Library opens its doors to public. A prominent structure at the Al Fateh Corniche, the library is open for membership to Bahrainis and members of the expatriate community. In case you haven't been there you'll be pleased to know that the library has 45,000 volumes on different areas and a vast variety of reference materials and periodicals in Arabic and English.

Kids can head to the children's section which contains more than 10,000 titles, with CDs, computers and educational games. The books are available in Arabic, English and will also include some reading materials in French.

① For information, call 17 727-773.

## POTTERY PASSION



Studio Ceramics has planned a four-part ceramic workshops for women called 'Desperate Housewives.' Part one will be held on January 12. In here, you learn how to create beautiful pitchers or jugs. Part two will be held on January 19 where you'll work on chips and dip dishes. Create your own interior décor wonders such as cone or tapered vases on January 26. The workshop ends on February 2 with Coastal Cottages. Create a textured oil painting of a coastal scene to adorn your wall.

Complimentary refreshments will be available.

① For information, call 17 599-026.

### Notice for contributors

To ensure your organisation is included within the next issue of *Bahrain This Month*, details of your events should be submitted by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. Information on each event should include its name, venue, date and timing, and be sent to Cheryl via email at [lists@redhousemarketing.com](mailto:lists@redhousemarketing.com), or by fax to 17 813-700. Cheryl can also be reached by phone on 17 813-777.