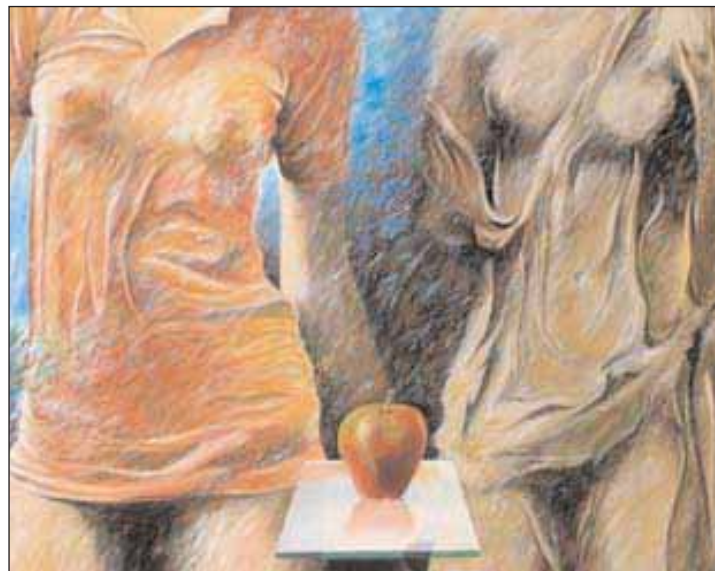


# Opening of the First Greek Art Gallery in Bucharest with Georgios Sekofski paintings

Melenia Art Gallery starts her activity in Bucharest and presents, on Wednesday 28th of January 2009 the work of the Greek painter Georgios Sekofski, with the title "Against the total black". The work of exhibition is dominated by drawing and colour, that imprints the sensitivity and the culture of the artist, and that helps him to express himself better and to be able to communicate with his spectator more intimately. The colour in the paintings of Georgios Sekofski, as his teacher, Mr P. Gravalos, characteristically says is what makes us think, wonder, compare and worry. The colour in the landscapes of G. Sekofski is what lands literally our look as if it says to us: "See what existed, see what exists and keep it alive". According to the release sent

by the Press Office of the Embassy of Greece in Bucharest, Georgios Sekofski seeks both in his own painting and in the others' the truth. "Searching for truth we resist to the ugliness around us, optical and acoustical, which threatens the aesthetics and our life. Cutting or burning a tree, looks as if you have killed a person, this is the truth. I want with my work to remind to my spectator that certainly beauty exists around us, as long as we locate, see and protect it. We have to hope again against the spirit of our time, that tries to convince us that it has been lost". Melenia Art Gallery is the first Greek art gallery in Bucharest. Its objective is the presentation of worth seeing Greek and foreigner artists of modern art.



## Largest gyros (doner kebab) - world record set by Sami Eid

PAPHOS, Cyprus -- Mr.Sami Eid, a Cypriot Lebanese restaurateur who lives in Limassol Cyprus, has made a 4,022kg kilos gyros-setting the world record for the Largest gyros (doner kebab).

Approximately 150kg of spices and 100kg of salt went into adding taste to the gyros. The structure to roast the gyros meat involved a 1.73-meter stainless steel skewer surrounded by 72 grills and powered by a 4-horsepower motor. A 2-ton natural gas tank provided the fuel for the effort.

The gigantic meat fest was recorded by Paphos Mayor Savvas Vergas and the Record Certification Committee made up of the General Director of Paphos Hospital Dr Phylaktis Constantinides and Deputy District Officer Ioannis Metaxas.

Gyros is a rotisserie meat, or the pita sandwich it is usually found in. In addition to the meat, there are also various salads and sauces inside the pita. The most common fillings are tomato, cucumber and onions.

The gyros is similar to the Turkish doner kebab, being meat roasted in vertically rotating cones from which slices are cut. Gyros and souvlaki are sometimes used as interchangeable terms in Greece although they refer to two different dishes. The town also holds the record for the largest Vasilopitta (traditional New Year's Day cake) in the world since 2000.

The previous world record for the largest gyros was set in Mexico with a 3,750kg gyros and before this, in Cyprus, the same Lebanese restaurateur-Sami Eid - cooked an 1,814-kilo gyros made from 2,150 chickens.

Photo: On the way to his record-breaking effort, Sami Eid sliced the gyros pork meat into 100-gram servings and handed it out to passers-by in Paphos' harbor.

# Masters in the art of artifice

Ever wonder how they make those scary zombies in horror movies look so real or how the puppet movements in the Dolmio pasta sauce advertisements can look so lifelike?

The Dolmio puppets and some serious zombies were created in a Matraville special make-up effects studio by two local artists, Nick Nicolaou and Paul Katte, who use a mixture of state-of-art materials and cosmetic finishing techniques.

Working on such realistic creatures has been a passion for these two film-making junkies who began in the make-up effects industry but wanted to make films



Brylan Stewart (left) has a lesson in special effects make-up from Nick Nicolaou, who has worked on The Matrix trilogy through his business, the Make-up Effects Group. Photo: ERIN BYRNE

of their own.

"To be working in this industry is a dream come true" Mr Nicolaou said. "Every day we get to create and fabricate animatron-

ic characters plus work as prosthetic make-up artists on films and TV show sets".

The Make-up Effects Group (M.E.G) started in 1991 and the business has grown exponentially, taking on major projects such as The Matrix trilogy, Power Rangers, Babe and most recently The Chronicles on Narnia.

"We have been able to build a name for ourselves, creating high-quality designs and then fabricating them into actual life-sized structures and characters", Mr Nicolaou said.

M.E.G. has recently opened its doors to the public, offering 20 week courses on everything from prosthetic make-up, special effects make-up and creature designs to specialist miniature model-making and prop design.

In his first week, Kesington resident Brylan Stewart said the course had been "amazing".

"We have learnt so much in a short time", he said.

Article from the Southern Courier

## A Village Milestone



Frank and Mary Vescopoulos were two of the first customers



Staff Pohlin Lee, Bronwyn Housen and Lisa Xenophondos

At 9.00 am on January 16, 1984 Frank and Mary Vescopoulos, of Kensington walked into Walsh's Village Pharmacy in South Maroubra. They were two of the first customers to walk through the door of the pharmacy which last week celebrated 25 years in business. On Friday former customers Randwick councillors and Si Banks, the president of the NSW pharmacy Guild helped the owners brothers Philip and Richard Walsh ,mark their milestone.