



'A Story of Two Revolutions'

Exhibition of Work by Patrick Altes

Thursday February 13

Christchurch Gallery, Triskel Arts Centre Cork

17.00 – 18.30

<http://triskelartscentre.ie/events/2566/patrick-altes-a-story-of-revolutions/>

17.00 Round Table on Art and Colonial Memories

Dr Natalya Vince, North African and French Studies at the University of Portsmouth
Academics, art and the politics of colonial memory

Mikaël Petitjean, Chargé de mission, Musée de l'Histoire de l'Immigration, Paris
The Palais de la Porte Dorée: between colonial memory and history of immigration

Both of these presentations will touch upon the exhibition of work by French artist Patrick Altes who was born in Algeria shortly before it gained its independence and left for France in 1962. This exhibition — 'A Story of Revolutions' — is composed of digital artworks and paintings that explore representation, diaspora, and transition within the context of the French colonisation of Algeria and the Algerian revolution. It is, says the artist, 'an artistic "Truth and Reconciliation process" as well as a deeply personal and subjective exploration of identity'. The Department of French is pleased to support this exhibition and welcomes Patrick Altes to Cork. The exhibition is part of the Department's 'France and the Mediterranean' series of events (see below for further details) and results from our collaboration with the Triskel Arts Centre and the support of the Embassy of France in Ireland.

18.00 Official Opening of 'A Story of Revolutions' by Prof. Patrick O'Donovan, Vice-Head of Research, CACSSS. Patrick Altes will present his work and a wine reception will follow.

**France and the Mediterranean
A Series of Events Hosted by
The Department of French, University College Cork
2014**

'A Story of Two Revolutions' is an exhibition of digital artwork and paintings by Patrick Altes. This exhibition will run from February 14 to April 20 2014 and is funded by the Department of French at University College Cork as well as by the University

of Portsmouth (UK). The work of Patrick Altes, a *pied noir* artist, will serve as an opportunity to organise round table discussions relating to France, the Mediterranean and Algeria as well as France and the Southern Mediterranean more generally. The initial panel discussion will involve Mikaël Petitjean, Chargé de mission - Direction du Réseau et des Partenariats of the Musée Nationale de l'Histoire de l'Immigration, invited through the Anna Lindh Foundation (<http://www.euromedalex.org/>), and we will also have the pleasure of welcoming Dr Natalya Vince, a specialist in North African and French Studies at the University of Portsmouth.

On February 28 the French music practitioner Ghédalia Tazartès (born in Paris in 1947 (<http://julietippex.com/roster/ghedalia-tazartes/>)) will perform in the Triskel Christchurch venue. His hybrid musical forms draw from the Ladino tradition (his family are of Turkish Jewish origin) but he produces sounds difficult to classify as they draw from different Mediterranean traditions.

We have also invited Safinez Bousbia to present her film *El Gusto* on Wednesday March 5 at 16.45 as part of the Cork French Film Festival. *El Gusto's* theme of trans-Mediterranean cultural encounters, historical rupture and contemporary efforts to re-forge connections across the Mediterranean through the *chaabi* music of the Casbah, offers a nostalgic perspective on France and the Mediterranean. The genuine sentiment of the film has been noted yet it conveys something of a deeper historical reality that is only now being discussed.

Finally, in September 2014, Ali Bensaad, Maître de Conférences, Université d'Aix-Marseille (HDR)/IREMAM, will, at an international conference on 'Crisis, Mobility and New Forms of Migration', present a keynote lecture on immigration into the Maghreb and its effect on identity formations.

These events, generously supported by the French Embassy, seek to bring critical commentary and art practice together in a way that will be of interest to the academic community and to the general public.