

Transforming structure

This Monday a new exhibition entitled, 'Indirections', opens at the Pharos Centre for Contemporary Art in Nicosia, presenting Brazilian artist, Nicolas Robbio's innovative, deceptively simple and intricate artwork.

His work primarily focuses on transforming the structure of common objects into metaphors of new meaning, creating an intimate body of work that includes photography, video, drawings and site-specific installations.

Robbio achieves this procedure by intimately observing everyday objects such as: tables, chairs, situations and systems, which are then deconstructed into the fine, multiple and mobile elements from which they are composed. He disassembles these items as if attempting to discover exactly what constitutes the object's innermost essence.

Details are subtracted and outlined by drawing onto or cutting into paper and other found materials. These elements are isolated or re-combined to occupy spaces of varying scale and dimension: from individual drawings to notebooks and rooms. They are overlaid between sheets of paper or glass; constructed as new three-dimensional objects, and drawn, incised, or projected on walls. The method of representation of these new structures helps the artist to make clear to the viewer that it is impossi-

ble to be aware of objects in their full complexity, whether they are seen or merely imagined, thus transforming each object, which is recognisable to all into an abstract which only becomes perceptible in the eyes of an artist, who then emphasises it.

Born in 1975 in Mar del Plate, Argentina but based in Sao Paulo, Robbio graduated from the Escuela Superior de Artes Visuales Malharro in 1999. He has had numerous solo exhibitions across the world, including group exhibitions. In 2006 he was awarded the Rumos prize for contemporary visual art and this year he was selected to participate in the 28th Bienal de São Paulo.

From wall drawings to the subtle placement of objects, drawings and projections, Robbio has been perfecting his craft and rendering it more and more complex as time goes on, creating a precise and delicate synthesis of illusion and object.

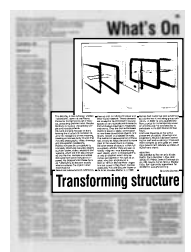
Indirections

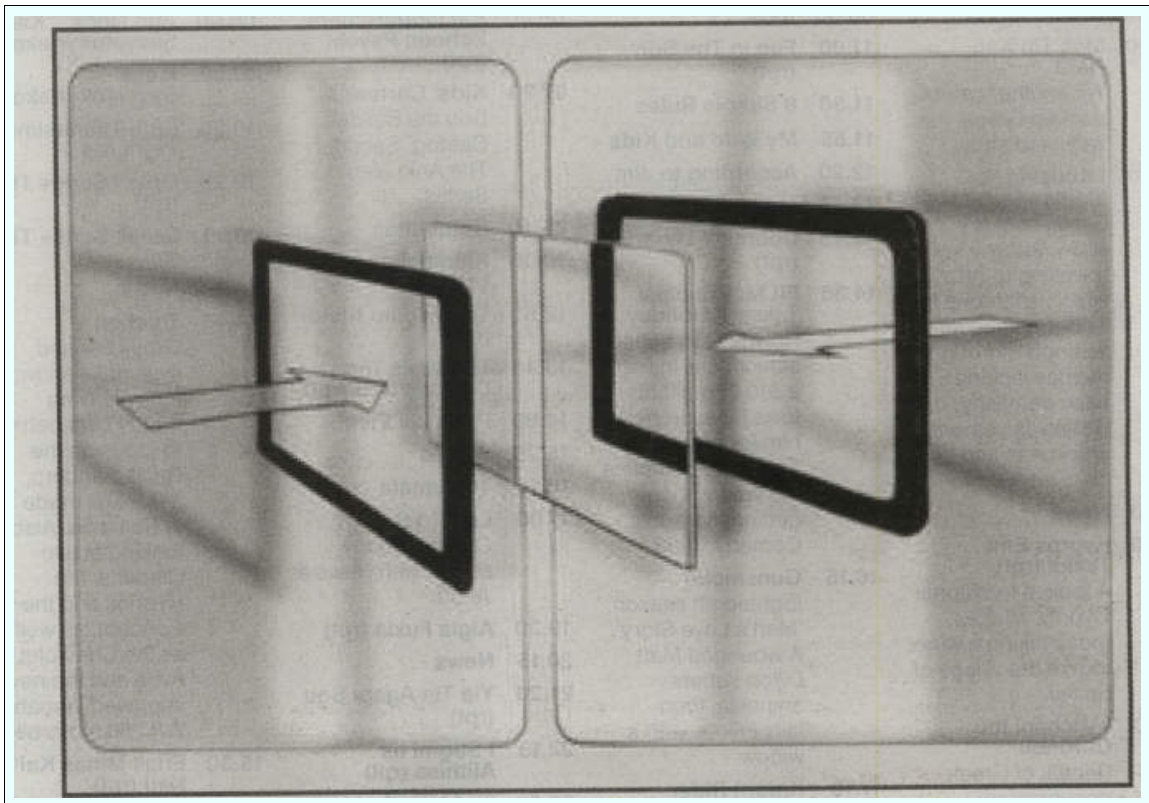
Solo exhibition by Brazilian artist Nicolas Robbio. Opens December 1, 8pm. Until January 15. Pharos Centre of Contemporary Art, 24D. Sevenis Avenue, Nicosia. Monday-Friday: 9am-5pm and by appointment. Tel: 22-663781. www.pharosart.org

By Ledha Socratous

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