

20. GALLERIES APRIL 07

TRIPLE VISION



OLEKSA ZAKHARCHUK

“The artist is like a bee which gathers nectar from many flowers, processing it into honey. For our creations to be original and distinctive, we also have to learn from many masters” says Oleksa Zakharchuk, whose Ukrainian landscapes convey a universal vision, expressed in a uniquely personal language. (**Danusha at Mall Galleries** 10-19 April, **Arts Club** 16-27 April).

His art continues to develop on the monumental scale which began on his graduation from Kiev Institute of Fine Arts in 1957. But he has left the ideology and empty rhetoric of socialist realism far behind in a profound spiritual odyssey of his own, evoking his country (landscapes) and his family (portraits). His smoothly textured pastels and luminous oils convey the intangible essence of creation. The mystery of

OF CREATION. THE MYSTERY OF Zakharchuk's art is mirrored in his life and career. When, aged 16, he enrolled at Kharkov Art School in 1945, he had already served as a partisan. His personal life has been studded with tragedy, first as a teenage orphan and, later, as a young widower. The combined intensity of an eventful existence, a demanding art training and a profound response to nature has informed his highly contemplative work, which he sees as "an emotional dialogue between myself and the world."

Ann Kodicek

Oleksa Zakharchuk 'Eventide, The River Snow'
Danusha Fine Arts