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PRESS RELEASE

On Thursday 10th December at 9pm Maltese Artist Selina Scerri will open the doors to the Ritz Arcades in Valletta to share her brand new collection 'When Girls Undress' - a selection of rare and original, erotica vintage cinema posters that she has brought back to life. Retro, kitsch, design, history and art lovers alike are invited to join Selina and her team for a glass of wine, to be transported back in time to a forgotten realm, and then brought smack-bang back into 2015.

The Majestic Ritz Arcades in Republic Street were once a force in the thriving retail era of Valletta, but for the last twenty years the shopfronts and small retail units sit empty, filled with mannequins, memorabilia and memories. The Arcades are also home to Malta's oldest cinema 'the City Lights.'

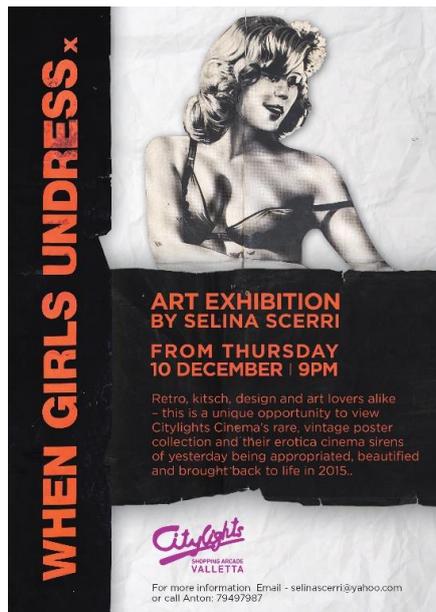
This is a unique opportunity to enjoy the rich history of Citylights Cinema's rare poster collection and see these eroticised images of retro porn stars being appropriated and transformed into something more innocent, holy and personal.

Selina says: "People may have preconceived ideas about these visuals, they do stem from the sex industry, but I think of them as being really powerful, beautiful and they hold a great narrative. This collection explores the sex industry but also explores censorship and questions social identification. Some of the posters in the collection had already been hand retouched by the cinema's staff with paint or markers in order to meet censorship standards and rules throughout the history of the cinema. I chose to give the girls in the posters dignity, clothing, beautification and an aura."

The backdrop for this exhibition is aptly a building that is also in the process of being brought back to life; as a thriving creative space in the centre of Valletta that will host a diverse range of relevant international visual and performance artists and alternative cultural events.

There are a range of products on sale; with affordable small print posters starting from 60 euro to larger collector's items. There is also a cash bar.

For more information, please call 79901518 or email selinascerri@yahoo.com



-----NOTES TO THE EDITOR

Based at the Blackman's studio art space at The Ritz Arcades Selina enjoys running her own art gallery and representing other artists, she has held several exhibitions in recent years and teaches art in Maltese Primary Schools. A non-conformist, she often finds herself standing up for the rights of those whose voices are often unheard.

Tanatha Stubbs awarded her with a bursary to pursue her studies in BA (hons) Fine Arts at Central Saint Martin's College, London, where she graduated in 2007. Central St Martin's College holds an international reputation of being one of the world's leading arts and design institutions, producing some very well-known names. Amongst them are the painter Victor Pasmore (d. 1998), musician PJ Harvey, fashion designer Alexander McQueen (d. 2010), singer Sade Adu and actor Colin Firth.

This exhibition does mark a dramatic departure from her recent visual exploration of fairy tales, mythology and exotic creatures, but her work remains a celebration of being human, and pursues a creative force that is limitless: the palette and subjects evoke a dream-like freedom. Encouraging positivity, love and kindness, her visuals are something of another world of femininity and adventure.