

WORTH NOTING

CreatiVITI Art Centre opens in Nadi

Art lovers take note, Fiji's first community arts centre has opened in Nadi. Situated near Kennedy Hotel at Namatamata, the CreatiVITI Art Centre houses a gallery that showcases works by a wide range of local artists. It's also home to CreatiVITI Pottery, a training programme where unemployed youth gain hands-on exposure to the art of contemporary ceramics, Fiji style.

"The pottery runs as a model studio, creating an attractive range of hand-crafted ceramics that can be purchased straight out of the kiln," says CreatiVITI, the Nadi-based non-profit organisation, which works with children, youth and practising artisans to promote the development of arts and crafts in Fiji.

"CreatiVITI can put visitors in touch with many of Fiji's hidden talents: most of whom work from home, running small businesses that are not listed in the telephone directory," it says. The organisation represents both traditional and contemporary craftspeople, as well as artists working with a wide variety of media. It says: "A visit to the new CreatiVITI Art Centre is a must for anyone passionate about art and looking for authentic local craft."

• For more information, contact CreatiVITI.
Tel: (+679) 672 7070, creativiti@connect.com.fj

Artist Maria Beeder stands next to her painting "Small Warrior" at CreatiVITI Art on the island of Yasashviti at Sofitel, Nadi.



INSPIRED BY FIJI

Fiji department store chain Tappoo has introduced two new Fiji-inspired retail concepts, "Fiji Market" and "Frangipani Beach", aimed at the country's resort market. "The aim is to capture the essence of Fiji lifestyle," says Korotogo-based artist Robert Kennedy, who heads the design team for the new departments.

Fiji Market has the slogan "Beautiful living in Fiji", and features exotic home wares, souvenirs, art, jewellery and fashion that capture the style of Fiji and the Pacific. It also aims at providing an experience to customers with live music, coffee, hair braiding and cultural exhibitions at its main stores in Suva, Sigatoka and Nadi, says company director Harish Tappoo.

Frangipani Beach is the fashion boutique that complements Fiji Market with its emphasis on resort style fashion.

"The 2008 season is off to a very exciting start with a new range that is designed in and inspired by Fiji," says Kennedy of the line which features strong tropical colours of hot pink, turquoise, lime green, orange, chocolate and black.

The emphasis is on ease of wear with kaftans, dresses and sarongs for every shape and age," he adds. Screen-printed and pearl beaded motifs of fish, leaves, flowers and tapa traditional printed bark cloths

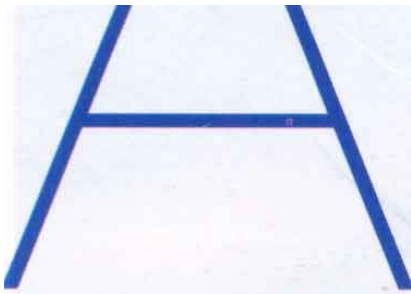


are inspired by the flora, fauna and indigenous elements of Fiji.

"The design team for Fiji Market and Frangipani Beach are dedicated to creating beautiful, quality pieces that are a reflection of living in Fiji," says Kennedy. "We share a common goal of creating designs that are authentically Fijian and wish to share our Fiji vision with the rest of the world."

Fiji Market and Frangipani Beach can be found at Tappoo flagship stores in Nadi, Sigatoka and Suva, as well as its resort outlets at Sofitel, Westin, Novotel, Warwick, Sheraton, Fijian Shangri-la and at Nadi International Airport.





Art lovers take note. Fiji's first community arts centre has opened in Nadi. Situated near Kennedy Hotel at Namotomoto, the CreatiVITI Art Centre houses a gallery that showcases works by a wide range of local artists. It's also home to CreatiVITI Pottery, a training programme where unemployed youth gain hands-on exposure to the art of contemporary ceramics, Fiji style.

"The pottery runs as a model studio, creating an attractive range of hand-crafted ceramics that can be purchased straight out of the kiln," says CreatiVITI, the Nadi-based non-profit organisation, which works with children, youth and practising artisans to promote the development of arts and crafts in Fiji.

"CreatiVITI can put visitors in touch with many of Fiji's hidden talents; most of whom work from home, running small businesses that are not listed in the telephone directory," it says. The organisation represents both traditional and contemporary craftspeople, as well as artists working with a wide variety of media. It says: "A visit to the new CreatiVITI Art Centre is a must for anyone passionate about art and looking for authentic local craft."



- ***For more information, contact CreatiVITI,
Tel: (+679) 672 7070, creativiti@connect.com.fj***