

***Colour, Light and Mind*** at Catmose Gallery, Oakham

The 500 coloured works in this show achieved a remarkable success in that they were deeply personal in their creation and imagery whilst at the same time having universal significance. Satta Hashem made this possible by creating a complex mix of visual reference and colour combination leaving space for spectators to project their own meanings onto the images. As he has said, the response to the images can change from moment to moment but this is only the case because he has not restrained the viewer by tying down the possibilities for interpretation in any restricting way. The paintings, like life itself, have time built into them. They are rich in diverse historic cultural reference and yet as new as the moment in which they are viewed. Their appeal seems to reflect the complexity and visual saturation of 21st century experience and provide a focus around which to gather thoughts at any particular moment.

Graham Underhill  
Artist and writer