

The Maze

highlights *recycling*

BY JOANNA LEWIS
JOANNABCFP.KY

Cayman's burgeoning art scene has a new addition this month, with local artist Aston Ebanks' thought provoking installation piece *The Maze*.

The 80-foot by 80-foot artwork – thought to be one of the largest to date in Cayman – is made out of some 2,500 used shipping palettes and will open to the public shortly at Pageant Beach.

With an estimated walk through time of 15 minutes, *The Maze* will double as an exhibition

space with artwork, video installation and interactive pieces for people to enjoy while navigating their way through.

The Maze has been over a year in development. While being a fun, interactive piece of work, the artist hopes to convey a

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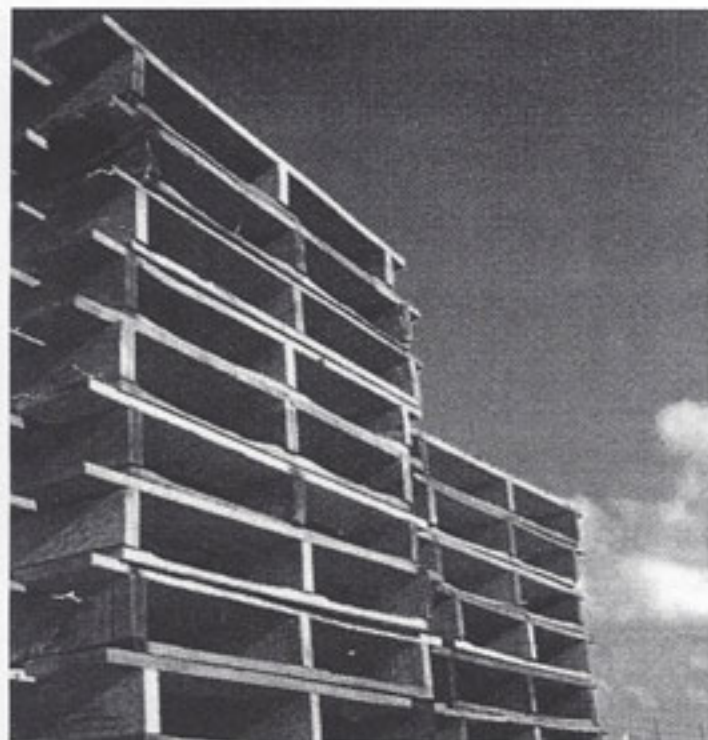


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THE MAZE

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strong message about recycling; an area he is particularly passionate about.

"The concept came to me while building a deck out of recycled shipping pallets in my back yard. I thought there must be more uses for them," the artist explained. "Ultimately I wanted to save them from the landfill and show people how things can be re-used."

Financed by Susan Olde, the exhibition is planned to be on display for the next three to four months at Pageant Beach, with artwork from invited artists within The Maze changing on a regular basis to entice visitors back.

The floor of The Maze will be covered in woodchips, which the artist said will give the feeling of a forest; the idea being that the pallets are being returned to their original form, he explained.

"I hope people will walk through The Maze and gain a new understanding of recycling," Aston said.

To aid people, information on recycling will be displayed on large billboards around the installation, while artwork will centre on this theme.

"Recycling is an area I am passionate about. I have been influenced by my time spent in Switzerland where it's second nature to recycle," he explained. "I'd like to see that environmental consciousness come over here. The dump is an embarrassment and it's a shame it got to this state, but there is hope," he said.

The artist anticipates The Maze will be used as an educational tool for school children, while regular events are planned at the site to spotlight the artwork and further highlight the concept of recycling.

For further information on The Maze contact the artist at astone_ville@yahoo.com.