

Street Art workshops beginning



PHOTOS BY CHRISTOPHER TOBUTT

Street-art workshop student, Alejandro Salindato, who was making a stencil from a guitar design, at the street-art workshop.

By Christopher Tobutt

THE first in a series of four Street Art workshops, organized by the National Gallery, took place on Sunday, 8 February at the National Gallery, as part of the Gallery's Mural Programme.

At the workshops, students learn hands on the practical methods of street art.

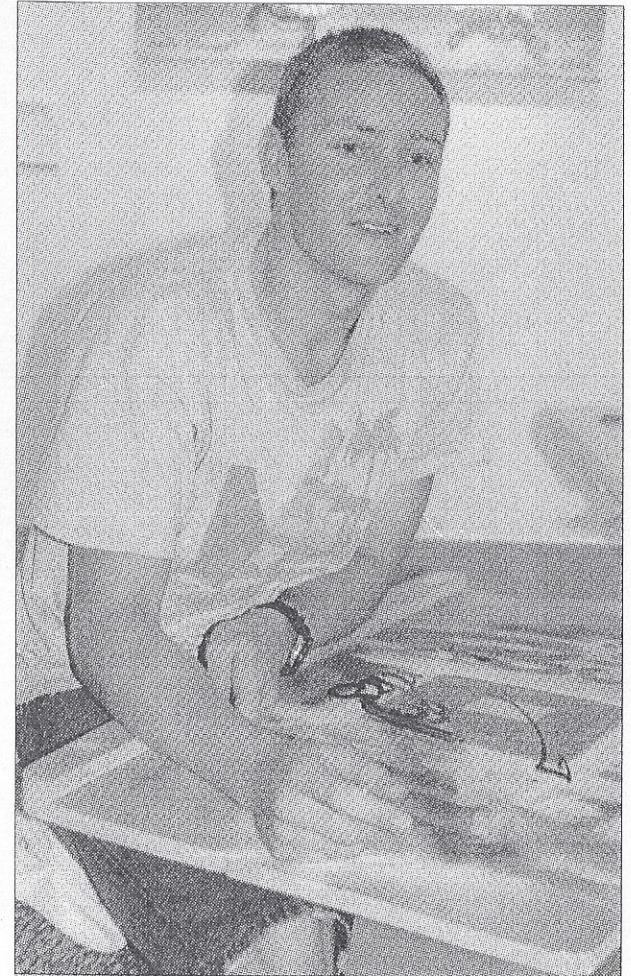
The workshops cover four sessions altogether, the next ones taking place on the 15 and 22 February, and 1 March. The

last two sessions will offer the students a chance to put what they know into practice, on the National Gallery's Community Mural site next to the Glass House on Elgin Avenue.

The facilitator and instructor for the class, Jean 'Jonty' Van Iddekinge, a street artist from South Africa, explained that one of the first projects involves each of the students selecting a 'tag' name – that is, a street art nickname. The course then goes on to provide a good all-round grounding in different street art techniques.

"Basically we are doing a 360 of street art, so we start with the tag, which is your signature in street art, and we go through all of the different things such as 'throw-up,' 'pieces,' stencils, stickers, paste-ups and mixed media. It's all part of street art, but you have to get all of it because if you can only do one thing then you are not a street artist."

Explaining how he got into street art, Mr Van Iddekinge said, "I was living in a commune with a whole lot of street artists, and I was like: 'I want to sponsor you guys to do a big production - I know a guy who can get you some paints for cheap- let's get some paints.'



Jean Van Iddekinge, facilitator of the National Gallery's Street Art workshops

"My first piece was some big letters on a wall that just said 'Shanks' and that's it. Shanks is my tag-name," Mr Iddekinge explained.

At the workshop, Alejandro Salindato, (whose tag name is 'Code 12') was making some

stencils, by cutting different forms into a transparent laser-copy acetate paper, the kind that can be purchased at most office stationers. Those stencils are used, in conjunction with paint sprays as one of several techniques in street art.

Dine in our Friendly,
Family Environment

**Greatest
Sandwich
in Town**

Delivery and Carry-out
Services Available