

ATHENS ANTIQUITIES Olympics 2004



SEVEN MAGNIFICENT PAINTINGS

**PAINTED DURING
ATHENS OLYMPICS 2004**

**ON LOCATION
'EN PLEIN AIR'**

14th AUGUST - 29th AUGUST 2004

UNIQUE AND WITHOUT PARALLEL

Twenty years on and the Paris Olympics 2024 are here. However, for the Hellenes and the Greek nation the Athens Olympics of 2004 stand out as unique and unparalleled. Those Olympics and the Antiquities of Athens we celebrate through the work of a master artist.

There was only one artist who immortalised the Antiquities of Athens during those momentous days for the Greek nation and that artist was Vasilis Zenetzis. That summer he opened his heart and soul, devoted his time and energy, and sacrificed his summer and studio comforts to paint on location and en plein air, the series of paintings known as the 'Magnificent Seven'. The uniqueness and importance of these paintings is enhanced by the blue stamp, only used by the artist for these seven paintings, hand created on the reverse of each painting titled 'Athens Olympics 2004' with the days of execution of each work.





Vasilis Zenetzis (Rethymno Crete 1935 – 2016 Athens)

A proud Cretan and a proud Hellene, Zenetzis grew up in the traditions of Crete and became inspired by the art of Dominicos Theotokopoulos in whose rooms he had his first solo exhibition at the age of seventeen. He went on to forge a career that lasted nearly sixty years becoming the top impressionist artist of Greece with a worldwide reputation and recognition at major auctions across the world.

His dream of painting the immortal ancient monuments of Athens became a reality during the eighteen days of the Athens Olympics. As the only artist painting on location during this period he produced the 'Magnificent Seven' series of paintings which are a tribute to the Hellenes of Classical Greece and their creations unsurpassed in the last 2500 years. The artist of the people, this humble Cretan never aspired to imitate their achievements but only to honour them.



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