

PIROSMANI (Georgia)

In October 2008, under the motto 'meeting with Pirosmeni', I travelled with a group of artists through Georgia. In two weeks I tried to perceive the country through the eyes of the famous Georgian painter Niko Pirosmeni.

A land whose culture is rooted in the 4th century, which was harried by strange armies again and again.

A land whose inhabitants live out their beliefs with dedicated devoutness in uncountable churches.

A land which was last at war with Russia in August 2008.

In this country, I collected SOIL from many extraordinary places, significant to Georgia's culture and long history. Georgia's importance reaches from the mythological time of the suffering of Prometheus at Mqinwarzveri (Kazbek) in the Great Caucasus, to the transcaucasian railroad bridge across the Mtkwari river which was destroyed in August 2008.

With the SOIL from these sites, pictures have been created, which are also as authentic as Pirosmeni's paintings.