The Creative Space

Guy Lee Tattoo is not your typical tattoo parlour by the beach.

The moment you set foot in this studio in Mellieha, you realise that this place not only produces outstanding ink work, but it is also a vibrant space that thrives on the creativity and dedication of the owner and the artists working and featured here. In addition to stunning tattoo designs, the studio space is used for art installations as well as the display of unique and beautifully arranged refurbished furniture and decoration pieces, which the owner picks out carefully and restores with the help of local blacksmiths and carpenters.
Walking in, you are therefore immediately immersed in a culture of creative liveliness where traditional arts and crafts are celebrated with vintage shop signs, custom woodwork or even the barber shop corner where clients can come in for a chat and an old-fashioned shave. Not a single item you see is new or store-bought; the appreciation for traditional craft goes beyond the tattooing and is reflected anywhere you look. The owner Guy Lee is not only the artist behind a large part of designs tattooed here, but gets involved creatively wherever he can, whether it is in the making of old-school shop signs, display furniture or a range of clothing articles and accessories.

“I love change. I’m happy with change”, he declares, sitting at a custom-built heavy desk usually used for drawing up designs and team meetings, which he commissioned from a local carpenter. Embracing change is what leads to good things, he says. For example, if he wants to add a new piece to the shop, he emphasises that he does not go out looking for it. Instead, he believes that it is the intention that counts and with that the piece you are actually looking for will find you. If you go out in the world with intention and readiness for change instead of a clearly pre-defined expectation, you see things differently and you even start to see the potential in things that may not seem like what you were looking for at first glance.