

DESIGN

Conjuring the ultimate art space

Form follows function. This is the maxim that rules modernist architecture and industrial design: the shape of an object or building is determined by its use or purpose.

Around 10 years ago, contemporary artist and architect Norbert Francis Attard embarked on a project that would see the two merge together in a perfect marriage.

Attard envisaged a space within Valletta's walls that would serve as

a focal point for anyone wanting to experience the world of contemporary art. He wanted a place where established and emerging artists could come together to trigger dialogue with the community and its visitors.

A few years and several permits later, three warehouses were purchased and transformed. Carefully-designed excavations and beautifully-proportioned internal apertures created triple-height spaces,

interrupted only by lightweight steel stairs and floors, or glass railings. The result is a sublime canvas ready to bring art to life and inspire others. **T**

Note: Valletta Contemporary (VC) is open from Tuesday to Friday, and admission is free of charge. VC recently published its first book, *Valletta Contemporary 001*, which includes a compilation of VC's 2018 exhibition program alongside all show catalogs.

