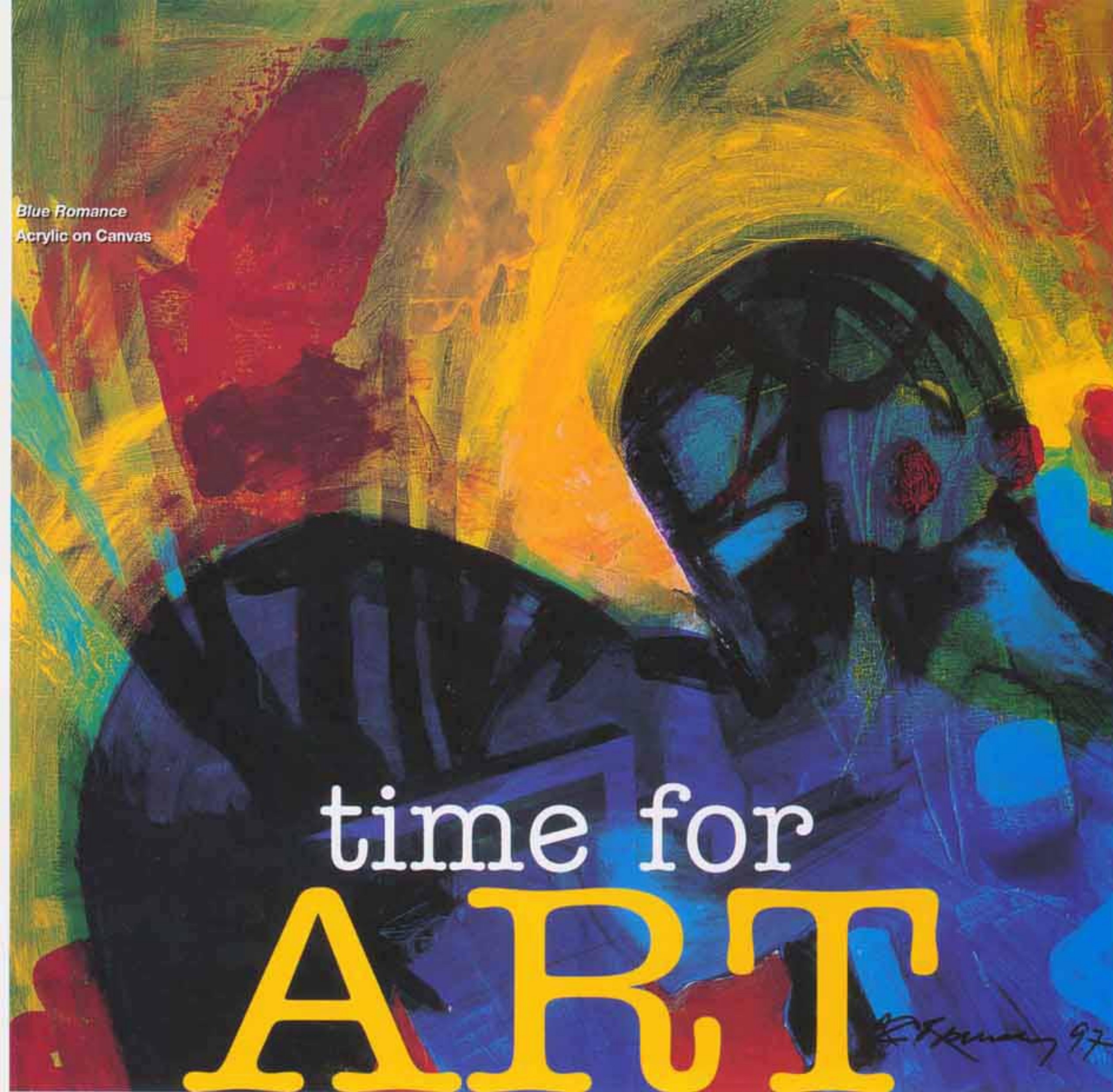


Blue Romance
Acrylic on Canvas

time for ART

Entering the home and studio of the Artist and Managing Director, I sensed an orderliness and simplicity. It is a home with classical music and clean walls which recede, allowing a diverse collection of ethnic and modern sculptures to compete for attention with the resident's bold abstract paintings. As the colours of the setting sun painted the living room and face of my host, I listened for insights into the thoughts of the painter.

"There was quite a mixture of acquaintances at the opening, and I don't really know what else to say," replies Ramsey. "Let the paintings speak for themselves," Ramsey answers after I'd mentioned that he seemed to maintain a low profile during the crowded opening of his exhibition at the Wetterling Teo Gallery.

A life of art began early for Ramsey, with

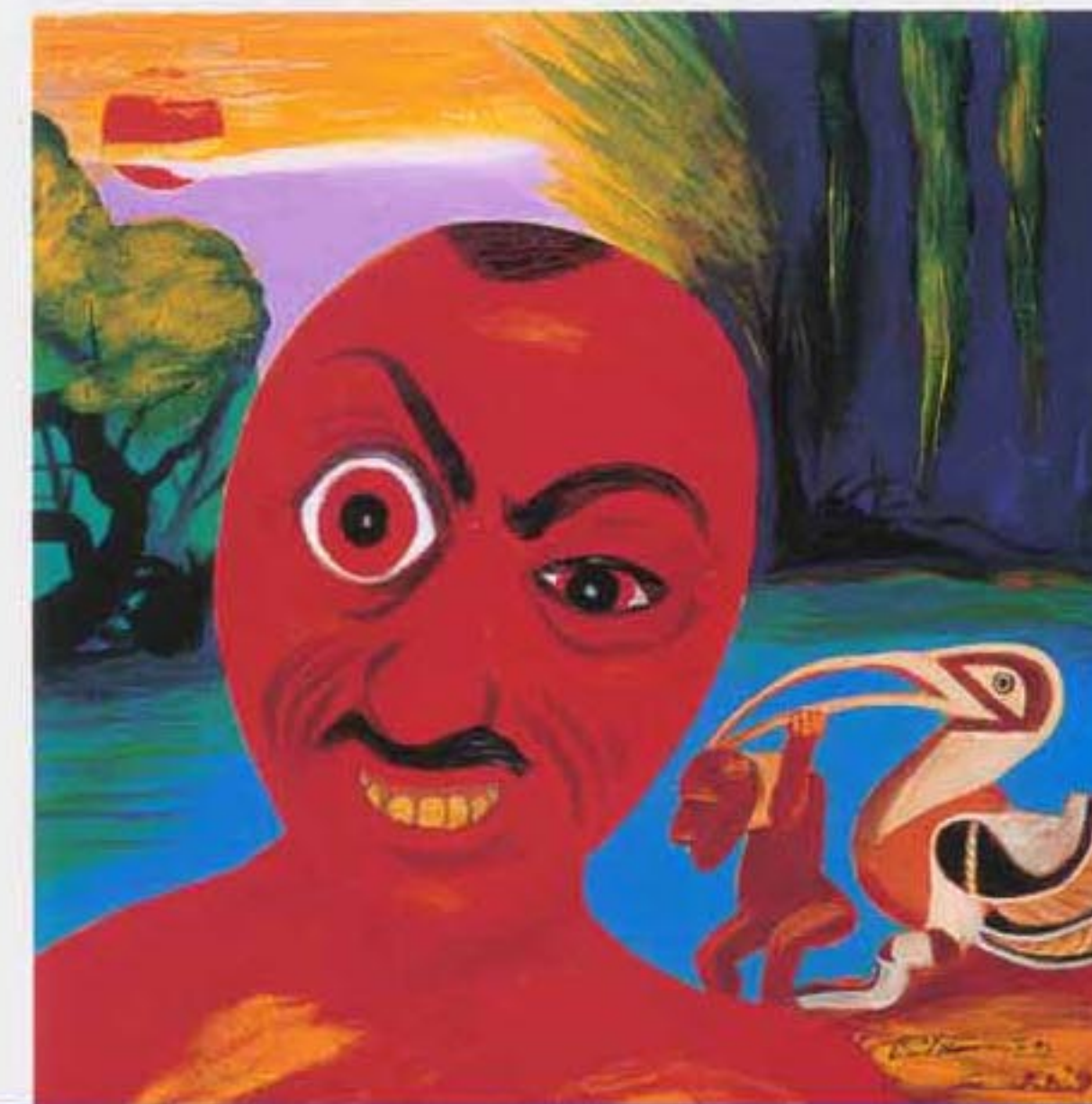
supportive parents that followed and discussed art, and an encouraging headmaster who took notice of the young students' work. Perhaps Ramsey has always been destined to be an artist as his mother and brother were artists, while his father enjoyed drawing cartoons. The many discussions, books and shows about art primed the pre-teen Ramsey who revered the Impressionists, and especially Van Gogh.

A lot of art that we produce is almost by accident or surprise. Some of it comes because of ideas. But sometimes the opposite is the case. The artist can start with a brush and paper and doodle about. They can be successful because there aren't restrictions and there is freedom from expectations. This is especially true with abstract art."

But abstract art is far from being just a matter of chance. The adept painter strives to balance colors and shapes into a harmonious work

that feels and looks right to the artist. Instead of using photographic standards by which to judge a painting, the abstractionist often relies on his intuition to decide if a work is successful. It is the delicate dance between the emotions and the intellect that results in a painting which is an accumulation of numerous feelings and experiences instead of a single representation of a scene or person.

Speaking about the 45 abstract paintings in his recent exhibition, Ramsey reveals, "Most started out as abstract shapes, and then gradually those shapes changed, and some of them developed a

Portrait of the Infamous Sundance Kid
Acrylic on Canvas

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Ramsey finds time and inspiration in Singapore, his home of 40 years.

The Sundance Kid
Oil on CanvasTOP: Lovers in a Park,
Acrylic on CanvasABOVE: The Fall of Berlin,
Oil on Canvas

certain reality to them."

Ramsey finds time and inspiration in Singapore, his home of 40 years, and believes that if he paints in the evenings and on weekends when other people may be watching TV or golfing, he will have enough time to complete the paintings he wants to do.▲