



L-Agenda Ta' Gzira

Island Agenda

Fuq id-dghajjes inpingu l-ghajn
biex thares lis-sajjieda.

We paint eyes on our boats
to protect fishermen.

Nimmarkaw doppju l-hin fuq il-kampnar
biex inhawdu lix-xitan.

We mark double-time on church towers
to confuse the devil.

Intellghu il-pinnur mal-bejt
biex nidderiegu 'l-angli.

We put vanes on our roofs
to direct angels.

Naghmlu n-nar bil-lejl
biex jasal talbna.

We light fireworks at night
to guide our prayers.

U naqtghu bibien f'qalbna
biex nilqghu 'l-ghorba ghajjiena.

And we cut doors in our hearts
to welcome weary strangers.

Mario Azzopardi
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translated from the Maltese
by the author

Celebrating the 2004 EU enlargement : poems from each of the 10 new member states - Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia.

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