



You are cordially invited to the preview of

# HIGH STEEL BLUES

an exhibition of paintings by

**STELLA TRIPP**

at the **Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies,**  
**University of Exeter**

on Monday 13 March 2006 at 6.00pm

Exhibition open 9am to 5pm

Monday - Fridays, 13 March - 12 May 2006

Please telephone:

**01392 26 40 36**

for more details

UNIVERSITY OF  
**EXETER**

# HIGH STEEL BLUES

## Abstract paintings by Stella Tripp

Stella has travelled widely and studied art from different cultures – exploring the nature of art itself by comparing how it is seen within different societies. Making art, for Stella, is an essential part of her existence: her work grows out of her own particular identity. So although elements may be 'borrowed' from African, Native American or Islamic art for example, these elements will have been totally absorbed and reinterpreted to express her own personality and outlook.

Stella's titles reflect the plurality, contradictions and paradoxes to be found in the works themselves. For example High Steel Blues: **high steel** refers to the steel girder constructions for New York skyscrapers (*structure*) (with the added cross-cultural reference that the steel workers were often Mohawk Indians and other native Americans). Another meaning of **high** is elated, which contrasts with the slow, sad **blues** music (*rhythm*). **Blues** also of course refers to the *colour*. The work makes connections with the world but also revels in the language of paint: structure, rhythm and colour.













