

# fao Casa gazette

AUGUST 2011

Malta sparkles in the  
sunshine of early summer

La Storia Sporca

FAO Goodwill Ambassadors &  
Celebrities - Run for Food

Run for Food - Modulo  
Iscrizione

The FAO Artists Corner

Pearls, pots and petroleum:  
fascinating new discoveries in  
the archaeology and history of  
Qatar

Recipes:  
Avocado and Tomato Salad  
Combination salad with pine  
nuts

## MIDSUMMER

*by Derek Walcott*

Midsummer stretches beside me with its cat's yawn.  
Trees with dust on their lips, cars melting down  
in its furnace. Heat staggers the drifting mongrels.  
The capitol has been repainted rose, the rails  
round Woodford Square the colour of rusting blood.  
Casa Rosada, the Argentinian mood,  
croons from the balcony. Monotonous lurid bushes  
brush the damp clouds with the ideograms of buzzards  
over the Chinese groceries. The oven alleys stifle.  
In Belmont, mournful tailors peer over old machines,  
stitching June and July together seamlessly.  
And one waits for midsummer lightning as the  
armed sentry in boredom waits for the crack of a rifle.  
But I feed on its dust, its ordinariness,  
on the faith that fills its exiles with horror,  
on the hills at dusk with their dusty orange lights,  
even on the pilot light in the reeking harbour  
that turns like a police car's. The terror  
is local, at least. Like the magnolia's whorish whiff.  
All night, the barks of a revolution crying wolf.  
The moon shines like a lost button.  
The yellow sodium lights on the wharf come on.  
In streets, dishes clatter behind dim windows.  
The night is companionable, the future as fierce as  
tomorrow's sun everywhere. I can understand  
Borges's blind love for Buenos Aires,  
how a man feels the streets of a city swell in his hand.

# fao Casa gazette

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For Advertising:  
STAFF COOP OFFICE  
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla - 00153 Roma  
Tel: 06/57053142 or 06/57054112 - Fax 06/57297286  
E-mail: FAO-STAFF-Coop@fao.org  
Website: faostaffcoop.org

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## Malta sparkles in the sunshine of early summer

by Peter Steele

*Less than an hour by catamaran from Sicily is an island culture that encompasses >3,000 years of recent Mediterranean human history. This is reflected in people descendent mainly from Arab origin who speak a unique Semitic language – Maltese and, like pragmatic peoples everywhere have been able to learn, adapt and benefit from those who have taken control of their lands. This is not about to change but the establishment of the EU, the impact of the ITC industries and access to air transport everywhere are bringing great change to one of the smallest nations in Europe.*



*Valletta skyline. Seen from the deck of the ferry to Sliema the elliptical shaped dome of Our Lady of Mount Carmel stands 64m and dominates the city, but only since 1958 when this original Sixteenth century building destroyed during the Second World War was rebuilt. It towers over the spire of St Paul's Anglican Cathedral and surrounding apartments. To the right you can just see the twin spires of St. John's Co-Cathedral. That's where you can find the one and only painting signed by Michelangelo Merisi (of Caravaggio).*

### **First some background**

This is Italy with an English veneer, and it works; and with or without the Chinese invasion that is due for July 2011, it seems likely that this is a mix that will continue to work. But the country is changing fast and not least from EU membership that has provided immediate access to the richest

trading block in the world; and large numbers of Maltese people have moved out in search of work and new opportunities, just as others have shifted in to escape those cold northern winters. Everywhere you look, the second-home apartment blocks are under construction, hugging the coast-line.



*Clandistini cruises. Running 'Romatika cruises' out of St Paul's Bay just round the coast from Valletta, this boat had come into the country illegally earlier in the year with >300 clandestini on board; and was taken into police custody before being sold. Count the numbers; it looked full with about 60 tourists on board.*

With around 400,000 thousand people living in an archipelago of little more than 300 km<sup>2</sup>, this is one of the most densely populated parts of Europe; providing an easy land bridge between North Africa and Europe. Originally part of the ancient civilizations that linked to Sicily, these early people left a legacy of temples older than the Pyramids of Egypt.

Centrally-located in a small easy-to-negotiate sea, just about every empirical or trading nation in the region has, at one time or another, occupied the Maltese Islands – from the Greeks through the Phoenicians, Romans, Arabs, Normans, Spanish and French and, last of all, to the English. Great Britain governed the islands for >160 years and left a legacy of language and culture with distinct advantages for a modern world. The Maltese even drive on the left. *(Only the Turks – the strongest maritime nation in the region during the mid-Sixteenth century – failed to take the islands; thanks in part to the leadership of the Grand Master of the Knights of St John,*

*and reinforcements from Sicily.)*

Malta of recent times – well, back almost 70 years – was awarded the Cross of St George *(it features on the flag of the country)* as recognition of the courage of the people living in the country during the early 1940s; people subjected to prolonged bombing by the Axis countries in an effort to deprive the Allies of Maltese ports and airfields during the Second World War and to the deprivation, hunger and isolation of those times. You have to visit the war museum to gain some impression of the hardship endured; and it is difficult to appreciate these old wasted animosities in modern day Europe.

Malta enjoyed an unparalleled period of economic growth as a British naval port starting at around the time of the Crimea War of 1854 and followed by the opening of the Suez Canal 15 years later. Trading vessels of all kinds stopped over for *victalling* and refuelling and it was only as the merchant ships grew larger with

greater range that they began to bypass the country. Even the shorter routes to Asia offered by the Canal were not sufficient to maintain the strategic value of the naval ports, and the Maltese economy began to decline. This was a time for emigration, and the establishment of Maltese communities initially around the Mediterranean and in Europe and, latterly, in the New World. During a 20 year period from 1948-on, estimated 30 percent of the population emigrated; and mainly to Australia, Canada and the UK.

### Newcomers to the islands

Tourism took over as the mainstay of the



*English street furniture. Looking like a stage set left behind by a street theatre, English phone boxes and mail boxes provide a glimpse of the British presence that once represented government. There is something novel and incongruous about seeing them out-of-place, as-it-were, and they provide popular posing background for the tourists with their cameras.*

economy from the 1970s-on; from the original and historical agricultural industries which once fed the people (*which is amazing when you look at the exposed nature and windswept bleakness of the country, and the lack of water available*), and from dependency on the British Royal Navy. (*During the Roman era the islands were famous for honey – providing one derivative of its modern name - from ‘Melita’ a Latinized version of the original Greek name.*)

Malta remains an important trans-shipping point for regional trade and has small but important manufacturing industries, but it is seats on planes that currently pay the exchequer, provide employment and create wealth. And more than 1.2 million people come each year to enjoy the ambience of this most southerly of the 27 EU states.

Less than 300 km from Tunisia, the country has in more recent years attracted the wrong kind of visitor – illegal immigrants fleeing hard social and economic conditions from mainly West and North Africa. Landings have accelerated since the ‘Arab Spring’ of January this year. Small numbers by comparison to those landing on the Italian islands but, for a small and densely populated country and one in which GDP is at best two-thirds that of western Europe, these are additional people who place severe stress on limited national resources.

The country walks a fine line between the natural hospitality of the people and the rights of genuine asylum seekers, but talk to local people and follow the correspondence in the Times of Malta, and feelings sometimes run high for the complexity of the issues and the many pressures involved.

### Long weekend in paradise

Why Malta? Why not indeed! It was the advertisements on the metro of an evening standing around waiting for those overcrowded trains, and reading those persuasive messages from one well-known



*Water aqueduct. Ride the iconic buses around the island and you quickly get a feel for the ancient peoples who once lived here; added, of course, by the structures left behind, in this case an aqueduct that serviced farm communities in south and SE Malta – from the Romans and the Knights of St. John. Fortunately for local heritage, in this case, the materials of the aqueduct were not recycled into something else. In the distance - the distinctive dome of the 300 year old Church of St. Nicholas of Siggiewi. Sometimes, the front window of the bus had a bird in cage hanging – a real one, no less.*


low-cost airline with a hub in Rome that provided the incentive. They were advertising €25 fares to Malta; only at the time of booking it had been reduced further to €15. It was the deal of the week; and too good an opportunity to miss. A bunch of friends thought much the same, and there were eventually seven of us searching for the sun for a few days; none of us had been to Malta before.


Malta is awash with hotels of all kinds; and - the advantage of the internet - you can search and book from home. Sliema, just across from Valletta by ferry, was an obvious choice for early summer. The seas around the islands at this time are a cool 20 degC, so you can swim (and people were

swimming from the beaches), but save this to later in the year and enjoy the novelty of a new country first time round (*although it felt really familiar coming from Italy*), the jumble of building styles and designs left behind by the occupiers and, for those from the UK, this thing about a different kind of English veneer; not as different as India or as similar as Australia, but somewhere in between. Compact and easy to travel around, cheaper than Italy, but with that Anglo-Italian blend of cuisine and eating (and drinking) that provided great novelty. Seated with vistas overlooking key buildings, open squares and/or harbours with boats moving around, there were fish menus to die for at little more than pizza costs in Rome.

(continued on page 10)



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*Horse bathing notice. Equality in most things in the country, but horses are forbidden to bath in the harbour of Bugibba in NW Malta. The issue is one of whether horses can read English. Perhaps they refused to wear their swim togs.*

## Valletta

The modern capital city started as a fortress at the end of the peninsula more than 500 years ago; Fort St Elmo. Today, Valletta is an architectural gem. This is harbour to harbour paving with grid-pattern blocks of buildings – many of them of relatively recent origin - stretching either side of the main commercial area – Republic Street, and surrounded by high fortified walls. And as the warships with their weaponry became more powerful, so the wall were built thicker and raised higher. Walk the walls of an evening or join the early morning joggers and share in the delights of a museum-piece of a city; and

one, moreover, which will struggle to remain seriously commercial into the next period.

It's this thing about providing access, providing facilities and services and making a dollar or two. Modern freight handling facilities demand space, and the country's main harbour 'Malta Freeport' has long since departed from the domain of the three cities and Grand Harbour Valletta to Marzazlokk Bay in SE Malta. You get to see it from the air too, approaching the main runway at Malta International 3km away.

Supermarkets, like most other places, dominate neighbourhood trading services across the country and, notwithstanding the delights of a capital city, as a local you would probably not go there unless you had business, visitors or theatre tickets or what-have-you. Parking, of course, is always a challenge when space is limited; and you would not have easy access to the city as an outsider. So this is a 'tourist city'; a sort of real-life 'Pirates of the Caribbean' – clean, functional, great value for money for the tourist dollar, and a pleasure to visit. It's friendly. The cruise ships, for example, park outside the city, with their exhaust stacks level with the fortified walls below the Barrakka Gardens. This is where you find trees and green grass in Valletta.

Wander down the side streets from the main commercial area, however, and the slow tide of change is obvious; many small shops closed and shuttered, devoid of people and their demands for services and goods. Everyday commercial shops have gone or are going. You need to be near an attraction – museum, cathedral or palace – to encourage the tourists, and then all their needs can be summed in the descriptor 'entertainment shopping'. It's a challenge for the city managers and those living there; and not just in Valletta, but in icon cities everywhere. Long-term visitors/residents can see the same trends in Venice, Dubrovnik, Trastevere and elsewhere; once working cities for ordinary people to ... what comes next?

## La Storia Sporca

di Marco Minicangeli



**R**oma, Casal Palocco. L'ingegner Sorge possiede diverse società che lavorano nel campo dell'edilizia. Gli affari però non sembrano andare molto bene e lui rischia il fallimento, anche se probabilmente ha messo da parte una grossa fortuna evadendo il fisco.

Una notte l'ingegnere e sua moglie vengono torturati e ammazzati nella loro villa di Casal Palocco, mentre suo

figlio Roberto si salva per miracolo. Sembra proprio una rapina finita male. Partono le indagini di cui si occupa Alessio Zeni, un investigatore di polizia. Non ci vuole molto a capire che l'ingegner Sorge aveva contatti con i politici ed era implicato in qualche storia sporca. Chi è stato però ad ammazzarlo? Come hanno fatto i criminali ad entrare nella sua villa protetta da antifurti e da due pitbull che vengono ritrovati sgozzati? E che ruolo gioca l'altro figlio di Sorge, Luca, che ha litigato con il padre e se n'è andato di casa senza un euro? E' lui il colpevole di quello che è successo?

In un susseguirsi di colpi di scena, raccontato con uno stile secco e tagliente, *La storia sporca* (Besa, giugno 2011) ci fa trattenere il sospiro fino ad una fine per niente scontata. Il romanzo è il prequel di *Conti in sospeso*, uscito nel 2007. In questo ritroviamo la figura di Alessio Zeni, o forse sarebbe meglio dire facciamo la sua conoscenza, quando è ancora in polizia. Ambiente in una Roma fatta di prostitute, spacciatori, extracomunitari e poliziotti dalla dubbia reputazione, *La storia sporca* vuole mettere il dito nelle piaghe del malaffare romano. Zeni, appena arrivato nel commissariato di Piazza Risorgimento sarà affiancato nelle sue indagini dal più esperto Nicola Sperlo, un poliziotto che è una sorta di cane sciolto che però conosce molto bene gli ambienti criminali e sa come muoversi. Finale a sorpresa ■

## FAO Goodwill Ambassadors and Celebrities Run for Food, why don't you join them?

by Rosarita Pagano



*FAO Goodwill Ambassador and athletics legend Carl Lewis cheers with students in a visit to their school during his official FAO mission to Haiti in June 2011. During the mission, Carl advocated the current initiative Fruit Trees for Haiti, and supported the Run for Food and the International Year of the Forest.* Credit: Logan Abassi UN/MINUSTAH

**T**he Run for Food got off to a successful start in 2006, with thousands of runners taking part in various parts of the world to raise awareness for the fight against hunger and collect funds for the FAO TeleFood community projects. They were joined by a host of celebrity supporters at various venues across the world, all doing their bit to support the race.

Celebrity support, especially when the celebrity is truly committed to the particular cause that s/he is endorsing, is a powerful communication tool. And here is where great stars from sports, athletics and show-business have teamed up with

FAO and become spokespersons for the race. Their personal appearances, interviews, recordings and their endorsement contribute to our ongoing efforts to improve the impact of the race worldwide.

Over the years and since its launch in 2006, Carl Lewis, Anggun, Raoul Bova, Fiona May, Valentina Vezzali, Andrew Howe, Mory Kanté, Nino Benvenuti, Gianni Rivera, Maria Grazia Cucinotta and others have added their voices to the growing roster of celebrities in support of FAO's vision of a world free from hunger.



14 October 2008 - Rome, Campidoglio (Sala Pietro da Cortona) - Press conference on the 3rd Run for Food race in Rome with the presence of Justine Pasek, former Miss Universe and FAO Goodwill Ambassador; Fiona May, Olympic medallist and race testimonial, Jimmy Ghione, anchorman, and the TV crew of Striscia la Notizia. Credit ©FAO/Alessandra Benedetti



September 2010, Rome - Portrait of Olympic gold fencer Valentina Vezzali supporting the Run for Food.

Credit ©FAO/Giulio Napolitano

In a recent interview, Olympic fencer gold plurimedallist Valentina Vezzali said:

“Our dad always told us not to waste food and just get what we are able to eat, because there are some who are unable to buy their own food and there are lots of people who are dying for starvation. We are all soldiers of life. We go and get ourselves equipped and tell the world how ready we are to be in such a battle just as every time. However, you can agree with me that it’s so hopeless to go in a fight when your stomach is empty. It’s like you are physically geared up but mentally damaged before long. This is why I take part in the race, to increase awareness and raise funds for valuable FAO micro-projects”.

To renew his commitment to FAO’s fight against hunger, actor Raoul Bova, who recorded a fantastic video, will be running in the five-kilometre race this year. He says he will be tagging along some sporty friends to join him in the cause. He hopes that this year’s participants can outnumber last

year's numbers.

Athletics legend Carl Lewis, who carried out last June an official mission for FAO to Haiti to witness reforestation efforts aimed at helping the Caribbean country to protect itself against flash floods and mudslides as the annual hurricane season begins, took out of his time to record a strong Run for Food support video message in the field, together with the local youth and teenagers who are beneficiaries of the projects, and he said:

“Everyone,

It is time once again to get ready for this year's Run for Food. This year marks the 6th anniversary and we are excited to continue the success we have had so far and increase it. Your participation over the last years has allowed us to contribute large amounts to TeleFood micro-projects all over

the world. Please help us to make this year our biggest and best race ever by becoming a race participant. Because this is not a road race, it is a race to save lives. The race you run or walk will make a difference”.

May we add:

Running a race for charity can be a hugely rewarding activity, as while you may enjoy the running challenge itself, there is also a wonderful sense of achievement to be there for fundraising too. It's hugely motivating, it's so easy, you make new friends, you have fun fundraising, your efforts can make a difference, AND it makes you feel so good.

Hunger kills more people every year than AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis combined.

So put on your running shoes and sweat your way through the annual Run for Food this year on 16 October, World Food Day ■



*FAO Goodwill Ambassador Raoul Bova, active testimonial of the Run for Food race over the years.*

Credit ©FAO/Alessandra Benedetti

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## The FAO Staff Artists Corner

### The abstractionism of Mr Julien Bachelon

by Flavia Carbonetti

***“Painting is just another way of keeping a diary” Pablo Picasso***



*“J'ai vécu toutes les vies”  
Oil on canvas- year 2011 – Size cm 80 x 100*

Mr Julien Bachelon, was born in Paris, France and started to work at FAO Headquarters in 2001 as Cashier in the Commissary. Since February 2011 he has been working in the Procurement Service as Registry Clerk.

***Mr Bachelon, the real purpose of “Art” should be to transform disharmony and chaos into harmony and beauty. Through “Art” human conscience can be fed with beauty. Do you agree? What is “Art” for you?***

In my personal opinion art represents the discovering of myself, the understanding of my mind, what I can do with my ideas and also how I can find a way to transfer them on canvas. Before starting a new painting I have in my mind exactly what I

want to do. My deep desire is to transform a perception into an image and the purpose of my painting, is to transfer the “vision”, of the perceived images, on the canvas; the mind, his infinity, the universe, a place without limits. In painting my wish is to discover something new; painting is a trip, a journey, and my goal is not to know where I am going but what I will find during my journey.

***When did you start to paint and why? Was abstract art your “first love”?***

I started to paint only in 1997 and it was love at first sight. I developed this passion through the films and books of Pier Paolo Pasolini, and the works of art of Piero della Francesca, Giotto, Masaccio. I began by reading books, I bought everything possible on artists, on the “Courants Artistiques”, went to exhibitions, and through these experiences I decided to start painting, at least..... to try. My first love was “Figurative Art”, I liked to do portraits, especially self portraits. A few years after I started with abstract art and



*“Elyzabeth”*  
Oil on canvas- year 2011 -Size 80 X 100

subsequently enjoyed doing both. For my paintings I usually use oil colors.

***Mark Rothko, Master of the abstract expressionism, supported the idea of “high” art and was convinced that the contemporary artist should face the crucial questions of human life: the purpose, the death, the destiny. Do you agree ? What do you think about it ?***

Art for me is sacred. The body is not so important, it is the mind that controls everything, that can do anything. To me culture is essential; some books are magic like “A la recherche du temps perdu” and classical music and certain movies are crucial for the discovery of new spaces;

discover the future thanks to the past. The art of painting is evolving, like every branch of art. You don’t wake up one day and say “I am going to paint like this Master”. You find your art day after day, through experiences, through investigation, looking at the Masters, studying their art their styles. I consider that nobody can teach you how to paint, perhaps they can teach the techniques, but not your personal style, you discover it by yourself with time and experience.

***Mr Bacelon, what do you want to communicate with your paintings? Do you want to bring the observer to a total experience of the colours or do you want to reach the sensitivity of the observer to awake passions and emotions?***

With my paintings I want to communicate the Neverending, the Infinity, the Space, something that doesn’t belong to the Earth but to the Universe, I want my paintings to travel through time, through space; their journey has just begun. My wish is to communicate to the Observer the “magic” of the art of painting. Painting is almost like a “sorcellerie” and I want to transfer this “sorcellerie” to the Observer so that he will not only look at the work of art , but he will also feel completely absorbed by the subject, in the colours, like I do when I paint. Every time I paint I am completely absorbed in the canvas, in its universe, and this experience is each time amazing.

***During the course of 2011, FAO’s colleagues have admired your works of art in the lounge of the Bar “D”. We are interested to know if you have also held personal or collective exhibitions outside FAO? Where and for how long?***



*"Untitled"*  
*Oil on canvas - year 2008 - Size cm 70 X 100*

Through the years I have held personal exhibitions and also participated in collective exhibitions. I remember with a lot of emotion my first personal exhibition, in 1999 at the Gallery Fontana in Anguillara and in particular two collective exhibitions in 2000 at the famous exhibition in Rome "Centro Pittori di Via Margutta" and at the end of 2010 at the Studio Soligo Gallery, Rome. In September 2011 I will hold an exhibition at the Orler Gallery in Venice. This Gallery, through Artetivú, is going to organize a special programme to show my paintings on television.

***Mr. Bacelon, what are your plans for the future?***

My plans are to paint

forever.

***Do you have a web site where we can admire your paintings?***

Early September 2011 my paintings will be on the web site:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/ARTEIVU-LAB/169595796136791>

We thank Mr Julien Bacelon for his willingness to share with us his hopes, his thoughts, his passion for painting and we wish to him all the best for his future and a safe and pleasant journey in the fantastic world of art.

*Should you be interested in this new space, The FAO Artist corner, kindly send your e-mail address to the Editor of the FAO Casa Gazette at [jill.stevenson@fao.org](mailto:jill.stevenson@fao.org)*



*"Untitled"*  
*Oil on canvas - year 2008 - Size cm 80 x 80*

## Pearls, pots and petroleum: fascinating new discoveries in the archaeology and history of Qatar

*by Tony Grey*



*The old and the new in Doha, Qatar*

**T**he State of Qatar is a peninsular branching from Arabia into the Persian (Arabian) Gulf lying adjacent to Bahrain. Famous today for its exports of petroleum and liquefied natural gas, its sports fixtures, diplomatic initiatives and al-Jazeera television Qatar has a fascinating history that is being revealed by several current archaeological and landscape study projects. Before the wealth of modern times Qatari people made a living from pearl diving, fishing and date processing. Many

Qataris now live in the modern capital Doha but traditional links with the desert remain such as the sport of falconry.

Archaeological discoveries and history are abundantly displayed in Doha's Museum of Islamic Art and the out-of-town Sheikh Khalifa al-Thani Museum housed in a fortress-style palace and comprising a wonderfully eclectic collection ranging from dhows to weapons.

An arc of towns, villages and forts once

stretched around Qatar's northern coast. Many of these have been abandoned for political reasons or because fresh water from wells became exhausted as recently as the 1950s. The pearl-fishing town of Zubarah lasted from the mid Eighteenth to early Twentieth century. After the town was abandoned a fort was built in 1937 to guard the coast. Today it houses a small museum with finds from the archaeological work in the vicinity.

The archaeological discoveries extend back in time far beyond the Eighteenth century. At Murwab an Eighth century settlement, pottery sherds lie alongside stone age flint flakes and tools. Medieval Chinese porcelain including celadon has been found at the coastal settlements like Zubarah. Elsewhere on rocky outcrops mysterious carvings of boats and circles from ancient times remain little understood.

The University of Wales, Lampeter, is currently excavating at Eighteenth-Twentieth century settlements at Rubaiga and Ruwayda revealing the foundations of houses, mosques, forts and date presses. The wonderful pottery assemblage reveals Qatar's rich maritime trade links via the Persian (Arabian) Gulf and Arabian Sea to India and beyond to China and south-east Asia. Coarse pottery for jugs, water jars, storage jars and cooking pots were imported from Bahrain and Ras al-Khaimah in the United Arab Emirates. Simple glazed wares for bowls and dishes came from Iran while Chinese porcelain was much prized from medieval times. In the later Nineteenth century cheap chinaware from Europe included brightly decorated bowls, cups and dishes with painted and sponge-printed flowers or transfer-printed motifs.

The work is ongoing and much remains to be discovered in Qatar ■



*Tony Grey holds pot sherds outside Zubarah Fort*

## Avocado and Tomato Salad

by Edith Mahabir

### Ingredients:

1 ripe avocado  
1-2 salad tomatoes  
1 small fresh spring onion  
2-3 tbsps mayonnaise  
salt  
black pepper  
2-3 tbsps lemon juice  
5-6 lettuce leaves (cappuccina or iceberg)



### Method

Choose a ripe avocado with firm flesh, peel and cut into cubes, sprinkle with the lemon juice and mix delicately (this will avoid them getting black). Wash the tomato, eliminate seeds and cut into cubes same size as avocado. Wash the spring onion and cut into 1 cm pieces. In a large bowl combine the avocado, tomato and chopped spring onion, season with salt and pepper and mayonnaise, mixing delicately to distribute evenly the mayonnaise. Wash thoroughly the lettuce leaves and cut into ribbons, spread out on a plate and pour the avocado and tomato salad in the middle. Refrigerate at least 15-20 minutes before serving.

This is great to accompany Red beans and rice pelau and Blackeye peas pelau (pages 26 and 27 in Cooking Fantasy cookbook – copies can still be obtained from the FAO Staff Coop Office at the special price of €10.00).

## Combination salad with pine nuts

### Ingredients:

Mixed salad consisting of radicchio, cappuccina, lettuce  
Salad Tomatoes  
Sweet corn kernels (also canned)  
Spring onion or chives (ciboulette/erba cipollina)  
250 gr very fresh champignon mushrooms  
3-4 heaped tablespoons of pine nuts  
Salad dressing: 4-5 tbsps olive oil, 2 tbsps red or white vinegar, salt, pepper



Method: Wash thoroughly all the salad leaves and cut into bite size pieces. Wash tomatoes, cut into slices removing the seeds; wash the spring onion or chives and chop finely. Clean and wash mushrooms and then slice them. Combine the salad leaves, tomatoes, spring onion or chives, mushrooms and drained corn kernels in a salad bowl and set aside. Toast the pine nuts in a small pan over moderate heat turning constantly until they begin to brown – not burn. Remove from fire, transfer to a plate and allow to cool about five minutes. Add to the prepared salad and toss all together to mix evenly.



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