

Dancing in the street

VISUAL

BRENDAN FOSTER

FREMANTLE comes alive with the latest dance and art inspiration from local painter Ian de Souza.

Hot on the heels of a wildly successful Melbourne show and influenced by his love of Latin music, Ian de Souza's exhibition *Dancing in the Street* opens in Fremantle on October 10.

It's about the melting pot of art, tapas, tango and Latin music – all with the flavour of Fremantle. De Souza, winner of WA's 2005 and 2004 Cossack Art Award (invitation artist category and landscape oil/acrylic category respectively), is one of WA's leading artists. "I've been inspired to create the *Dancing in the Street* exhibition from my lifelong interest in

music and dance," he said.

"I've held a strong fascination for the human body and all its unique expressions."

His paintings and drawings capture a quick, lively expression and fluidity of movement and his work fleshes out a figure or figures in abstract tones, creating a mood and a bare hint of narrative.

After settling in Fremantle in the 1980s, de Souza's artistic journey for the past 25 years has been drawing upon the Western art tradition, but now he feels compelled to tap in his Asian heritage.

Dancing in the Street features 30 exquisite new works in Chinese inks, collage and acrylics.

The exhibition is on at La Tropicana Cafe Fremantle from October 10-17.



Ian de Souza's work capture a fluidity of movement