# VALLETTA: A PEOPLE AND A PORT



# The Sea – A Bridge not a Barrier



# Sir Walter Scott

Lord Byron

Hans Christian Anderson

eneas statue 2004

function.

## **History of a Port**



Le Coradin

- Evidence of a Fishing Village settlement;
- St. Angelo: the Harbour's first City;
- Older than Valletta;
- The 1565 Siege;
- Founded 1566;
- 440 Years Old;

## A People

# Demography

- •City built for 15,000 population
- •24,000 living before WWII,
- sub-standard housing
- densely populated
- •1940 Exodus from Valletta
- Post War Urban Regeneration

- •Late 60s Exodus (economic boom)
- •7,500 current population
  •80,000 (20%) living in the immediate Harbour Areas from St. Julians to Kalkara
  •Rehabilitation Policy in the 90s



# A City by an Order

- Founded 1566
- Rapid Construction of a Military and Fortified Port for the Knights
- Design and Build City
- 18<sup>th</sup> Century development from Military Port to Commercial Port

- Socio-Economic Flourish of the 18<sup>th</sup> Century (Pinto Stores)
- Development into a Cultural HUB in the Centre of Valletta
- Baroque Development of Valletta



# **Development of Port and Docks**

- A Maritime History
- A Naval Hub for the Knights for 250 years
- A Naval Hub for the British for 175 years

- 1979: The End of an Era
- Ship Register Increases
- Importance of Port Decreases
- 2000: A New Renaissance



# A New Renaissance

From Port of War to Port of Peace From Industrial Port to Tourist Port



A City Place of Direct Encounter 400,000 Cruise Passengers in a year EUR 70,000,000 of direct tourist spending EUR 400,000,000 Pablic Private Development in and around the Port



## Quality of Life



III

### Integration of Urban and Port Development Workshop

# Culture



### Urban Regeneration Dynamics

# **Projects and Networks**

Entrust VRP/VLC (Regenerating Neighbourhoods in Partnership) InterregIII:Pagus (Socio-Economic Value of Historic Fortified Cities) Port-Net (MMA) (Integrtion of Urban Port Development) Interreg III: Archway (Walled Cities) Urbact: Cit-u-m (Citizen Urban Mobility) Urbact: Surch (Social Inclusion in Urban Regeneration)

### Integration of Urban and Port Development Workshop Malta Rinascens 1566 - 2006