

## NATALIE KNIGHT

Herman Wald died almost six years ago, but he left a rich legacy of sculptural work behind him.

A retrospective exhibition of his work is being held at the Sladmore Gallery, 20 Ridge Road, Parktown, of 30 pieces in cermaics, wood and bronze. The works include one of his earliest heads, "Moses," and one of his last works, "Man and his Soul," completed just before his death.

Herman Wald will be remembered as a sculptor who contributed a great deal to the culture of South Africa with his major public works.

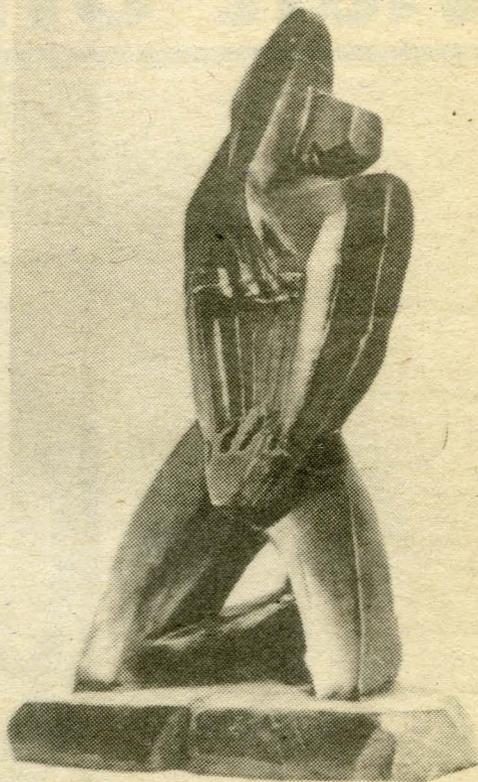
He was the creator of the Oppenheimer Fountain in Johannesburg where eighteen lively impala vault over the water in a vital affirmation of beauty, grace and the joyousness of life. In directly contrasting mood is the sombre reminder of death—the "monument to our Martyrs," mourning the massacre of the six million Jews in Europe. This monument stands in the West Park Cemetary — Herman Wald is buried in its shadow.

The "Kria" which stands outside the Sandringham Old Age Home is a monumental three-metre figure which mourns the dead with bared breast and torn garments.

Although Wald's work may have had monumental qualities he did not forget the basic elements of life. He made many smaller pieces which decorate private homes and gardens.

Portraiture was another field in which Wald was well known. A twice-life-size bust of Albert Schweitzer stands in the foyer of one of Johannesburg's medical centres. Other busts include those of Albert Einstein, Sir Ernest Oppenheimer, Dr Chaim Weitzman and a host of private commissions.

# Parktown exhibition looks back



● One of HERMAN WALD'S sculptures, "Muszka," presently on exhibition.