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ENTERTAINMENT AND THE ARTS



Wald shows his deep involvement with life

RICHARD CHEALES

THE EXHIBITIONS: Herman Wald (Cranbrooke Hotel). Vereeniging Group of water colourists (Hill High School Art Gallery).

IT IS PRETTY FUTILE attempting to cram an impression of an artist's life's work into a few lines, especially as prolific and diversified a talent as that of the late Herman Wald, whose huge pieces — such as the Oppenheimer Fountain, to name but one — are famous in South Africa.

These 70 compositions by Wald — in the Cranbrooke Hotel, on loan from collectors, and a retrospective view of 34 years' work — illustrate his boldness and strength. At the same time, a certain fearlessness traces his sculpture with such individuality that it seems to emphasise how determined he was not to allow other influences to change his personal core of talent.

In many of the shaping is a strong desire to veer towards almost total abstraction. In many of the pieces the abstraction is presented in easy, stylised simplicity.

This stylisation emphasises his vigorous talent at straight forward, crisp portraiture, such as the lovely piece of a singer where the expressive, long-fingered hands become so much part of the vivacity of the model.

If Wald's more detailed work appeals to me, the stylised approach and, latterly, the almost total abstraction show that his vital absorption with sculpture never stood still. Not only did he wish to portray life in dramatic sculptural terms but he eternally sought to simplify his talent to its most forceful artistic essence.

ENCHANTING

This enchanting exhibition of watercolours — in Hill High School Art Gallery — deserves every appreciation as the artists (Julian Paton, D. Prentice, Barbara Sinclair and Ken Cotterill, all from Vereeniging) have obviously devoted years to the very difficult watercolour medium. To degrees, they are all now enjoying the freedom of the medium that arrives only after long and intelligent practice.

Juliana Prentice seems that

touch ahead of the others with very bold, simplified brushwork. Morning Mists is delightful in its clever brevity, and Evening has an effective, evocative touch.

CLOUDY SKY

Ken Cotterill shines with a cloudy sky, Breaking Through, and Barbara Sinclair with an African village study, a panel of rocks and seagulls and a sketch of wild bananas, in which touches of black outlining effectively enhance the delicacy of the watercolour.

D. Prentice shows the best grasp of "translating" landscape into visual simplicity, with a misty view of Hout Bay standing out, and two careful studies of boats implying that the looser, bolder approach in the first-mentioned piece will bring her closer to that intangible recipe in which sound painting and striking subject matter are pleasingly fused.

HUMOUR

It is unfair singling out individual compositions for, in every piece, you see Wald's deep involvement with life and human beings. A part of so many of the studies is a mystical, religious fervour. A sensitivity in evoking man's eternal attempt to bridge the gap between earthiness and a poignant desire for higher spirituality.

You are always aware of Wald's humour, humility and passion. Of his aim to bring a breath of the inherent innocence (and fallibility) of man to his interpretations of humans.

—CINEMAS—

JOHANNESBURG

ADELPHI, ROSETTEVILLE, 26-5588. 2.15, 8. Roddy McDowall. Escape from the Planet of the Apes. Futuristic Drama.

ASCOT TURFFONTEIN, 7.45 pm. Barefoot in the Park. George G. K.

CARLTON CINEMA, Cor Fox and Von Wielligh Streets, Tel 21-5561. Theatre closed today. Commencing tomorrow: "Look Pal!" On stage.

CINEMA INTERNATIONAL, HILLBROW. Daily at 2.15, 6 and 9. For action and excitement unequalled, join the Companeros, with Jack Palance, Franco Nero, Tomas Milian, even in the scorching Mexican desert blood turned cold at the cry Companeros. Colour. Scope. No persons 4-15. Book at Show Service or COD. 22-5022 or at cinema, 44-9669.

COLOSSEUM (K), 21-4900, 2, 8. Wayne Maunder, Marianne McAndrew. The Seven Minutes. No 4-21.

CONSTANTIA, ROSEBANK (C), 42-2414, 2, 8, 20. Dirk Bogarde. Suvanno Mangano. Death in Venice. No 4-18. Book at any Computicket Centre. (Thurs — Premiere, sold out).

CONTINENTAL, REGENTS PARK. Phone

REEF CINEMAS

BOKSBURG, STELLA, 52-3917. Today at 2, 8 pm. Die Bannelings. Francois van Heyningen, Don Leonard and Marie du Toit. Book by telephone.

BOKSBURG NORTH, GEM CINEMA, 8 pm. Helga van Wyk and Chris du Toit, in Flying Squad.

BRACKPAN, ASTOR, 55-3403. 6 continuous. Appointment in Honduras. Plus Five Guns West. No 4-16.

BRACKPAN, GRAND, 55-2682. 2, 8. Peter Cushing. Horror of Dracula. Thriller. No 4-14.

BRACKPAN, PROTEA, 2, 8 pm. Gangula Black Panther Girl.

DELAREY, CAPRI, 8 pm. Death is Nimble, Death is Quick.

GERMISTON, RIALTO, 51-1990. 8. Richard Burton, Rald on Rommel. Action Adventure. No 2-12.

GERMISTON, ROXY, 51-3070. Today at 2.30 and 8 pm. Gordon Vorster, Katinka Heyns, Pappa Lap. A heart-warming film for everybody.

GERMISTON, 20TH CENTURY, 51-5566. 2.15, 8. Marcello Mastroianni, Jealousy, Italian Style. No 2-18.