

rings. She holds a teaspoon of tea tentatively. She is cooling it but the gesture seems a potential offering, as if she offers part of herself with the proffered spoon, while she defends herself from even psychic familiarity with her arms and the hot cup. Pride and the pain of isolation are powerfully present and so is her capacity to love—qualities that can be conveyed in paint only by masters.

WILLY WEBER (Gimpel, Oct. 5-30), the Swiss artist who created the Swiss

government's gift to the Kennedy Center

for Performing Arts, works in a unique

medium. Stainless-steel plates are seeded

with explosives which deform the orig-

inally flat surfaces. Charges applied to

the front of the plate from concavities;

those applied to the back, convexities. By

careful positioning and control of the

explosive's strength, the resulting ter-

rain is predictable. These polished plates

of hollows and mounds do not reveal

their secrets-they seem flat; nor is it

possible to focus one's eyes in the abstructions they offer. The patterns are

complex, asymmetrically balanced and as

colors, lights and forms alide over the

sensuous surface, they suggest neither

the monotonous symmetry of a kaleido-

scope nor the distortions of a fun-house

CALDER's animobiles and recent

gouaches fill a merry room at Perla (Oct.

5-Nov. 4). Animobiles is a term coined

by the artist's wife and it applies to even

those sculptures without moving parts

which might be called stabiles. The crea-

tures are cut from sheets of metal,

folded like origami and painted in pri-

mary colors. Some wear masks: a snake

with a cat face, a lama with a moon face,

an elk with a heart face. Most of them

are fashioned in great good humor: the

cow whose moving parts hang from her

bag, little fish teasing a whale; but some

of the snakes, the crouched cat with a

blue face, the iguana who lifts its leg

like a dog, have a more serious presence.

MARIANNE HANCOCK

A. M. Sachs

Poindexter

.Alonzo

Alonzo

Bodley

Bodley

Forum

Bodley

Bodley

Midtown

.Spectrum

Poindexter

Staempfli

Midtown

Hammer

Phyllis Lucas

mirror.

John Little ...

Lynn Drexler .

Group Show

**Emlen Etting** 

**David Levine** 

Edna Hibel

Group Show

Whanki

William Rode

Robert Van Eyck

Hank Laventhol

William McCartin ....

Simoon Braquin .....

Allesandro Nastasio

Ann Cole Phillips

Martin Schreiber

LeRoy Neiman

Grace Knowlton

the paintings.

primed canvax.

Amedeo Modigliani ...

Abstraction in art is the closest one

comes to translating poetry into a visual

experience. The imagery of poetry and that of abstract paintings are as limited

as the boundaries of the imagination.

The excitement of personal interpreta-

tions and free association gives abstrac-

tion and poetry their alluring qualities.

The mind is freed from all subjective re-

strictions in conjuring up visions and

emotions. We create our own reality for

In a splash of colors, JOHN LITTLE's

(A.M. Sachs, Oct. 5-27) first one-man ex-

hibit in New York in a decade marks his

place as a brilliant abstract colorist. He

achieves a fantastic harmony between

hard and soft edges, vibrant and subtle

colors. Areas of bright reds, purples,

greens and yellows contrast transparent

layers of delicately washed tones. Col-

lage elements such as rice paper and pig-

ment are dusted in like sand, and then

sprayed for permanence. Little takes

these diverse color fields and creates

depth and three-dimensionality by float-

ing them in open grounds of white-

In addition to masterfully applying

color, Little employs forms in provocative

ways. Tearing up a sheet of paper, toss-

ing it down on a canvas and carefully

outlining the random forms, one might

come up with shapes similar to those of

Little's. Torn-edged outlines are often

painted while some are actually pieces

of rice paper added to the canvas. Forms

suggest other forms building up to a

26 to Nov. 13) abstract paintings break

down nature into organic shapes. Strong-

ly influenced by the surroundings of his summer home on Long Island, his forms

float across the canvas like the wind,

suspend in midair like a flock of birds

or pulsate rhythmically like the sea.

Some resemble landscapes expressed in

his special imagery. Soft and hard edges, pastel and bright bues, jutting angles

and curves are in a state of communion

within his framework. In Flight gives

the impression of transcending the houn-

daries of man as this three-dimensional

form glides past the rows of flat color.

SIMEON BRAGUIN's (Poindexter, Oct.

23 to Nov. 18) paintings come from his

love of small-boat racing and his reac-

tions to space and color in the water. The

various elements in his work are light

acrylic washes, spatially very open. Col-

ors, too, are light pastels. The simple bal-

ance of the compositions make them un-

Another artist inspired by the sea,

WILLIAM McCARTIN's (Alongo, Oct.

well-balanced composition.

Spectrum

Acquavella

sheds, moorings, empty beaches. At the Graham (Oct. 19-Nov. 13) hung the serious nudes of DON PERLIS, who paints women with luminous flesh, whose eyes fix the viewer with wary unhappiness—the availability of their persons at variance with their guarded personas. Models hold their poses with some discomfort (Perlis' models are never comfortable) and may indeed look at the artist with the remoteness that Perlis paints. But as Perlis continues to paint beautiful bodies and disturbed faces, the theme becomes more mysterious and important than the relationship between artist and model, The dichotomy suggests some psychic barrier between men and women-a physical relationship enjoyed without any meeting of mind and heart. The model is encapsuled in loneliness. An artist does not put such tension in his work unless it has symbolic significance, metaphysical or psychological, something that drives him to communicate in parables.

ANNE POOR follows Truex at Graham

(Nov. 16-Dec. 4). Again brush strokes

are shorthand notes but her work flickers

with a sense of design and her oil flower

study, asters and dogwood berries, are

Two English painters were shown at

Kennedy, BASIL EDE and ALAN

PRICE (Oct. 6-30). Eds paints meticu-

lous portraits of birds, anatomically cor-

rect, and detailed in observation of

feather structure, variations of color,

etc. The paintings are carefully designed

but they lack the unsentimental approach

to truth that characterizes Audubon's

Alan Price, former designer of Wedg-

wood patterns, is a master of techniques.

His subject matter is evocative of An-

drew Wyeth's Maine paintings-old

elegantly executed.

The same dichotomy is seen in his interiors which are invariably homely but transformed in his painting. The aluminum legs of a cot, where a model lies like Venus, are part of the formal pattern of pillow, sheet and body; and act as reverse curves as formally as the wings of angels surrounding a medieval madonna.

It is fascinating to see in a smaller painting; a banal kitchen—radiator, refrigerator, Venetian blind, an ugly tablecloth—transformed with Vermeerlike salmon and silver into voluptuous beauty.

More remarkable is a painting of a girl fully clothed. She has come in from the cold—her hat and coat lie nearby. She holds a cup of tea in a plastic mug and sits contrapposto in her chair. She looks directly at the viewer and conveys what Perlis' nudes convey. She is plain but her hands are beautiful. She wears