

## Andrew Murray

Henri Lidchi Art Gallery, African Life Centre, Riebeeck Street, Cape Town

## The Happy World of Andrew Murray . . .

You are cordially invited to enjoy

The Happy World of Andrew Murray

as depicted in 40 paintings

and shown at the

Henri Lidchi Gallery

The Exhibition will be opened on

Tuesday, 17th December, 1963

at 8 p.m.

by May Hillhouse

The Exhibition closes 31st December, 1963

To describe Andrew Murray, a red-bearded journalist who lives in Rondebosch, as a "Sunday Painter" would immediately cause him to remark "and what about the rest of the week?"

To classify him simply as a "Primitive" or "Peintre Naïve" would not do either, as he is not a primitive and—though at first glance his work looks it—it is far from naïve. For the past five years he has been immersed in the problems of abstraction and three of his abstracts were in the last two Cape Salons. But in 1963, equipped with this experience, he suddenly returned to the "real world" and to the style in which he began in 1963, when he was 39.

Andrew Murray describes himself as "a painter who has returned to his primitive beginnings." He clearly gets enormous pleasure and satisfaction from charging his pictures with life, gaiety and sunshine. Here are the streets, buildings, mountains, trees and people of Cape Town, deserts, jungles (see reproduction), flower-pieces and social occasions—comically literal and recognisably familiar, yet transformed by a strangeness which invests them with a new dimension.

"I want to communicate with other people through my paintings," says Murray, "in a simple direct manner which everyone can understand." Everyone understands when he comes into a roomful of paintings by Andrew Murray—and everyone smiles too. Yet we maintain that there is more to his work than his apparent droll naïveté... But come and see for yourself. It will be good taste at this exhibition to say what you like and laugh with Andrew Murray, sharing his friendly and happy world.

(As the Andrew Murray exhibition is the last in our programme, we would like to see everybody there, even those who as a rule do not attend openings. We promise an interesting evening.)

H. J. HAHNDIEK