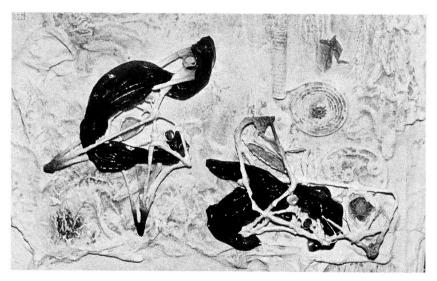


Personal Projection : Alex Wagner : gouache and ink : 1966.



Sobre Los Angeles : construction : Alex Wagner : 1966.

alex wagner

"I would like to say that the most outstanding attribute of Alex Wagner as an artist and a man is his deep sincerity. Although, as an artist, his craftsmanship would have enabled him to take an easy road in his painting — a road which would have made his work spectacular and relatively easy to understand — he has chosen the hard way. There is nothing orthodox or straightforward in Alex Wagner's work.

"In the remote atmosphere of his farm he plans his paintings and constructions with meticulous care and patience and there is the most profound thought in his presentations — whether these are descriptions of allegory or the representation of persons or subjects in mythology or impressions of the contemporary scene

"I have always felt a reverence for the depth of meaning in Alex Wagner's paintings and rejoiced in the happiness which his work has so often given me" Professor I. Gordon at the opening of Alex Wagner's exhibition of paintings at Gallery 101, Johannesburg, in 1962.

"Alex Wagner is endowed with a strength of character and moral force that radiates from his work. He translates the inner truth of objects . . . the soul . . . the feeling . . . the idea. His work is expressive, purposeful and very truthful. It shows not only maturity but tremendous discipline and every detail is logically built to serve its purpose; nothing is marred by a cheap, false effect

"He is concerned with human beings, their problems, tragedies and conflicts. Whatever he has studied or experienced has been transmuted by his great imagination into his own style

"Alex Wagner is par excellence a contemporary artist but he is so utterly free from all doctrines that he cannot be classified. He has been called a realist and a surrealist but it is futile to attempt to label his work for his creative power is his own" Madame Z. Wisznicka-Kleczynska at an opening of an exhibition in Durban in 1968.