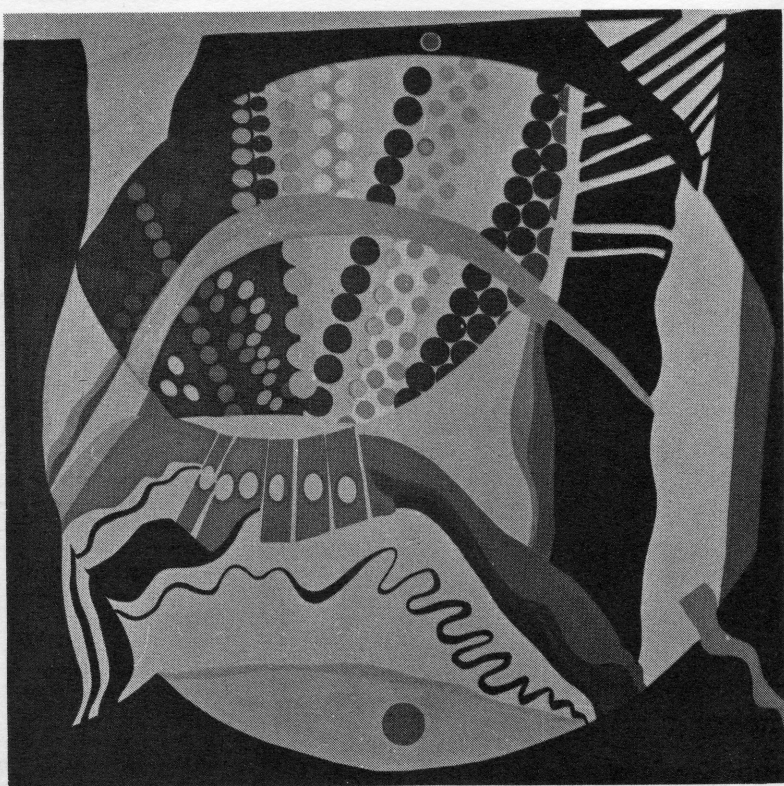


Stephanie Watson

ARTIST OF THE VITAL UNDERWATER WORLD.....

Zambian-born Stephanie Watson studied, for four years, at the Johannesburg School of Art, and at the Visual Arts Studio, under George Boys and Mervyn Dewes. She has exhibited in Johannesburg and Durban, and has participated in many group exhibitions.



Subaqua is the theme of Stephanie Watson's exhibition now being held at Gallery 101, Johannesburg: June 2 - 13.

She belongs to a diving club and has dived off the coasts of Greece, the Black Sea, Moçambique and Mauritius. The paintings and monotypes on her present exhibition are of the waters of Mauritius.

For her the underwater world is a vast cornucopia; from it she is inspired by a new and vital vision never seen by those who float or swim on the sea's surface.

Everything is enlarged and tends to fantasy: a small fish becomes a dragon and a seaweed a forest. This is a world of summer and winter, of pressure and refraction. Shapes are positive or negative - they either float or they sink.

Her paintings are mainly on satiated or hungry plants, living forms, diving terms; or water movements and currents with their play of colour.

Stephanie Watson is not just interested in diving, she is enraptured by it. Most of this rapture is captured in her paintings. □

