

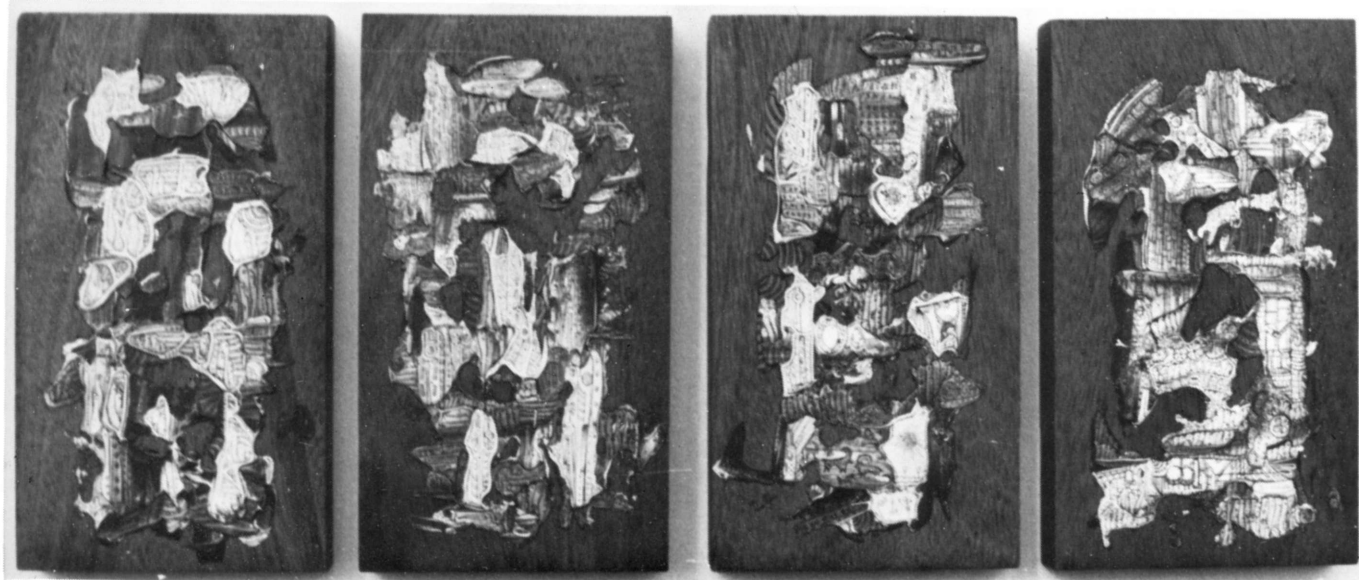


Daniel Miedzinski

It is perhaps significant that Daniel Miedzinski is a movie-maker. The style and direction of his achievement in this field has certainly influenced the work he is currently showing at Gallery 101 in Johannesburg. Miedzinski is a maker of movies in miniature. Taking a 'cast' of tiny objects, usually moulded or carved by himself, he photographs them through his movie camera, making the action proceed frame-by-frame as he shifts the objects a fraction of an inch at a time in their table-top setting.

Laborious, infinitely painstaking, a world in miniature - this is one of Miedzinski's directions in visual art, and one which has gained him photographic honours at home and abroad. He has four times represented South Africa in the class of abstract and art films on international salons, and has also gained several distinctions in this class in Johannesburg salons.

The tiny world in which Miedzinski works on film is carried over into the field of acrylic paintings he is now exhibiting.



The acrylics on his current one-man show are mostly small in scale, but might almost be described as microscopes opening up new worlds. From a distance the paintings could well be conventional examples of abstract expressionism, perhaps more tightly painted and in heavier impasto than is usually encountered.

It is only when one gets closer, gets them into focus as it were, that a new sub-world is revealed.

A new macrocosm of hundreds of tiny forms is seen to be seething and teeming within the body of the paintings themselves. Technically what is happening is that Miedziński, using a fine-pointed pen, is delineating another underworld of tiny objects and figures in India ink on the painted surface of the acrylic, some of them natural forms, some weird hieroglyphics, others again human figures.

What he is seeking to do is to reveal a world within a world, to unfetter the imagination and let it roam, creating as it goes.



PORTRAIT OF THE ARTIST

