

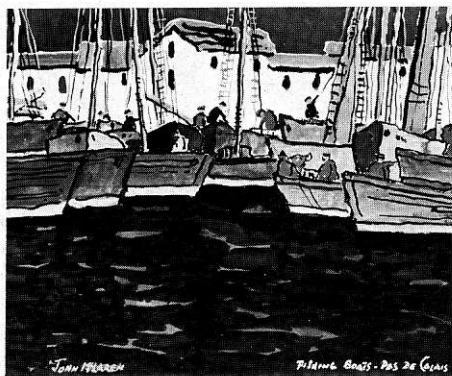
Exhibition 19 – 31 March

John McLaren

An exhibition of paintings to be opened on Monday, 19 March, at 8.00 p.m. in the Main Gallery.

The work of this artist is perhaps not as widely known in the Republic as it should be. But this is entirely due to himself. He is somewhat retiring in nature, paints solely from an inspired urge with no mind towards publicity, and is content to remain a solitaire.

He is influenced by the French Fauves - Matisse, Derain, Vlaminck, Braque, Dufy, and several others - who were the revolutionaries from conventional placidity, and boldly changed to a cult of impressionism which translated scenic conception in a rendition of *pure* colours of the spectrum in vibrant juxtaposition.



Some years ago McLaren was encouraged to exhibit paintings in Johannesburg, which received high acclaim from both the English and Afrikaans Press. One report describes his work as inseparable from *musical metaphor*, with the bracing effect on mind and eye that strong major chords have on the ear. Another report, equally glowing, summed up with the observation that he was probably the most characterful artist seen here for some time.

In the last war McLaren served as an officer in the Rhodesian forces, and was commissioned by the Rhodesian Government to paint war pictures for the official war history of the colony, which appear therein in full colour.

He is a citizen of the Republic of South Africa and expresses through the mediums of oil, water colour, gouache, and the moderately new Acrylic Polymer, the sunshine of Africa in a fanfare of joyous colour.