

JACQUES GRINBERG'S gouache drawings are spontaneous, lucid and accomplished. With a range of limited colours and using black as the descriptive key, Grinberg creates dynamic images of animal and human heads, skull formations and facial details. Although the work is constructed via a linear method a sense of volume is apparent. The life quality of his subjects are transformed into mechanical, almost architectonic, parts as one takes note that a variation on the cubist influence is still very much alive after all.

Superimposing black grids upon colour grids, Grinberg uses the white of the paper to create a low relief effect, one that transposes negative and positive shapes into a sturdy "sculptural" image. Almost carved, Grinberg's subjects are close to mythological beings (statuary) or masked theatrical characters, "stolen" as it were from Leger's proletarian ballet designs and Helion's geometric abstractions. Neither beautiful nor elegant, ugly nor passive, his gouaches project a definitive presence, a forthright statement.

Born in 1941, Grinberg studied at the Avni Institute with Mokady, Streichman and Stematsky. In 1962 he moved to Paris and was a founder of the "Nouvelle Figuration" group. This is his first one-man show in Israel. (Dvir Gallery, 26 Gordon, Tel Aviv.) Till Sept. 26.



Jacques Grinberg: gouache (Dvir Gallery, Tel Aviv).

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