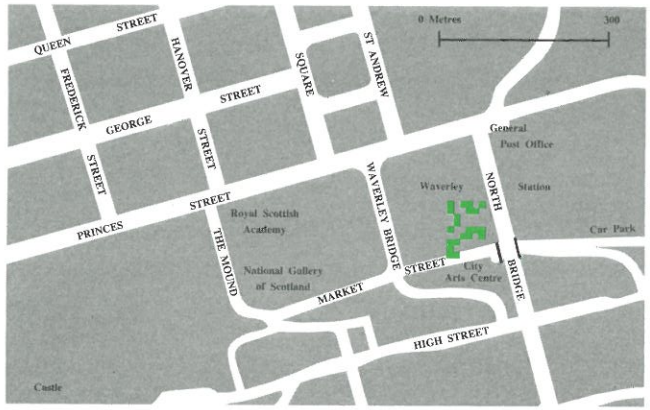
The Fruitmarket Gallery

Director: Mark Francis Exhibitions: Lesley Morrison Administration: Fiona McLeod, Aileen Brady Activities: *Moira Innes* Publicity: Alison Bell
Gallery: *Donald Ritchie, Donald Busby, Louise Dick, Henrietta Campbell*
Bookstall: Cathy Outram, *Donald Busby* Cafe: *Donald McKinney, Anne Smith, Colin Duncan*
Part-time staff are shown in italics

Admission Free
Open: Tuesdays to Saturdays and 29 December 10-5.30. Sunday 28 December 1-5
Closed: 25, 26 December and 1, 2 January
The gallery cafe, which has a restaurant licence, is open Tuesdays to Saturdays and 29 December 10-5. 28 December 1.30-5

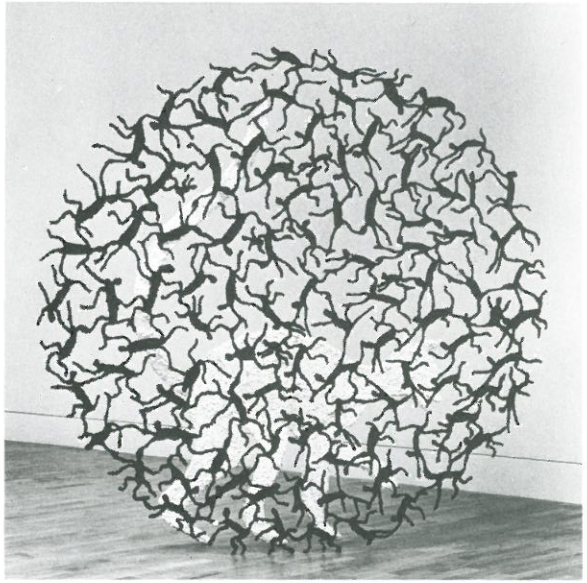
The Fruitmarket Gallery is *subsidised by the* Scottish Arts Council.



The Fruitmarket Gallery, 29 Market Street, Edinburgh EH1 1DF Tel 031-225 2383

The Fruitmarket Gallery 8 November-3 January

From Two Worlds



Zadok Ben-David *Circle of Life: The Mystical Experience of the Wild Cat* 1986

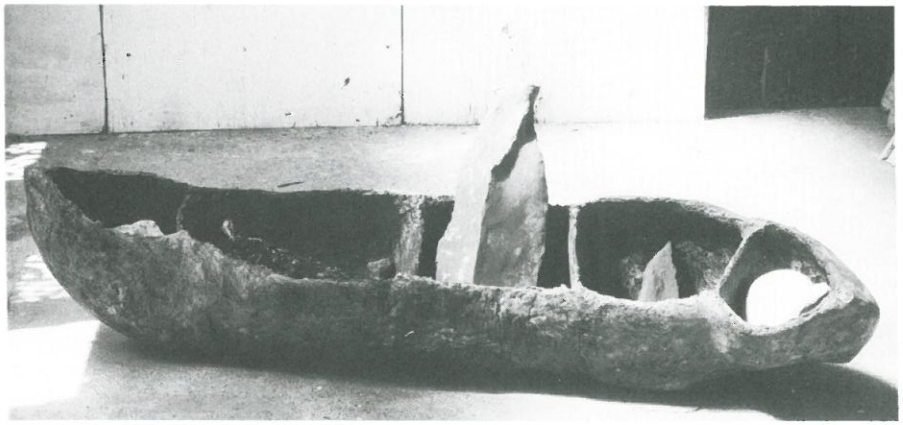
From Two Worlds

Lower and Upper Galleries

The participating artists of this exhibition come from a wide variety of cultures spanning Africa, Asia, the Caribbean and the Middle East. Now living and working in Britain, all of them draw a common inspiration from the reconciliation of the two worlds to which they belong. Their family or community background is combined in experience and memory with the everyday reality of life in contemporary Britain. Although some of the artists are self-taught, most have emerged from an art college education and implement a wide range of approaches, techniques and media. Traditions of European art practice have been absorbed and mingled with the artists' own ethnic backgrounds to produce complex, composite images in response to the contradictions of their lived experiences. It is a striking aspect of the exhibition that so many of the artists are engaged in confronting issues of cultural and personal identity. The aim of the exhibition is to increase the awareness of the contribution that these hybrid artists are making to global culture as it is manifest in this country, a contribution which until now has been more widely acknowledged in the fields of music and literature.

The paintings included range from the vibrant, symbolic and colourful work of Saleem Arif, Denzil Forrester and Shafique Uddin to the satirical and ironic paintings of Tam Joseph and Sonia Boyce. Painting is combined with other media in the more analytical and personal references in the installations by Rasheed Araeen and Lubaina Himid. Gavin Jantjes and Houria Niati both attempt to approach the historical issues of the slave trade. In Houria Niati's case this is achieved by reworking Delacroix's painting *Women of Algiers* in the light of womens' emancipation and Algeria's independence from colonial rule.

The mixed-media installation by Keith Piper *The Spirit will not Descend without Song* involves painting, sculpture, written notes, sound and music. Zarina Bhimji's work also uses various media, with photographic material reworked, stained and coloured and fixed on glass or muslim in carefully arranged sequences. Tape/slide and video have been employed by the Black Audio Film Collective principally to examine colonial and imperial imagery in their productions *Signs of Empire* and *Image of Nationality*.



Veronica Ryan *A Place in the Scheme of Things* 1986

Four sculptors are included, using both traditional materials such as bronze and plaster along with materials such as fleeces, hay and seeds in the work of Franklyn Beckford, or the metal constructions of Sokari Douglas-Camp. The work of Veronica Ryan or Zadok Ben-David oscillates between the figurative and the abstract or symbolic use of shapes and forms. Strongly contrasted colours and pigments and sensuous concentration on surface and volume are a feature in all the work exhibited.

Most of the artists featured are currently living and working in the London area. Although several of them have featured in important regional exhibitions such as *Black Skin/Bluecoat* at the Bluecoat Gallery, Liverpool and *Into the Open* at the Mappin Art Gallery, Sheffield this is the first time any of the artists have been shown in Scotland. *From Two Worlds* has been organised by the Whitechapel Art Gallery and selected by them with the assistance of Sonia Boyce, Gavin Jantjes and Veronica Ryan.

Catalogue

A 48 page catalogue with 16 colour plates and documentation on the artists has been published to accompany the exhibition. It has an introduction by Nicholas Serota and Gavin Jantjes and an essay by Adeola Solanke. It is priced £4.00 at the exhibition (£6.00 plus post and packing by mail order).

Events

Admission to all events is *free*.

Saturday 8 November at 2.30 pm
Lubaina Himid, one of the participating artists, will give an informal talk relating her work to the themes of the exhibition.

Saturday 22 November at 12 noon
Gavin Jantjes, selector and exhibitor, will talk about the issues raised by *From Two Worlds*.

Saturday 29 November at 2.30 pm
On this date there will be a short introductory tour of the exhibition lasting approximately 30 minutes. Please assemble at the bookstall.

Tam Joseph *Monkey dey Chop, Baboon dey Cry* 1983

A programme of videos related to the exhibition will be shown daily.

Teachers interested in sending school groups to the gallery please contact Moira Innes on 031-225 2383 to arrange for a guided tour or practical workshop.

An **exhibition of photographs** taken as part of the Summer Project organised by Adult Basic Education, Neighbourhood English Teaching and the Roundabout International Centre will be on display in the gallery cafe.

A series of discussions and practical workshops has been organised in conjunction with the Roundabout International Centre. Any groups interested in similar activities please contact Moira Innes.

Photographs from the Summer Project

Fruitmarket Gallery exhibitions on tour

Gareth Fisher
The Seagate Gallery, Dundee. 18 October-12 November

Forthcoming exhibition

17 January-28 February 1987

Luciano Fabro
A major retrospective exhibition by the versatile and well-known Italian artist. Entitled *Landscapes* it will present a range of the artist's work from 1969 to the present day, featuring a series of works in bronze, glass and leather based on the geographical outline of Italy and the 70ft *Arcobaleno* (rainbow) made of coloured cloth.