

The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release
July 1988

PROJECTS: NACHUME MILLER

August 18 - October 11, 1988

The Museum of Modern Art continues its PROJECTS series with an exhibition of recent drawings and paintings by Nachume Miller, on view from August 18 to October 11, 1988. Organized by Cara McCarty, assistant curator in the Department of Architecture and Design, the exhibition reveals the artist's concern with the atmospheric expanse of the landscape, realized in works ranging from small pencil studies and oil sketches to mural-size paintings.

In Miller's works, a sense of drama is achieved through an elaborate and energetic rendering of forms that appear to weave and swirl in deep space. Although he refers to the series as landscapes, he has dispensed with terrestrial subjects and uses the conventional orientation of land and sky only as a point of departure. As Ms. McCarty writes in the brochure essay accompanying the exhibition, "For Miller, they are landscapes because they are about nature, and they are nature because they are about turmoil. Turmoil is as much a feature of nature as any tree, mountain, or ocean."

The character of Miller's line as energetic gesture relates his works to Abstract Expressionist painting. Yet, as distinguished from the gestural automatism of that style, Miller renders each line deliberately. Through the manipulation of tightly woven parallel lines, he plays with effects of light and shade, creating allusions to the atmosphere. Rendering one line at a time reinforces Miller's passionate commitment to the act of drawing, which is pivotal to this work.

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Nachume Miller was born in 1949 in Frankfurt, West Germany. In 1975 he received his B.F.A. from the School of Visual Arts, New York. Individual exhibitions of his work include Exit Art, New York (1988); A & M Artwork, New York (1981); and Bertha Urdang Gallery, New York (1976). His work has also been included in group exhibitions at David Bietzel Gallery, New York (1988); Barbara Toll Gallery, New York (1985); and LACE, Los Angeles (1983).

PROJECTS, a series of exhibitions devoted to contemporary art, is made possible by generous grants from the Lannan Foundation and J. P. Morgan & Co. Incorporated. The program is directed by Linda Shearer, curator, Department of Painting and Sculpture.

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For more information or photographic materials, contact the Department of Public Information, 212/708-9750.