

The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release
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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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