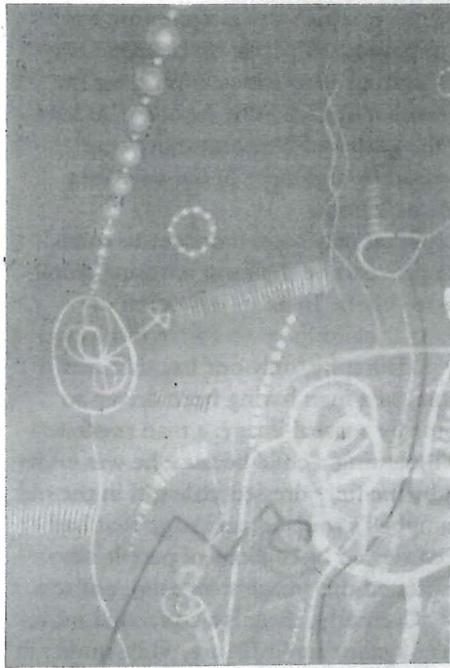
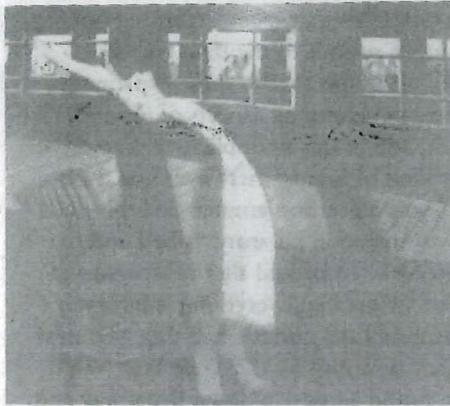


Action and narration at Ariel Gallery



Keith Morano, "Fugue," in *Dynamic Abstractions*, Ariel Gallery



Maryann Lutomski, *untitled*, in *Visual Narrations*, Ariel Gallery

phony of bright primaries and deep blue hues that project an enveloping nocturnal mood. Then there is Gary Bercow, a superb painter from Ithaca, New York, who deconstructs figures and still lifes in shimmering neo-Impressionist strokes, creating sumptuous color fields that vibrate with a rarefied chromatic energy.

Visual Narrations

In the second show, "Visual Narrations," Barbara Van Arnam shows juicy, vigorous oils and acrylics, some with

icons and classical collage fragments afloat in seas of thick pigment.

Narrative elements come to the forefront in the figurative fantasies of Maryann Lutomski, focussing on single figures in atmospheric interiors. In one of Lutomski's evocative large canvases, a woman gulps down a solitary glass of wine; in another, a young boy plays with a toy plane; his shadow looming on the wall, nournal lights glowing in the window.

Edna Ceola Kishbaugh, a talented sculptor who works in wood, marble, and plaster, makes a strong showing with flowing organic figure pieces. Especially striking is her wood sculpture of a male figure emerging from a womb-like opening in the head of a monumental earth mother.

This splendid varied group show is crowned by the energetic figure paintings of Brian Schmidt, who has evolved a highly personal neo-Fauvist style. One of Schmidt's most compelling large canvases suggests the aftermath of a crucifixion with simplified figures formed in slashing strokes of muted color.

Dalia Monroy, another talented artist from Mexico, creates thickly impastoed, intensely colored abstractions that are remarkable for their rugged physicality and strong painterly thrust. "Dulzidád Immemorial" is a dazzling sym-