



PRIMITIVE BEASTS

(#1 Stone Series)

CHARLES CULVER

WATER COLORS

February 12th - March 3rd, 1951

MACBETH GALLERY

11 East 57th Street

New York 22, N. Y.

THE STONE SERIES

The paintings of the present exhibition form a group I have named the "Stone Series". They are interpretations arising from a study of stones found along the shores of northern Michigan lakes.

In stones, with their patterns and imbedded fossils, I have discovered a new world not like our own. In it are Beings, beasts, birds and reptiles of species heretofore unknown and unclassified.

The trend of the Series began early in the spring of 1950 when, one day during a stroll, I found a small brown stone with a pattern on its surface which suggested to me a group of Prehistoric animals. My painting based on this stone — "Primitive Beasts" (reproduced on the cover) — was Number One of the Stone Series; and in the ensuing months there followed many others, based on stone patterns, all similar in style and idea though each different in design, color and pictorial aspect.

The stone pictures present much more radical and expressionistic images than do most of my previous paintings (in which I tried creatively to interpret the landscapes, animals, insects, birds and flowers of our familiar world); yet the new paintings still essentially are, as I think mine shall always be, responses to the facets, fragments and views of nature I have contemplated with fascination — in the current case the microcosms to be seen in stones.

Charles Culver

1. Primitive Beasts
2. Black Creature on Red
3. Cascade of Black Creatures
4. Cow-creature
5. Beasts in Landscape
6. Primitive Horned Beast
7. Gray Beast with Black Reptile
8. Under-earth Creatures
9. Primitive Creature (fish-like)
10. Gray, Long-eared Animal
11. Animal with Exterior Bones
12. Tawny Beast with White Marks
13. Melodramatic (upright) Figure
14. Unclassified Animals in Fantastic Landscape
15. Running Horned Creature
16. Leaping Horned Creature
17. Red-earth Creatures with Deer
18. Black Linear Creatures with Blue

New York (city). Macbeth gallery

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