



LARRY SCULLY : Red and black abstract, 1976

KENNETH BAKKER : Untitled, 1980 [detail]



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Although South African artists to a degree followed the lead of European and American abstractionists in the 1960s, they developed unique visions, sensitive to the diverse natural and historical environment they were confronted with. The paintings and constructions of Kenneth Bakker at first glance seem to be complete imaginary abstractions, yet on closer examination reveal their rootedness in the close observation of natural forms.

Bakker represents a key exponent of this approach which he consistently refined over time. Some of his contemporaries; Edoardo Villa, Anna Vorster, Lucky Sibiyi, Judith Mason and Larry Scully engaged with similar aesthetic concerns but developed very different pictorial approaches which characterised the diverse narrative of South African art history that evolved at the time.

STEFAN HUNDT [CURATOR: SANLAM ART COLLECTION]



JUDITH MASON : Standing figure, 1962



EDOARDO VILLA : Mapogga, 1964