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PURE ART

Two Exhibitions

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Haroon Khimani, at the Taj, is an artist pure and simple. He does not illustrate or sketch but aims directly at organic form, often with considerable success. The charcoal and crayon pictures are particularly effective. *Tank*, *Fantasy of Castles*, *Mosque*, *Broken Beauty* and *Majestic Desolation* are virtually flawless constructions with masses of black, severe, dense and harmonious as abstractions, yet subordinated to the chosen theme in each case.

Khimani's oils don't seem to me equally integrated. The colours of *Form in Space* and *Untitled*, for instance, are beautiful in a void. They please the eye without moving the spirit. It is not the abstract design here that is inadequate but the original urge, which is not clearly related to Nature or the drama of the inner life. I guess the artist's intention is to project a mood, but it needs something objective in the image to make it real.