



Trinidad Sevillano and Patrick Armand in English National Ballet's Swan Lake, choreographed after Petipa: see Dance

# Gold man and Quicksilver

## Critics' Choice Visual Arts

Tim Hilton

**L**EONARD McComb's Portrait of a Young Man Standing, sometimes these days called The Golden Man, has been removed from exhibition in Lincoln Cathedral and is now in the front hall of the Tate Gallery. No doubt that the Dean of Lincoln, the Very Reverend Brandon Jackson, has mismanaged his censorship. The sculpture is not objectionable and it has an unworldly, if not exactly a spiritual, aura. The gold covering gives it a clothed rather than naked appearance, and I imagine that the piece would have glowed in the low light of the cathedral choir.

Whether it stands up in the Tate is a different matter. McComb cannot compete with the masters of figure sculpture, also in the front

hall. An odd thing about his work is that it might fit with the European precursors of Pop art. He made the first version in 1963, and his piece has affinities with then-new sculpture by Yves Klein, who also produced a nude male, coated with blue. While at the Tate, look for two new acquisitions, a little painting by Barnett Newman and a sculpture by Tony Cragg.

The Walsall Art Gallery has a good double bill. Leger's circus lithographs are paired with photographs by Vanley Burke, who recently went from Birmingham to Johannesburg and has returned with video material as well as books, posters, newspapers and his own photographic images.

New art in London this week is provided by Marilyn Hallam, Steve Lewis, Jim Unsworth and other abstract artists at the Greenwich Citizens Gallery. Fischer Fine Art is beginning to fizz. Here are Gillian Ayres and Michael Sandle, among established artists in a group show: and note work by two talented newcomers, the

sculptor Anna Best and the painter Peter Ellis. Ellis O'Connell has her first solo sculpture exhibition at Art-site in Bath.

Best new continental exhibition is at the Van Gogh Museum in Amsterdam. The big retrospective has closed, but here are 250 of the precious little sketches he added to his letters, together with the first major survey of work by his friend Emile Bernard.

## Dance

Mary Clarke

**B**ALLROOM Blitz on the South Bank offers an Afrikan People's Day of Dance, while tomorrow Green Candle provides workshops and performance opportunities for children from age five to 12, especially for those with learning difficulties. Northern Dance Company, Ballets Afrikaines and Northern School of Contemporary Dance will be in residence on Saturday bringing

some of the exciting community work being done in Chapeltown, Leeds. On Sunday there will be the grand finale, Dancing in the Streets.

At the Royal Festival Hall English National Ballet ends its run of Swan Lake on Saturday. Sevillano and Armand are expected to dance Saturday's matinee as well as tomorrow night.

The Cleveland San Jose Ballet, making a first visit, dances Coppelia at The Point Theatre, Dublin, until Saturday with Rudolf Nureyev as Dr Coppelius at all evening performances. Next week the company goes to Edinburgh, to the Playhouse Theatre, opening on Tuesday with Flemming Flindt's The Overcoat, made for Nureyev in Italy, which shares a bill with Quicksilver, by the company's artistic director, Dennis Nahat, danced to Mendelssohn. From August 31 to September 2 they give Coppelia. Also in Edinburgh, at the King's Theatre, a first opportunity here to see American Indian Dance Theatre, from tomorrow until Saturday.