

ROBERT BRANAMAN 1933 –

- One of the outstanding Wichita Kansas artists who moved to San Francisco in the late 1950's (1959) including – Dennis Hopper, Bruce Conner, Michael McClure, David Haselwood, Beth Pewther and others.
- Considered by M. Agron to have made historic breakthroughs in painting and was clearly a seminal influence in the development of the Hippy/Psychedelic art which was to become emblematic of the period. M. Agron believes Branaman's work (along with others) was imbued with a creative vision that would "vitalize our culture". He referred to it as "a flowering of the Beat Generation" with spontaneity, visions of beauty, creativity and illumination.
- Artist/Poet Michael McClure, along with Bruce Conner was an admirer of Branaman and described him as "possessing a whirlwind of creativity, the most extreme Bohemian", Jack Foley (O Her Blackness Sparkles p.25).
- Symbolic of the times was a press release for Branaman's exhibition at the Batman on 12th March, 1963, " Batman Gallery will present a major breakthrough in painting to be found in the works of Robert R. Branaman... Artists and the public may come in costume if they wish. The historic paintings in which the breakthrough occurred will be exhibited."
- Batman Archive includes 4 leaf booklet with Branaman's work published by Charles Plymell 1963. It also contains correspondence of the Batman Gallery and how it assisted him through difficult times.
- Editor and publisher of "Fux Magascene" and "Now Now" publications which included drawings and poetry by artists such as Alexander Weiss, Michael McClure, Charles Plymell, Bruce Conner, William Jahrmakt, Gary Snyder, Phi Whalen, Laurence Ferlinghetti and George Herms.

- Another endorsement of Branaman's work came from art historian/clinical psychologist Eleanor Wygold.

"The realms of experience open to the theoretical physicist, the depth psychiatrist, the mystic-religious thinker, are also available to the painter and through him to us. Only a few geniuses like Branaman know these realms. Only a few artists have the talent and courage to reveal through the soul what others are more willing to reveal through the head...I think that people should see Bob Branaman's paintings. They provide the opening through which we can embark on a long deep and beautiful journey."

- Married at one point to fellow Wichita artist, Beth Pewther.