

## Maseko show will continue

DESPITE recent setbacks in which a Sowetan artist has been told to vacate two of the three rooms which make up his Johannesburg gallery, his first African art exhibition will continue. The exhibition, organised by Mr Joe Maseko in his 27 Kruis Street premises, will be open until September 17. At least 120 works by several leading African artists are on display. Works include oils, water colours, graphics and etchings. They are all examples of ethnic art. Mr Maseko has been told by the leasing company to vacate the rooms which he rents through a white nominee. Anyone interested in the exhibition can contact Mr Maseko at the Art Mart, telephone number 21 3939.

## Up go car impounding fees

THE vehicle impounding fee and towing charge of the Johannesburg City Council have been increased to meet rising costs in the price of fuel and labour, as well as in operating and maintaining the vehicle pound. The towing charge is going up from R25 to R30 and the vehicle storage fee will be increased from R1.20 a day to R2 with an initial period of grace of two days. To assist the public,

# Artist has to leave rooms

Mail Reporter

THE first-ever exhibition of African art organised by a Sowetan artist could turn out to be the last.

The organiser, Mr Joe Maseko has been told to vacate two of the rooms in the Kruis Street building which make up the Art Mart. The exhibition was opened on August 10.

"The first I knew of it was on Tuesday when the leasing company told me to leave. They said I had to be out by 4 o'clock today — Wednesday."

"I painted out the placard when the owner Mr Fletcher gave me permission a few months ago to hold my exhibition here. I also put in carpets and spotlights as well as curtaining into the two rooms which I have only been using for the past few months."

Mr Maseko says he has spent at least R600 on carpeting and R2 000 on framing. A leading bank had sponsored the lighting system.

He had not signed a lease because according to the Group Areas Act he is not allowed to rent these premises. One room he has been renting for a year but this has been done through a white nominee.

A spokesman for the leasing company says Mr Maseko has been an illegal tenant in that he has not been thrown out but asked to leave.

"We have been doing him favour by letting him stay there and although he was there for at least six months we only asked for one month's rent — August's."

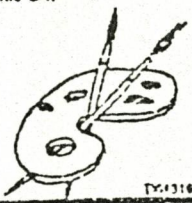
## FIRST EVER EXHIBITION OF AFRICAN ART

PRESENTED BY JOE MASEKO

Over 120 paintings on view at the Art Mart Gallery. Featuring oils, water colours, posters, graphics and etchings. Don't miss this exciting display of ethnic art.

ON SHOW AT  
27 Kruis Street  
ZYGMARSH HOUSE  
2nd Floor  
Tel 21-3939

OPEN DAILY INCLUDING  
SATURDAY 10.00 AM TO 9.00 PM



# Around the galleries

BLACK artists have tended to adapt their talents to appeal to the eyes of sophisticated Whites.

And so, although there was a great burgeoning of Black art about a decade ago, in the last few years Black art has almost reached a standstill — as has most South African contemporary art — with graphics tending to catch the fancy of art investors!

Perhaps the situation regarding Black art might now change with the establishment of Maseko's Black Art Gallery (second floor, Zygmarsh House, 27 Kruis Street, Johannesburg — diagonally opposite the Carlton Hotel — and here's hoping that the hotel will advertise the gallery where, currently, there's an overpowering collection of paintings by scores of black artists.

Maybe more important than what's now on show, is the fact that (with publicity) this neat, three-roomed art venue could become an

important factor in the lives of careers of Black artists.

With constant exposure, a new phase — a truly indigenous one — in Black art might result.

Possibly wrongly, Black artists in their heyday, tried too hard to please European tastes.

Yet, very often, there were flashes of the deeper, more natural ideas which, encouraged, could bring into existence a purer, more compelling "school" of Black painting and sculpture.

Most White artists have a hard time of it making a meagre living from what they produce.

And the Black artist must find it near-impossible.

So pay a visit to this new gallery: you'll be surprised at the tremendous variety of the exhibits, the aplomb of many of the artists — and the overall atmosphere of exuberance. One of the chief characteristics of Black art.