DESIGN MEETS FINE ART


‘Metalization of the Dream’ (Photo-Lithograph,1962, unique impression, signed, titled, dated and inscribed for the artists Michael and Valerie Thornton, Photo-litho on stone, in pencil on wove, 26 X 25 cms), is more experimental in terms of content and medium.

Even the celebrated graphics genius FHk Henrion (b. Nuremberg 1914 d.London 1990) found himself infused with psychedelic attitude and subject matter in his campaign to promote London Transport and poetry (the Zoo, the Underground, 70cms X 80cms 1967). A noted exhibition designer, Henrion was art director of the ICA during the 1950s, home of the Independent group, and a big influence on the early Pop artists with his juxtaposed surrealist cut-outs and photo-montages. Thus the work of Henrion and Paolozzi provides an early bridging link between graphic design and fine art, as later realised in the 60s Pop movement and, by extension, the pop music movement where, from the mid-60s onwards the popular song, in the hands of the Beatles and others, became something profound and timeless, making popular music the creative force of the modern era.