116 Landscape with tree and house 1920 initialled and dated br: M.L. '20 oil on canvas 39 x 31 EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Town 1969 cat 7 (E167-9) LITERATURE see above pp 55, 58, 59 FROVENANCE Mr Kevin B Quinlivan, Cape Town; present owner unknown

NOTES For same subject see nos 117 and 118.



117 Landscape with tree and house ca 1920

unsigned
oil on canvas on cardboard 37 x 29
LITERATURE see above pp 55, 59
PROVENANCE US

NOTES This work and no 118 have been dated on the basis of the similarity of style and motif to no 116, dated to 1920 by the artist. See colour plate 8 p 196.



118 Landscape with trees and houses ca 1920

unsigned
oil on canvas on cardboard 29 x 39
LITERATURE see above pp 55, 59
PROVENANCE US

NOTES See notes to no 117. For sketch see sketchbook 6 f6 p 228.



119 Landscape with trees and house ca 1920

unsigned
oil on canvas on cardboard 28 x 35
LITERATURE see above p 55
PROVENANCE US

NOTES See note to no 111.



120 Landscape

ca 1920

unsigned
oil on canvas on cardboard 30 x 37
LITERATURE see above p 59
PROVENANCE US

NOTES See note to no 111.



121 Landscape with houses

ca 1920

unsigned
oil on canvas on cardboard 29 x 39
LITERATURE see above pp 55, 59
PROVENANCE US

NOTES See note to no 111.



122 Barge on canal near Antwerp\* ca 1920

unsigned
oil on canvas on cardboard 28 x 35
LITERATURE see above p 54
PROVENANCE US

NOTES According to Balwé Jnr in a letter to University of Stellenbosch (18 Feb 1975), the canal is near Antwerp. The work is tit!ed accordingly. Sketches of the same subject matter are seen in sketchbook 4 ff22 and 23 p 225. Refer also to nos 33, 123, 126, 438 for the same theme. For a photograph of a similar motif see fig 36 p 264.



1920

signed and dated bl: M Laubser '20 oil on textured cardboard 24,5 x 34 LITERATURE see above pp 54, 55, 63, 72 PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by Prof and Mrs P Serton, Stellenbosch; inherited by Miss W Serton, Pretoria

NOTES Compare motif to no 122. See notes to no 122.



124 View of Antwerp\*
(On the Schelde, Antwerp)\*

1920

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '21 oil on cardboard 30 x 36,5 EXHIBITIONS Carnegie Library Stellenbosch 1942 cat 88 (E36)?; Argus Gallery Cape fown 1942 cat 88 (E37)?



LITERATURE Botha 1964 pp 9, 14, 34,35, 36, 38, 137, 143 cat 36; Miles 1965 p 193; see above pp 61, 71
PRCVENANCE Mrs P Serton, Stellenbosch; inherited by Mrs W E von Kleist, Windhoek

NOTES This work was titled <u>Gesig op Antwerpen</u> by Botha in 1964. Compare the view to the photograph of the waterfront of Antwerp fig 37 p 264. As this work and no 125 are the only works so far traced which could depict a view of Antwerp across the wide river, it is presumed that it was one of these works which was exhibited on E36 and 37 under the title <u>On the Schelde</u>, Antwerp. (The Schelde is a wide river in Antwerp). Included in Laubser's annotations on the catalogue of E36 (US79/7/12), is the note: 'Mrs Serton paid', which perhaps refers to this work. However, see also note to no 270. The work has been dated to the Belgian period on the basis of the title, the motif, the tonal colouring and the broken paint application.

125 Boats on water (On the Schelde, Antwerp)\*

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '22
oil on cardboard 23,5 x 36
EXHIBITIONS Carnegie Library Stellenbosch
1942 cat 88 (E36)?; Argus Gallery Cape Town
1942 cat 88 (E37)?
LITERATURE Botha 1964 p 144
cat 47
PROVENANCE Mrs Taljaard, Stellenbosch.



NOTES This work has been redated to the Belgian period because of the motif, the palette and the brushwork. Compare the thick impasto to that in Irises 1920 no 152. Compare the town in the background to that in no 124. See note to no 124.

For the redating of nos 126-129, 131, 133-135 and the dating of nos 130, 132 and 136 see catalogue summary.

126 Barge on canal ca 1920

1 2 1

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '21 ink and watercolour on white paper 20 x 13 EXHIBITIONS Gallery 101 Johannesburg 1970 (E171)

PROVENANCE purchased at E171 by Miss S Breytenbach, Johannesburg

NOTES Cf motif to no 122. For the motif of the furrowel field refer to nos 128 and 130. This work is framed with nos 127 and 132.



127 Landscape with ploughed field

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '21 watercolour and ink on paper 13 x 11 LITERATURE see above p 65 further details the same as no 126

NOTES This work is framed with nos 126 and 132.

128 Landscape ca 1920

signed and dated tl: M. Laubser '21 watercolour and ink on paper 9,5 x 13,5 LITERATURE see above p 62, 65 PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by Mr and Mrs Cecil Skotnes, Johannesburg





NOTES According to the present owner in conversation with the author this work was signed and dated in ca 1970.

129 Landscape

ca 1920

signed and dated m1: M. Laubser '21 watercolour and ink on paper 10,5 x 10,5 LITERATURE see above p 65 PROVENANCE purchased from Lezards ca 1968 by Mrs M F Borowitz, Johannesburg



130 Landscape

ca 1920

signed br: M. Laubser (obscured by frame) watercolour and pen on paper 10 x 11,5
LITERATURE see above pp 62, 65
PROVENANCE purchased from Mr A Krook,
Johannesburg by Dannis Hotz Gallery,
Sandton; purchased ca 1966 by Mrs S
Sifrin, Johannesburg



131 Landscape

ca 1920

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '21 watercolour and ink on paper 13 x 9.5 LITERATURE see above  $\rho$  62 PROVENANCE purchased from Gallery 101. Johannesburg in February 1974 by Mrs K Raphaeli, Sandton



NOTES This work is framed with nos 154 and 170.

132 Landscape

ca 1920

unsigned watercolour and ink on paper 13 x 10 LITERATURE see above p 62 further details the same as no 126

NOTES This work is framed with nos 126 and 127.



133 Landscape

ca 1920

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '21 watercolour and ink on paper 13 x 18 LITERATURE see above pp 62, 64 EXHIBITIONS Gallery 101, Johannesburg 1970 (E171) PROVENANCE purchased at E171 by Miss B Breytenbach, Johannesburg



134 Landscape with tree

ca 1920

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '21 watercolour and ink on paper 13 x 9,5 LITERATURE see above p 62 PROVENANCE Mr F Haenggi, Johannesburg; present owner unknown



NOTES This work is framed with nos 135 and 136. Compare the motif to sketchbook 1 ff1,10 and 11 p 219.

135 Landscape with wheat sheaves

ca 1920

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '21 watercolour and ink on paper 9,5  $\times$  13 LITERATURE see above pp 62, 64 further details the same as no 134



NOTES This work is framed with nos 134 and 136. It is one of the first works in which figures are introduced into the landscape. Compare the motif to nos 139 and 140 and sketch-book 6 f25 p 230.

136 Landscape with wheatsheaves ca 1920

unsigned watercolour and ink on paper 9,5 x 13 LITERATURE see above p 64 further details the same as no 134



NOTES This work is framed with nos 134 and 135.

137 Landscape with haystacks ca 1920

unsigned
oil on canvas on cardboard 26 x 35
EXHIBITIONS Kunsmuseum Stellenbosch
1975 cat 10 (E201)?
LITERATURE see above p 55, 58, 65
PROVENANCE US



NOTES According to Arnold Balwé in correspondence with the University of Stellenbosch the scene is in Belgium.

Compare subject to no 138. It has been impossible to establish whether it was this work or no 138 which was exhibited on E201.

138 Landscape with haystacks ca 1920

unsigned oil on canvas on cardboard 25 x 35 EXHIBITIONS see note to no 137 LITERATURE see above p 55, 58, 65 PROVENANCE US

NOTES Compare subject to no 137. See note to no 137.



139 Woman gathering harvest - Belgium\* ca 1920

initialled and dated bl: M.L. 21 oil on canvas 25,5 x 31 LITERATURE see above pp 55, 65, 69-70, 71, 72, 155

PROVENANCE gift from the artist to Mrs D Sauer; gift to Mrs C M Otto, Ventersdorp; gift to Mr and Mrs J Cronjé, Johannesburg in ca 1969



NOTES This work and no 140 are based on a photograph which was left in the artist's estate to the University of Stellenbosch fig 45 p 267. On the back of the photograph is annotated in the artist's own handwriting: 'Woman gathering Harvest Belgium Maggie Laubser.' This work and no 140 are titled on the basis of the annotation on the back of the photograph. A sketch of the same theme occurs on f21 and f29 of sketchbook 6 p 229 and 230

Stylistically this work appears to date earlier than the Italian works, eg, nos 156, 157 recto and 204 (ie, before 1911). Compare the muted shades of blue, greens and yellows and the paint handling in which the individual brushmark is evident, to the flat planes of bright striking colours, intense contrasts of dark and light and decorative simplification of the Italian works, particularly no 204. The combination of the furrows leading into depth and the horizontal bands of the field and trees relate compositionally to other works of Belgian motifs. Compare the interpretation of the background trees to no 123, dated to 1920 by the artist. The work has thus been redated to the Belgian period.

See colour plate 9 p 197.

#### 140 Woman gathering harvest -Belgium\* Harvest time

initialled and dated bl: M.L. '22 oil on canvas or cardboard 23 x 31 EXHIBITIONS Martin Melck House Cape Town 1968 cat 6 (E156) LITERATURE Botha 1964 pp 9, 14, 35, 36-37, 73, 137, 143, cat 37; Miles 1965 p 193; Van Rooyen Cape Times 8 Apr 1968 p 7 (E156); see above pp 55, 65, 69-70, 71, 72, 155

ca 1920



PROVENANCE gift from the artist to Mr Bosman Di Ravelli, Strand; ....Dr H K Silberberg, Pulbagh

NOTES See note to no 139. In the E156 catalogue this work was titled Harvest time.

#### 141 Lane with autumn trees ca 1919/20

unsigned
oil on canvas on hardboard 35 x 28
LITERATURE see above pp 59, 61, 63, 71,
72, 97
PROVENANCE US

NOTES The style of this and nos 142-144 suggest that they were painted before no 145 dated 1920, for they do not display the same degree of simplification of outline, emphasis on silhouette and reduction of descriptive detail as seen in no 145. However, Laubser spoke of the autumn in Italy:



'Ek is so lief vir blare' se sy asof terloops. 'Vir herfs-blare. Ek was eenkeer in Italië. Dit was dié somer baie warm en droog. En daardie herfs was die wonderlikste wat ek ooit gesien het. Weet jy, ek kon my klere nie uit my koffers pak nie, want al die laaie in my kamer was vol herfsblare.'
[Eikestadnuus 24 July 1959 p 9 (B2 p 305)].

Thus one cannot discount the possibility that this work was painted in Italy. However, as has been suggested, the style suggests that this work and nos 142-144, were painted before no 145, dated 1920,

See colour plate 10, p 197.

142 <u>Autumn trees</u> ca 1919/20

unsigned
oil on canvas on cardboard 29 x 24
LITERATURE see above pp 59, 114
PROVENANCE US

NOTES See note to no 141.



143 Autumn trees

ca 1919/20

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '21 oil on canvas on cardboard 29 x 25 LITERATURE see above pp 59, 114 PROVENANCE gift acquired from the artist by Prof W E G Louw, Stellenbosch; given to Mr and Mrs B Louw, Hartebeespoort in ca 1963

NOTES This work was in all probability dated years after execution (see also no 6 in the collection of Prof W E G Louw). The work has been redated to ca 1919/20 on the basis of style - see note to no 141.



144 Trees and haystacks ca 1919/20

unsigned oil on canvas on cardboard 28 x 35 LITERATURE see above pp 59, 114 PROVENANCE US

NOTES See note to no 141.



145 Trees

1920

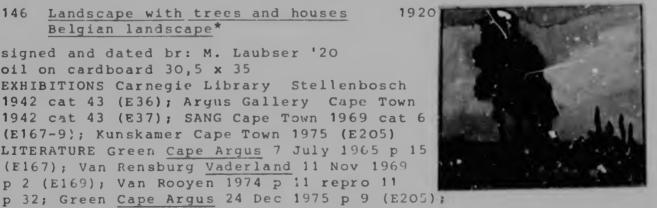
initialled and dated br: M.L. '20 oil on cardboard 36 x 29 EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Town 1969 cat 4 LITERATURE see above pp 59, 62, 72, 114
PROVENANCE Mr Julian Stekhoven, Cape Town; present owner unknown



146 Landscape with trees and houses Belgian landscape

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '20 oil on cardboard 30,5 x 35 EXHIBITIONS Carnegie Library Stellenbosch 1942 cat 43 (E36); Argus Gallery Cape Town 1942 cat 43 (E37); SANG Cape Town 1969 cat 6 (E167-9); Kunskamer Cape Town 1975 (E205) LITERATURE Green Cape Argus 7 July 1965 p 15 (E167); Van Rensburg <u>Vaderland</u> 11 Nov 1969 p 2 (E169); Van Rooyen 1974 p 11 repro 11

see above p 72 PROVENANCE purchased E36 by Mrs C de Waal, Stellenbosch; purchased in ca 1975 by Kunskamer Gallery, Cape Town; purchased in 1976 by Dr M J Strydom, Georje



NOTES In the E36 and 37 catalogues this work was titled Belgian landscape. Refer to Laubser's annotation alongside the work in the E36 catalogue, US79/7/12, viz, 'P de Waal'. For sketch for this work see ff17 and 18 of sketchbook 6 p 229.

# 147 House with sunflowers Belgian farm\*

ca 1920

initialled bl: M.L.
dated on the back: 1921
oil on cardboard 29 x 35,5
EXHIBITIONS Carnegie Library Stellenbosch
1942 cat 80 (E36)?; Argus Gallery, Cape Town
1942 cat 80 (E37)?
LITERATURE Botha 1964 pp 9, 34-35, 128, 137
cat 35; Miles 1965 p 193; see above pp 55,
67, 69, 71, 72, 119
PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by
Prof and Mrs P Serton, Stellenbosch;
inherited by Mrs G Sem, Cape Town



NOTES Botha titled this work Belgiese plaas. For sketch seeff16 and 17 of sketchbook 6 p 229. See also woodcut no 413. This work is dated to the Helgian period because of the motifithe architectural style of the cottage and its thatched roof are typical of the Lowlands; and on the basis of the style; the loose broad brushwork and the subdued tones. It cannot be discounted that it was this work which was exhibited on E36 and 37 under the title A Belgian cottage (not for sale). See colour plate 11 p 198.

#### 148 Farmhouse

ca 1920

unsigned oil on canvas on caráboard 32 x 41 LITERATURE see above pp 55, 67, 69, 72 PROVENANCE US

NOTES For similar motif see no 149. This work, like no 149, is dated to the Belgian period as a result of the motif, the subdued tones and the paint application. In this work the brushstrokes are small and delicate and this handling differs from the broad flat paint application of the Italian period. The variation between the large definite brushmarks in no 149 and the small 'feathery' marks in this work probably indicates that the artist was still experimenting with the formal and expressive possibilities of oil.

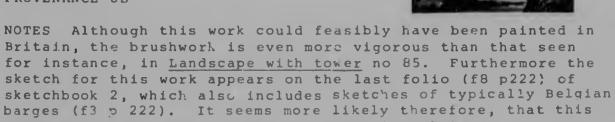
149 <u>Farmhouse</u> ca 1920

unsigned
oil on canvas on cardboard 38 x 46
LITERATURE see above pp 55, 67, 69,
71, 72, 119
PROVENANCE US

NOTES The painterly approach discussed in no 147 is further developed a this work in which the individual brushmarks

are even larger and more clearly emphasized. For similar motif see no 148. See note to no 148. Compare the paintwork to Irises no 152. See colour plate 12 p 198.

150 Landscape ca 1919/20 unsigned oil on cardboard 29 x 38 PROVENANCE US



cigned and dated br: M. Laubser '20 oil on canvas on cardboard 37 x 38 (see notes)

EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Town 1969 cat 9 (E167-9)

LITERATURE Alexander Burger 5 July 1969 p 2;

Green Cape Argus 7 July 1969 p 15 (E167);

see above p 55, 61

PROVENANCE Professor W E G Louw, Stellenbosch

NOTES The measurements recorded are those

work was painted whilst the artist was in Belgian.

obtained from the E167 catalogue - it would seem they should probably be 47 x 38. In the E167 catalogue this work was titled Ou heer, Antwerpen. Balwé Senior in a letter, (US7°/5/67), tentatively dated to 23 Sept 1920, which is addressed to the artist in Antwerp, writes: 'I rejoiced hearing from you in your last letter that you had got Mrs slompied's portrait alright, and that Blompied is also sitting for you.' As this work is the only firmly dated portrait traced from the Antwerp period, perhaps the sitter is Mr Blompied.

152 Irises

initialled and dated bl: M.L. '20 oil on textured cardboard 51 x 35 LITERATURE see above pp 55, 72 PROVENANCE gift from the artist to Mrs I Laubser, Stellenbosch in 1924; gift to Mrs J Allan, Stellenbosch in 1967; purchased by Mr B Trakman in 1974



1920

NOTES The following is typed on paper attached to the back of this work: 'Maggie Laubser painted this picture of Dutch Irises in Leyden Holland in 1924 while studying there. On her return to South Africa she gave the painting to my mother Mrs Ivy Laubser (her sister-in-law). My mother gave me the painting in 1967' signed N.I. Allan 14.11.74. There is no record traced of the artist ever having lived or studied in Leyden, Holland. According to the details in her passport, Maggie Laubser was in Germany in 1924. In the author's opinion, the date on the painting reads 1920 and not 1924. The title Dutch Irises and the dating of 1924 are therefore rejected and the work is retitled and redated as above.

Compare the vase to that in no 153. The large painterly brushstrokes relate to the paintwork in <u>Farmhouse</u> no 149 and are developed even further in no 153. The style and motif thus confirms the redating of 1920.

#### 153 Poppies

13 p 199.

signed br: M. Laubser
oil on canvas on cardboard 47,5 x 31,5
EXHIBITIONS Martin Melck House Cape Town
1968 cat 10 with repro (E156)
LITERATURE see alove pp 55, 97
PROVENANCE Dr H K Silberberg, Tulbagh

LITERATURE see alove pp 55, 97
PROVENANCE Dr H K Silberberg, Tulbagh

NOTES Compare the vase to that in Irises no 152.
The painterly quality noted in no 152 dated 1920, is further developed in this work. See colour plate

ca 1920

#### ITALY, OCTOBER 1920 - AUGUST 1921

Maggie Laubser left Belgium during the middle of 1920 to travel to Italy via Germany and Austria with Arnold Balwé. She arrived at Lake Garda during mid-October where she stayed at the fishing villages of Torri del Benaco and San Vigilio. Balwe Senior died in early April 1921 and thus Labser returned to Germany for six weeks or so. In early June she travelled back to Italy, visiting Venice and also Milan. In August she began her homeward journey to South Africa, via Germany and Britain, arriving in Cape Town on 19th September 1921.

The majority of paintings executed during her stay in Italy depict either boat scenes (nos.155-174), lake scenes (nos.175-189 recto and verso), village scenes (nos.190-195, 221, 222) or landscapes or lake scenes with trees (nos.196-220). There are a number of still lifes from this period (nos.224-246) and several portraits (nos.247-261) as well.

Several sketchbooks date to this period - viz.: s.etch-book 4, pp.224, 225, sketchbook 5, pp.226, 227 and sketchbook 7, p.234, as well as the many Italian sketches in sketchbook 6, pp.228-233. There are also several loose pencil sketches executed during her stay in Italy: nos.170-173, 174 recto and verso, 176, 132, 185, 194, 207, 208, 214 recto and verso, 216, 223, 246 and 248. Laubser continued to use ink and water-colour (ros.158, 160, 161), often using ink only (nos.154, 159, 169, 221, 222). She began to draw with charcoal again (ros.155, 193, 200, 206, 238-243, 253, 254), for the first time since her early portraits (nos.15 and 26). One pastel no.202, has been dated to this period. The majority of the works traced are oil paintings, however.

There are many works dated by the artist to this period. Fourteen works are dated by the artist to 1920. They are:

Boat in harbour nos.155-157 recto, pl.14, p.199, Trees by
take no.204, Cypress and olive trees with sun's rays no.210,
Lake with trees no.220, Lemons on a branch no.225, pl.23,

p. 204, Poppies in vase with plate no. 234, Five apples in a dish no. 239, Self portrait no. 247, pl. 28, p. 206, Italian woman no. 249, Young girl no. 251 and Italian woman no. 252. There are twenty four works dated by the artist to 1921. They are nos. 162, 165, pl. 16, p. 200, 166, 167, 175, 180, 183, 184, 187, 188 recto and verso, 189 recto and verso, 190, 195, 196, 199, 211, 215, pl. 21, p. 203, 217, 231, 235, 236, pl. 27, p. 206, 254 and 257. In the case of the pencil drawings and ink and watercolour drawings/sketches the works were, in all probability, dated years after execution viz.: nos. 158-161, 169-173, 207, 208, 216 and 221. These works accord with the other Italian works in the motif, and the dating given by the artist is therefore accepted.

Most of the undated works have been placed in this period on the evidence of motif and style. There are several works which, because of style and motif, accord with other firmly dated Italian works which were dated by the artist to 1922, 1923, 1924 or 1925, i.e., after her stay in Italy. These works are: Boats in harbour 1924 no. 164, pl.15, p.200, Lake scene with boats 1922 no.178, Houses by lake 1922 no.192, By the Garda Lake 1922 no.200, Three oranges in dish 1923 no.219 verso, Five lemons on a table 1924 no.232, Lemons, apple and dish 1924 no.240, Three apples and dish 1924 no.241, Vase, book and drapery 1924 no.244, Italian woman 1925 no.253, Woman with tray in background 1922 no.256 and Arnold Balwé reading 922 no.259.

Works are not arranged chronologically but according to subject matter. Firstly, there is insufficient documentation to establish exactly where she was at what date (see chapter 5, p.75 footnote 8). It appears that San Vigilio, Torri del Benaco and Gardone are sufficiently near each other to have enabled Laubser to have readily travelled from one to another. Works cannot therefore be placed in strict chronological order on the basis of motif. Secondly, Laubser painted in several different styles during this period. These styles do not necessarily follow a chronological order, e.g., Trees by lake no.204 and Italian woman no.249 both date to 1920 and Lake Garda no.180 and Landscape with cypresses and olive trees no.215,pl.21, p.203, both date to 1921. See also chapter 5, p.101.

The different styles should rather be seen as symptomatic of a period of experimentation. These may be divided broadly into three groups:

- 1. There is a decorative stylization evident in the flat planes of bright colour contrasted in clearly and simply demarcated shapes: nos.156, 157, pl.14, p.199, 179-181, pl.17, p.201, 203, pl.19, p.202, 204, 205, pl.20, p.202, 209-213. This is carried to its fullest point in paintings such as Lake Garda no.181, pl.17, p.201, Trees by lake no. 203, pl.19, p.202, Trees by lake no.205, pl.20, p.202, Cypresses no.211 and Cypresses by lake no.213.
- 2. Other paintings nos.163, pl.15, p.200, 164, 183, 184, 192, 201 verso, 198 and 215, pl.21, p.203, show a looser technique and more painterly style in which areas of board are sometimes left unpainted, particularly in Boats in harbour no.164, pl.15, p.200, and Trees by lake with boat no.198. A freer more vigorous brushstroke and more subdued colouring is evident, seen particularly in From my studio window nos.183 and 184, and Landscape with cypresses and olive trees no.215, pl.21, p.203.
- 3. In the rest of the paintings the majority there is a looseness of technique somewhere between the works of group 1 and 2 above, and there is a careful structuring of form with colour, tone and brushmarks, particularly noticeable in the still lifes.

There are several works which cannot be placed within any group. For example, Boats in harbour no.165, pl.16, p.200, Lake scene with boats, Italy no.177 recto, Village by Lake Garda with boats no.190 and Trees by lake with boat no.201 recto, all have a surface quality which is most unusual in Laubser's work. This is probably due to the fact that they have been 'restored.' Certain works show characteristics of more than one group: e.g., Lake scene with boats, Italy no.296 and Lake scene with boats and trees, Italy no.297 (characteristics of groups 2 and 3) and Trees by lake with boat no.199 and Lake scene with boats no.175 (characteristics of group: 1 and 2). Orange, lemon, vase and tray no.224, pl.

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22, p.203, is painted in a style quite different from any other works during this period or, in fact, in her <u>oeuvre</u>. As it is the only work traced in which forms are structured by small, but clearly differentiated brushmarks, it is seen as an isolated experiment.

The major change in the Italian period is in Laubser's palette. In the majority of works from this time shadows are coloured, hues are more saturated and the palette is more luminous than during the previous period, and the mutual intensification of hues through contrast of near complementaries is apparent.

#### 154 Buildings and trees

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '21 pen and ink on paper 13 x 9 PROVENANCE Mrs K Raphaeli, Sandton

NOTES This work is framed with nos 131 and 170.



1921

1920

### 155 Boat in harbour

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '20 charcoal on paper 39 x 29 LITERATURE Van Rooyen 1974 p 11 repro 8 p 29 PROVENANCE on loan from Prof. M L du Toit and later a gift from the artist to Prof P R Skawran; purchased by the Pretoria Art Gallery 1 Aug 1970 inv no 70/21



NOTES For sketch see sketchbook 6 f20 p 229. For same subject see no 136. Compare also to no 157.

156 Boat i rbour - Lago di Garda\*

1920

signed and cled in pencil br: M. Laubser 20 annotated on back in unknown hand:

boat in harbour Lago di Garda 1920 £10-10 oil on cardboard 44 x 35
EXHIBITIONS Schweickerdts Pretoria 1944 cat 6 (E42)
LITERATURE see above pp 78, 80, 98, 101, 103
PROVENANCE purchased at E42 by Professor M S B
Kritzinger, Kameeldrif near Pretoria



NOTES This work is subtitled on the basis of the annotation on the back of the work. For sketch see sketchbook 6 f20 p 229 and for charcoal study of same subject see no 155. See also no 157 recto. See colour plate 14 p 199.

According to the present owner, he bought the work on an exhibition at Schweickerdts in 1944, ie, E42. At this exhibition, cat 6, Lake Garda, was priced at 10 gns, which corresponds with the price written on the back of no 156.

156a Boat in harbour - Torri, Italy\*

1920

dated: 1920
oil on canvas on cardboard 41 x 35
annotated on back by Laubser:
From Magdalena 1920
Xmas Torri Italy

No illustration available

PROVENANCE purchased from the artist in 1932 by Mrs A Buys, Okahandja, South West Africa

NOTES The annotation on the back gives this work its title.

157 recto Boat in harbour (Sailing boat at quayside\*)

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '20 oil on cardboard 34 x 40 LITERATURE Sotheby 3 Nov 1976 cat 70 repro p 58 PROVENANCE Mrs I M Smuts, Stellenbosch; purchased by Mr B Trakman, Cape Town; sold at Sotheby 3 Nov 1976 cat 70 to Rand Afrikaans University, Johannesburg

1920



NOTES This work was titled <u>Sailing boat the</u> quayside in the Sotheby catalogue and was dated 1921 [sic]. Compare to nos 155 and 156 and to sketchbook 4 fl1 p 224.

157 verso Dishes and jugs

ca 1921

See after no 243

158 Studies - boats in harbour; sun reflecting on water 1921

signed and dated bm: M. Laubser '21
pencil watercolour and ink on paper 13,5 x 20
EXHIBITIONS Gallery 101 Johannesburg 1970 (E171)
PROVENANCE purchased on E171 by Mr and Mrs K R
Ind, Sandton



NOTES Compare subject to no 159. This work is framed together with nos 221 and 222.

159 Boats in harbour

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '21
ink on paper 13 x 20,5
EXHIBITIONS Gallery 101 Johannesburg 1970
(E171)
LITERATURE Winder Rand Daily Mail 23 May
1970 p 10 repro p 10 (E171)
PROVENANCE purchased at E171 by Mr B L
Kramer, Johannesburg

1921

NOTES Compare subject to nos 158 and 293, the latter tentatively dated by the Author to Laubser's stay in Germany.

160 Boats in harbour

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '21 pencil watercolour and ink on paper 13 x 18 PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by Mr and Mrs Cecil Skotnes, Johannesburg

NOTES Compare subject to nos 161 and 162.

1921

1921



161 Boats in harbour

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '21
watercolour and ink on paper 13 x 15
EXHIBITIONS Gallery 101 Johannesburg 1970 (E171)
PROVENANCE purchased at E171 by Miss A Breytenbach,
Johannesburg

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NOTES For same subject see no 162. Compare also to no 160.

162 Boats in harbour

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '21 oil on cardboard 34,5 x 40,5 LITERATURE Volks 13 April 1973 cat 48 with repro PROVENANCE Mr P M Mihalik, Pretoria; sold at Volks Auctioneers, Pretoria 13 April 1973; purchased by Mr R E Rouillard, Pongola

NOTES For same subject see no 161. Compare also to no 160.

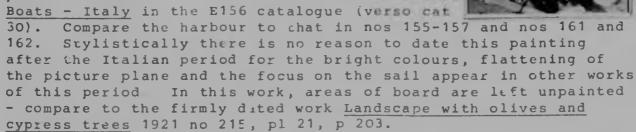
1921



163 recto <u>Boats in harbour</u> ca 1921 Boats - Italy\*

unsigned
oil on cardboard 28 x 33,5
LITERATURE see abov p 101
PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by
Dr H K Silberberg, Tulbagh

NOTES This work has been dated to the Italian period as a result of the motif. It was titled Boats - Italy in the E156 catalogue (verso cat



163 verso <u>Seascape</u>

post 1924

#### 164 Boats in harbour

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '24 oil on cardboard 34 x 27,5 LITERATURE see above pp 101, 107 PROVENANCE purchased from the artist in ca 1964 by Mr J W Jonker, Groot Marico

NOTES Although this work has been dated 1924 by the artist, there is no reason to date it after the Italian period. See note to no 163. The painting has been redated to her stay in Italy. See colour plate 15 p 200.



165 Boats in harbour Red sail\*

1921

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '21 oil on cardboard 34 x 27 EXHIBITIONS Martin Melck House Cape Town 1968 cat 25 (E156)
LITERATURE see above pp 97, 109
PROVENANCE Dr H K Silberberg, Tulbagh

NOTES This work was titled <u>Red sail</u> in the E156 catalogue. For sketch for this work see sketchbook 6 f19 p 229. For discussion of paint texture see note to no 177 verso. See colour plate 16 p 200.

166 Boats in harbour 1921

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '21 oil on cardboard 28 x 34

FXHILITIONS Asso of Arts Cape Town 1966 cat 23 (E145)?

LITERATURE Botha 1964 pp 9, 13, 28 cat 15;

P V Burger 7 June 1966 p 2 (E145)?;

Van Rooyen Cape Times 8 June 1966 p 6 (E145)?

PROVENANCE Col and Mrs Wicht, Gordons Bay; inherited by Mrs S du Plessis, Johannesburg



NOTES A work from Col Wicht's collection, viz, Old Shepherd, was exhibited on E145 (see repro Burger 7 June 1966 p 2 E145). A second work by Laubser was also exhibited on this exhibition, viz, Harbour, Italy cat 23. As Col Wicht had two works depicting a harbour in Italy, viz, nos 166 and 167, it seems highly probable that the work exhibited on E145 as cat 23, had also been lent by Col Wicht. Unfortunately it has not been possible firstly, to confirm this, and secondly, to establish whether it was no 166 or no 167 which was perhaps exhibited.

167 Boats in harbour 1921 Yellow and orange sailboats\*

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '21 oil on cardboard 34 x 39
EXHIBITIONS see notes to no 166
LITERATURE Botha 1964 pp 9, 13, 28 cat 14; see also notes to no 166
PROVENANCE Col and Mrs Wicht, Gordons Bay; inherited by Mrs S du Plessis, Johannesburg



NOTES Botha titled this work Geel en oranje seilbote.

168 <u>Boats</u> ca 1921

signed hr: M. Laubser
oil on cardboard 27,5 x 34
EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Town 1969 cat 31
(E167-9)
LITERATURE Cheales Star 7 Nov 1969 p 16
(E169); Van Rensburg Vaderland 11 Nov
1969 p 2 (E169)
PROVENANCE Mr J Stekhoven, Cape Town;
present whereabouts unknown



NOTES The motif of boats, the similarity of the mountain in the background to that in no 167, and the treatment of the reflections, p ace this work in the Italian period. 169 Boats

rigned and dated bl: M. Laubser '21 ink on paper 11 x 13 PROVENANCE Gallery 101, Johannesburg; present whereabouts unknown

192



170 Study: boats on lake

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '21 pencil and crayon on paper 10 x 12,5 LITERATURE see above pp 80, 113 PROVENANCE purchased from Gallery 101, Johannesburg in 1974 by Mrs K Raphaeli, Sangton

1921

1921

NOTES This work is framed with nos 131 and 154.

171 Two studies: boat on lake

signed and dated bm: M. Laubser '21
annotated on back in unknown hand:
Lake Garda Italy
pencil on paper 13 x 20,5
LITERATURE see above pp 80, 113
PROVENANCE Mrs Borowitz, Sandton; purchased through Curries Auctioneers, Johannesburg by Mr and Mrs G Robertson, Bedfordview

34

NOTES This work is framed with nos 172 and 173.

172 Study: boat with reflection

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '21 annotated on back in unknown hand:
Lake Garda Italy
pencil on paper 13 x 18,5
LITERATURE see above pp 80, 113
PROVENANCE same as no 171

1921

NOTES This work is framed with nos 171 and 173.

173 Study: boats on lake

1921

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '21 annotated on back in unknown hand:
Lake Garda Italy
pencil on paper 13 x 14
LITERATURE see above pp 80, 113
PROVENANCE same as no 171



NOTES This work is framed with nos 171 and 172.

169 Boats

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '21 in. n on paper 11 x 13 PROVENANCE Gallery 101, Johannesburg; present whereabouts unknown

1921



170 Study: boats on lake

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '21 pencil and crayon on paper 10 x 12,5 LITERATURE see above pp 80, 113 PROVENANCE purchased from Gallery 101, Johannesburg in 1974 by Mrs K Raphaeli, Sandton

1921

NOTES This work is framed with nos 131 and 154.

171 Two studies: boat on lake

signed and dated bm: M. Laubser '21
annotated on back in unknown hand:
Lake Garda Italy
pencil on paper 13 x 20,5
LITERATURE see above pp 80, 113
PROVENANCE Mrs Borowitz, Sandton; purchased
through Curries Auctioneers, Johannesburg
by Mr and Mrs G Robertson, Bedfordview

1921



NOTES This work is framed with nos 172 and 173.

172 Study: boat with reflection

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '21 annotated on back in unknown hand:
Lake Garda Italy
pencil on paper 13 x 18,5
LITERATURE see above pp 80, 113
PROVENANCE same as no 171

1921

NOTES This work is framed with nos 171 and 173.

173 Study: boats on lake

1921

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '21
annotated on back in unknown hand:
Lake Garda Italy
pencil on paper 13 x 14
LITERATURE see above pp 80, 113
PROVENANCE same as no 171



NOTES This work is framed with nos 171 and 172.

174 recto Studies - boats

initialled br; M.L.
pencil on paper 12 x 16,5
LITERATURE see above pp 80, 113
PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by
Mr B Trakman, Cape Town

ca 1921



NOTES The motif of boats and the handling of the reflection of the boat, which can be compared to that in no 170, argue for dating this work to the Italian period. Compare the motif of the sun's rays to that in sketchbook 6 ff26 and 27 p 230. Refer also to Balwé's Christmas card to Laubser fig 60 p 272. Compare motif to Sun behind mountain no 289, dated to 1921-4 but placed in the German period.

174 verso Self Portrait ca 1920/1 See after no 248

# 175 Lake scene with boats Sailboats in harbour\* Italian lake\*

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser 21
oil on cardboard 32,5 x 42,5
EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Town 1969
cat 19 (E167-9)
LITERATURE Botha 1964 pp 9, 13, 28-29,
136 cat 16; see above pp 109-110
PROVENANCE purchased from the artist by
Miss C G van der Walt, Pretoria



NOTES This work was titled <u>Seilbote in hawe</u> by Botha and <u>Italiaanse meer</u> in the E167 catalogue. For same subject see no 189 verso.

189 verso Lake scene with boats

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '21 oil on thick cardboard 28 x 34,5 EXHIBITIONS Martin Melck House Cape Town April 1968 cat 24 (E156) PROVENANCE acquired from artist by Dr H K Silberberg, Tulbagh

NOTES For same subject see no 175.

1921



217 verso Sun reflecting on harbour

ca 1921

unsigned oil on cardboard 28,5 x 34 PROVENANCE Dr H K Silberberg, Tulbagh

NOTES Compare the motif of the sun reflecting on water to that in no 176 and 177 recto. The work has thus been tentatively dated to the Italian period.



176 Studies: lakescene with sun; boat in harbour

ca 1921

initialled bm: M.L.
pencil on paper 12 x 16,5
PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by Mr
B Trakman, Cape Town



NOWES This work has been dated on the basis of the motif. Compare Boat in harbour to nos 166 and 167, both dated 1921, and Lake scene with sun to no 177 recto.

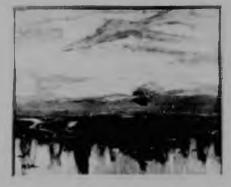
177 recto Sun reflecting on water

ca 1921

signed bl: M. Laubser oil on cardboard 28 x 34.5

PROVENANCE purchased from Dr H K Silberberg, Tulpagh by Mr B L Kramer, Johannesburg

NOTES Compare to the sketch no 176 which is dated to the Italian period. For discussion of paint texture see notes to no 177 verso.



177 verso <u>Lakescene with boats</u>, <u>Italy</u>\* ca 1921

unsigned
oil on cardboard 28 x 34,5
PROVENANCE purchased from Dr H K Silberberg,
Tulbagh by Mr B L Kramer, Johannesburg

NOTES It is evident from the mountain, which is probably the Pazzacola Mountain, that this work was painted whilst the artist was in Italy. (See fig 58 p 271). Compare the mountain to that in nos 183-186.

The painting appears to have been cleaned thus there is a peculiar, almost pastel-like

thus there is a peculiar, almost pastel-like texture, and as a result the paint quality appears to be unusual for this period. Compare, however, to nos 165, 177 recto, 190 and 201 recto.

# 178 Lakescene with boats ca 1921 Lakescene, Italy \*

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '22 oil on cardboard 28,5 x 35 EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Town 1969 cat 30 (E167-9)
PROVENANCE purchased from Ashbey's Galleries, cape Town on 16 Jan 1964 by Mr A Friedman, Cape Town



NOTES This work was titled Meertoneel, Italië in the E 167 catalogue. Compare the subject to nos 179-181. It is assumed that this painting was executed whilst the artist was in Italy and that she dated it inaccurately years later. Compare the mountain to that in fig 57 p 271. Cf no 180 dated 1921, by the artist.

### 179 Lake scene with boat cr 1921

signed bl: M. Laubser
oil on cardboard 29 x 35,5

EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Town 1969
cat 20 (E167-9)

LITERATURE see above p 101

PROVENANCE Mr Kevin B Quinlivan, Cape
Town; present owner/whereabouts unknown



NOTES For sketch see sketchbook 5 f 6 p 226.
This work has been dated to the Italian period because of its similarity to this sketch from an Italian sketchbook. Compare particularly the simplified patterned shapes of greenery in the foreground of the sketch and this painting. Compare also to no 180 dated 1921 and identified by the artist: Lake Garda.

#### 180 <u>Lake Garda</u>\* 1921

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '21
annotated on back by artist:
 geskilder 1921 'Lake Garda'
 Maggie Laubser Klipheuwel Stasie Kaap
oil on cardboard 34,5 x 44
LITERATURE see above p 101
PROVENANCE Mrs M C Viljoen, Strand



NOTES Laubser's annotation on the back of the work provides support for both the title and date. For sketch see sketchbook 4 f3 p 224. Compare style and motif to no 181.

181 Lake Garda

ca 1921

signed br: M. Laubser oil on cardboard (?) 34,5 x 44,5 LITERATURE Sotheby 25 Sept 1973 cat 269 repro p 92; see above pp 98, 101, 103, 113, 122 PROVENANCE Mr A Schachat, Cape Town; sold at Sotheby 25 Sept 1972 to Mr and Mrs J Polovin, Bedfordview



NOTES Compare style and motif to no 180. For sketch see sketchbook 4 f3 p 224 - this work is titled and dated accordingly. See colour plate 17, p 201.

182 Study - from my studio window, Italy 1921

unsigned pencil on paper 12 x 16,5 LITERATURE see above p 79 PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by Mr Mr B Trakman, Cape Town



NOTES This sketch depicts the same scene as that in no 183. The work has therefore been titled and dated to the Italian period. See also the sketch in sketchbook 6 f20 p 229.

183 From my studio window, Italy\*

1921

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '21/'24(?) annotated on back by artist:

Uit my ateljee venster Italië Maggie Laubser Klipheuwel

Kaap

oil on cardboard 28,5 x 35,5 EXHIBITIONS Constantia Gallery Johannesburg

1945 cat 38 (E46) LITERATURE Botha 1964 p 13 cat 19; see above

pp 79, 101, 105, 106



NOTES According to the present owner, the date, which is partially obscured by the frame, reads 1924. The annotation on the back of the work, however, indicates that the painting was painted 'on the spot' in Italy - thus the date 1021 has been accepted. Compare to no 184; see sketch in sketchbook ( f20 p 229 and no 182.

184 From my studio window\*

1921

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '21 initialled and dated br: M.L. '21 annotated on the back by the artist:

Van my ateljee venster - geskilder 1922
Maggie Laubser Klipheuwel Stasie, Kaap
oil on cardboard 41,5 x 34,5
LITERATURE see above pp 79, 101, 102, 105, 106
PROVENANCE purchased from the artist by
Prof Theo Haarhoff, Cape Town; inherited
by Dr E A J Hayward, Aberdeen Cape



NOTES This painting, titled by the artist on the back of the work, has been dated 1921 by the artist on the front of the work and 1972 on the back of the work. The dating of 1921 is accepted. The annotation and similarity to nos 183 and 185 (see mountains), provides supporting evidence, as does the style (cf brushwork in no 183).

The discrepancies in the two dates further substantiate the redating of nos 164, 178, 192, 200, 237, 240, 241, 244, 253, 256, 259.

185 Lake scene

1921

signed br: M. Laubser pencil on paper 12 x 16,5 PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by Mr B Trakman, Cape Town



NOTES The same mountain that is seen in this work is seen in the firmly dated works nos 183 and 184. On this basis this sketch is dated to the Italian period. Compare this scene to nos 177 verso and 186.

186 <u>Lake scene with boats</u> ca 1921 <u>Italian seascape\*</u>

initialled bl: M.L
oil on cardboard 29 x 35,5
EXHIBITIONS Macfadyen Hall Pretoria 1931
cat 26 (E6)?; SANG Cape Town 1969 cat 17
(E167-9)
LITERATURE Botha 1964 pp 13, 28 cat 18;
Green Cape Argus 7 July 1969 p 15 (E167);
Cheales Star 7 Nov 1969 p 16 (E169)



PROVENANCE purchased at E6 by Prof T H le Roux, Pretoria; inherited by Mrs E M Hofmeyr, Pretoria

NOTES Titled Italiaanse seeskap by Botha and Baai van Napels in the E167 catalogue. The same mountain depicted in this work is seen in nos 183 and 184, both painted from her studio window at Lake Garda. As she lived at Lake Garda during her stay in Italy, the title of Baai van Napels is rejected.

It is probable that this work is the one which was exhibited on E6 under the title <u>In Italy</u> cat 26, as, according to the present owner, he purchased it on E6, and <u>In Italy</u> is the only applicable title amongst the 31 exhibits.

187 Lake Garda\*

signed bl: M. Laubser '21 (?)
initialled bl: M.L. 21
oil on cardboard 26 x 33
PROVENANCE purchased from Mr P Wolter,
Durban/Pretoria by Pretoria Art Gallery,
Pretoria inv no 75/52

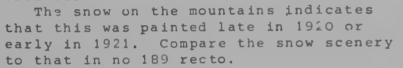


NOTES Titled by the Pretoria Art Gallery.

188 Lake scene with tree and snowcapped mountain

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '21 oil on cardboard 36,5 x 30,5 PROVENANCE purchased from the artist by Mr B Trakman, Cape Town

NOTES This work was originally painted on the back of the portrait of Arnold Balwé no 257. The board was split after the 1969 retrospective exhibition (E167-9) and thus two separate paintings were created.





1921

1921

189 recto Lake scene with snowcapped mountain

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '21 oil on cardboard 28 x 34,5
EXHIBITIONS Martin Melck House Cape Town 1968 cat 24 (E156)
PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by Dr H K Silberberg, Tulbagh



1921

NOTES Compare the snow scene to no 188.
This is unfortunately the only available photograph of this work. It has been included, despite the damage, to assist in identification.

189 verso Lake scene with boats

1921

See after no 175

190 Village by Lake Garda with boats\*

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '21 oil on ardboard 28,5 x 35,5
LITERATURE see above p 109
PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by Mr and Mrs W du Toit, Stellenbosch; gift to Mr and Mrs J G H Wessels, Jchannesburg

NOTES For discussion of paint texture see note no 177 verso. The setting, architecture and vegetation, ie, the cypresses, identify this location as Italian.

191 Houses by Lake Garda\*

Lago di Garda\*

initialled br: Moil on cardboard 33,5 x 43,5
LITERATURE Botha 1964 p 29
PROVENANCE purchased from Schweickerdts
Pretoria in ca 1950 by Mrs S P Stuart-Rogers, Pretoria

NOTES The following is a description by Rotha of a work Lago di Garda painted in 1921 at San Vigilio. Botha did not see the original work but saw a photograph of the work in the artist's possession.

''n Okerkleurige gebou wat weerkaats word in die ultramaryn van die meer vorm die middelpunt van belangstelling. Die mure, water en sipresbome is in breë fors kwashale aangebring. Teenoor die breë muurvlakke wat horisontaal loop, is daar die vertikale lyne in die vensters, sipresse en weerkaatsings. Die geheelindruk, van 'n foto af te oordeel, is losheid, breedgeborsteldheid en spontaneiteit. Die kleurharmonie is gebaseer op oranje, oker, rooi en bruin met die komplement in ultramaryn.' (Personal interview with the artist, Johannesburg, 30 April 1962) p 29.

The above describes the work sufficiently accurately to assume that it is the same work as no 191. The work, therefore, has been dated to the Italian period. In addition, the architecture, the general setting, and the cypresses, are all typically Italian.

Compare the unusual combination of the initials to the monogram on the first folio of sketchbook 5 p 226 and to the initials on no 204.

1921





1921



192 recto Houses by lake Fishing harbour\* ca 1921

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '22 oil on cardboard 30 x 36 EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Town 1969 cat 43 (E167) LITERATURE Van Rooyen 1974 repro 12 p 33; Munitz 1975 repro 25; see above pp 101, 107 PROVENANCE Mr A Rose-Innes, Cape Town; purchased by Mr B Trakman, Cape Town

NOTES This work was titled Vishawe in the E167 catalogue. This work is dated 1922, ie, when the artist was in South Africa. The painting could



have been executed during this time, but the motif is more typically Italian, as is the architecture. In addition, the artist concentrated more on portraits whilst in South Afr. a. Stylistically, the areas of bare board resemble the handling in no 215, dated by the artist to 1921, and no 198 dated to 1921 on the basis of its stylistic and thematic similarity to no 196. The work has thus been redated to 1921.

192 verso Earbour scene with boats ca 1923/24? See after no 292

193 St. Vigilio landscape\*

ca 1921

unsigned artist's annotations on colour charcoal on paper 29,5 x 40 PROVENANCE purchased from the artist in 1969 by the South African National Gallery, Cape Town inv no 69/16



NOTES This work was titled St. Vigilio landscape by the SANG, presumably on the basis of information from the artist, and has therefore been dated to the Italian period. Compare also to nos 194 and 195, 201 verso.

194 Trees and houses by lake

ca 1921

initialled br: M.L. pencil on paper  $6,5 \times 6,5$ PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by Mr B Trakman, Cape Town



NOTES For same subject see no 195 dated 1921. Compare motif to no 193. 195 Trees and house by lake 1921

signed and dated br: '21 M. Laubser oil on cardboard 36,5 x 30 EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Town 1969 cat 21 (E167-9)
PROVENANCE Dr F P Scott, Bloemfontein

NOTES For sketch see no 194. Compare motif to no 193.



201 verso Lake scene with trees, Italy\*

unsigned
oil on cardboard 28,5 x 35
LITERATURE see above pp 101, 105
PROVENANCE Mr M Shain, Johannesburg

NOTES Compare motif to no 193. Compare the unpainted areas of board to nos 215 dated 1920 and no 198.



196 Lake scene with boats, Italy\*

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '21 oil on cardboard 28,5 x 35 LITERATURE see above p 109 PROVENANCE purchased from Dr H K Silberberg, Tulbagh hy Mr B L Kramer, Johannesburg

NOTES The motif is typically Italian and the date of 1921 confirms this identification.



197 Lake scene with boats and tree, Italy\* ca 1921

signed br: M. Laubser
oil on cardboard 30 x 35
LITERATURE see above r 109
PROVENANCE purchased from Dr H K
Silberberg, Tulbagh by Mrs Boyum,
Johannesburg

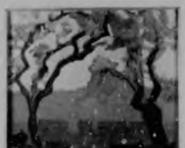
NOTES The motif depicted is similar to that in no 196, dated 1921; the size and type of board is the same as that in no 215, dated 1921, and in no 2C4, dated 1920; and the method of leaving areas of board unpainted is seen also in no 215. These factors substantiate the dating of ca 1921.



198 Trees by lake with boats, Italy ca 1921

unsigned
oil on cardboard 33 x 40
LITERATURE see above p 101
PROVENANCE Prof and Mrs W E G Louw,
Stellenbosch

NOTES A similar motif is seen in nos 196 and 199 both dated to 1921. Compare also the unpainted areas of board to nos 215, dated 1921, and no 201 verso.



199 Trees by lake with boat, Italy\*
signed and dated br: M. Laubser '21
oil on cardboard 29 x 35
LITERATURE see above pp 78, 80, 107, 109
PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by
Mrs C. Overbeek, Ermelo/Potchefstroom:

PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by Mrs C Overbeek, Ermelo/Potchefstroom; inherited by Mr and Mrs S P Overbeek, Randburg



NOTES Compare the scene to no 200. For sketch see sketchbook 6 f19 p 229.

200 By the Garda Lake \*

ca 1921

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '22 charcoal on paper 28 x 41 EXHIBITION SANG Cape Town 1969 cat 140 (E167-9)
LITERATURE see above pp 80, 81 PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by hr B Trakman, Cape Town

NOTES The title Langs die Garda See is recorded in the E167 catalogue. Compare the scene to no 199. It is the same scene, seen from a slightly different viewpoint. Although this sketch



could have been drawn from memory when the artist was in South Africa in 1922, it seems unlikely, as the sketch appears to be a relatively accurate naturalistic drawing, which has not been abstracted to a decorative pattern, as seen in no 288 for example. The work has thus been re-dated to the Italian period.

201 recto Trees by lake with boat ca 1921

signed bl: M. Laubser oil on cardboard 28,5 x 35 LITERATURE see above pp 78, 109, 113 PROVENANCE Mr M Shain, Johannesburg

NOTES For discussion of paint texture see note to no 177 verso. For dating see note to no 202. See colour plate 18 p 201.



201 verso <u>Lake scene with trees, Italy</u> 1921
See after no 195

202 Trees by lake with boat

ca 1921

unsigned
pastel and pencil on cardboard 33,5 x 25
LITERATURE see above p 78
PROVENANCE Miss J H Laubser, Stellenbosch

NOTES The motif of cypresses and a sailing boat, and the style: the flattening of form, simplification of outline and reduction of detail (seen in other works from this period, viz: nos 181, 203-205, 211) lead one to date this work and no 201 recto to the Italian period.



203 Trees by lake

ca 1921

initialled br: M.L.
oil on cardboard 34,5 x 36,5
EXHIBITIONS PAG Pretoria and JAG Johannesburg 1969 cat 188 (E168, 169)
LITERATURE see above pp 78, 98, 101, 103, 122
PROVENANCE Mr and Mrs B Trakman, Cape Town;
purchased by Mr and Mrs D H Stanwix, Sandton;
purchased by Mr J Galasko, Johannesburg



NOTES For sketches for this work see sketchbook 6 ff25 and 34 p 230; and sketchbook 5 f8 p 226. This work could have been painted later than the sketches - note particularly the sketch in sketchbook 6 f25 p 230, which appears to have been reworked in black ink. The flat decorative planes and simplified outlines are found in other works from this period, eg, nos 204 and 205, and in the cloud pattern in no 175. The artist made stylized sketches during this period, eg, sketchbook 4 f3 p 224, particularly the lower sketch. The painting no 181, based on the lower sketch of sketchbook 4 f3 p 224 shows the same stylization, simplification of shapes and negation of recession into depth as seen

in no 203. The painting is thus dated to the Italian period ie, ca 1921.

This painting was not included in the printed catalogue of E167. However, Green's review of E167 refers to an unnumbered work of Lake Garda. It was perhaps this work, which was then included in the typed addendum to the printed catalogue in the 168 and 169 exhibitions.

See colour plate 19 p 202.

### 204 Trees by lake

1920

initialled and dated bl: [M '20 o.l on canvas on cardboard (?) 35,5 x 29,5 LIMERATURE Botha 1964 pp 9, 13 cat 13; see above p 101 PROVENANCE gift from the artist in ca1930 to Professor and Mrs A C Cilliers, Stellenbosch

NOTES For sketch see sketchbook 5 f23 p 227 and sketchbook 6 ff16 and 17 p 229. For same subject see no 205. Compare the unusual combination of initials to the monogram on the first folio of sketchbook 5, p 226, and the initials on no 191.



#### 205 Trees by lake

ca 1920/1

signed br. M. Laubser
oil on cardboard 44 x 35
LITERATURE see above pp 78, 98
101, 103, 122
PROVENANCE acquired from the artist in
ca 1931 by Mr A J Laubser, Johannesburg

NOTES For sketch see sketchbook 5 f23 p 227 and sketchbook 6 ff16 and 17 p 229. For same subject see no 204, dated 1920.

It cannot be ruled out that this work was perhaps painted from no 204 or from the sketches listed, after the artist's stay in Italy. However, the stressed outlines, flat planes and decorative simplified shapes are not developed as far as in no 288, dated 1922. A similar reduction of a naturalistic form to a decorative shape is to be seen in the cloud in no 175, dated 1921. These factors argus for incorporating this work into the Italian period - a period of experimentation. See colour plate 20 p 202.



# 206 Trees by lake Italian landscape\*

signed br: M. Laubser
pencil (?) on paper 35,5 x 29,5
LITERATURE Botha 1964 p 13 cat 17
PROVENANCE gift from the artist in 1936
to Adv F Steyn, Pretoria; Mrs H C Steyn,
Pretoria

NOTES Compare motif to no 207, dated 1921 and compare also to nos 204 and 205. For sketch see sketchbook 6 f20 p 229. Titled Italiaanse landskap by Botha.

207 Study - trees by lake with boat signed and dated br: M. Laubser '21 pencil on paper 15,5 x 13 LITERATURE see above p 80 PROVENANCE Gallery 101, Johannesburg; present owner unknown

NOTES Compare to no 206+

present owner unknown

208 Study - cypresses by lake
signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '21
pencil on paper 13 x 13
LITERATURE see above p 80
PROVENANCE Gallery 101, Johannesburg;

ca 1920/1







1921



209 Cypress and olive trees with sun's rays

ca 1920/1

unsigned
oil on canvas 73 x 60
LITERATURE see above pp 101, 104,
147, 148 footnote 4
PROVENANCE US

NOTES For sketch see sketchbook 5 ff13 and 22, pp 226, 227. For same subject see no 210, dated 1920.



# 210 Cypresses and olive trees with sun's rays The cypress\*

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '20 oil on cardboard 43 x 34
LITERATURE see above pp 82, 101, 104, 147, 148 footnote 4
EXHIBITIONS Martin Melck House Cape Town 1968 cat 19 (E156)
PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by Dr H K Silberg, Tulbagh

NOTES This work was titled The cypress in the E156 catalogue. For sketch see sketchbook 5 ff13 and 22 pp 226, 227. For same subject see no 209.



1920

## 211 Cypresses

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '21 oil on cardboard 28 x 35 LITERATURE see above pp 82, 101, 104 PROVENANCE Mrs F A van der Merwe, Cape Town





212 Cypresses by lake ca 1921

unsigned oil on cardboard 30 x 36 LITERATURE see above pp 82, 101 PROVENANCE US

NOTES This work and no 213 again incorporate the Italian motif of cypress trees, and the style shows a similar development towards simplification of form and flat two-dimensional shapes as seen in no 205.



213 Cypresses

ca 1921

unsigned oil on cardboard 30 x 36 LITERATURE see above pp 82, 101, 103 PROVENANCE US

NOTES See note to no 212.



214 recto Sketch - landscape with cypresses and olive trees: ca 1921 mountain with sun

initialled br: M.L. pencil on paper 12 x 16,5 cm PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by Mr B Trakman, Cape Town



NOTES The sketch in the top left corner depicts the same motif as Landscape with cypresses and olive trees 1921 no 291. Compare the mountain in the bottom centre group of sketches to Mt. Pazzocola in the postcard of Lake Garda, fig 58 p 271.

214 verso Sketches - lake scene with steamer

ca 1921

unsigned pencil on paper 12 x 16,5 cm PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by Mr B Trakman, Cape Town



215 Landscape with cypresses and olive trees

1921

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '21 oil on cardboard 29,5 x 35,5 LITERATURE see above pp 101, 102, 105, 106, 113 PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by Professor and Mrs W E G Louw, Stellenbosch NOTES For sketch see no 214 recto. See

colour plate 21 p 203.



216 Tree study

signed and dated bm: M. Laubser '21 pencil on paper 20,5 x 13 PROVENANCE Mr Theo Rutstein, Bedfordview

1921



217 recto White blossom tree\*

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '21 oil on cardboard 28,5 x 34 EXHIBITION Martin Melck House, Cape Town 1968 cat 21 (E156)
LITERATURE Van Rooyen Cape Times 8 April 1968 p 7 (E156); see above pp 79, 113 PROVENANCE Dr H K Silberberg, Tulbagh

1921



NOTES This work was titled in the E156 catalogue. Compare to no 218.

217 verso Sun reflecting on harbour See before no 176.

218 Pink blossom tree\*

signed br: M. Laubser
oil on cardboard 34,5 x 40,5
EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Town 1963 cat
53 (E115); Martin Melck House Cape
Town 1968 cat 22 (E156)
LITERATURE see above pp 79, 113
PROVENANCE Dr H K Silberberg, Tulbagh

NOTES The work was titled in the E156 catalogue. Compare scene to no 217 rectothe work is dated because of the similarity of motif and style to no 217 recto.

ca 1921



219 recto Trees in courtyard

ca 1921

unsigned
oil on cardboard 35 x 29
LITERATURE see above pp 79, 113
PROVENANCE gift from the artist to
Mrs P Mackay, Cape Town

NOTES Stylistic and thematic similarities to no 217, dated 1921, may be noted.



219 verso Three oranges in dish ca 1921 See after no 231.

220 Lake with trees\*

1920

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '20 oil on canvas 36,5 x 49
LITERATURE Botha 1964 cat 12
PROVENANCE purchased from the artist by Mrs K Laubser, Strand: purchased by Drand Mrs K P O'Hare, Vereeniging

NOTES This work was titled Lagune met bome by Botha.



221 Sketches: portrait of a man - Arnold Balwé?; houses 1921

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '21
pencil ink and watercolour on paper 13 x 20
EXHIBITIONS Gallery 101 Johannesburg 1970 (E171)
LITERATURE see above p 111
PROVENANCE bought at E171 by Mr and Mrs
K R Ind, Sandton



NOTES Framed with nos 158 and 222. Compare the sketch of <u>Houses</u> to the reproduction of the Ex Libris fig 65 p 274.

222 Sketches: village street; fountain

signed and dated bm: M. Laubser '21 pencil and ink on paper 13 x 20,5 further details the same as no 221

NOTES Framed with nos 158 and 221.

1921



223 Studies: gondoliers July/post July 1921

signed br: M. Laubser
pencil on paper 12 x 16,5
LITERATURE see above p 111
PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by
Mr B Trakman, Cape Town



NOTES The artist almost certainly made this sketch during her stay in Venice in July 1921, or shortly afterwards, from memory.

### 224 Orange, lemon, pot and tray

signed bl: M. Laubser
oil on cardboard 34,5 x 41

EXHIBITIONS Stellenbosch 1930 E4;
Asso of Arts Cape Town 1965 cat 45
(E131); SANG Cape Town 1969 cat 3
(E167-9)

LITERATURE Van Rooyen Cape Times
28 April 1965 p 4 (E131);
Delmont 1975 (1) p 11 footnote 5,
12-13, 16, 28, 32, 84, 85; Alexander
Burger 5 July 1969 p 2 (E167); Green
Cape Argus 7 July 1969 p 15 (E167);
Van Rensburg Vaderland 11 Nov 1969
p 2 (E169); see above pp 93, 94, 96, 97
PROVENANCE purchased at E4 by Mrs A E
Malherbe, Stellenbosch



1920



NOTES Compare the tray to that in nos 228 and 256 and the pot to that in nos 237, 238, 244 and fig 66 p 274. See note to no 237. Because of the liberation of colour and the motif of the tray, one concludes that this work we lainted in Italy. The date of 1903 given in the E167 catalog as thus rejected. See colour plate 22 p 203.

## 225 Lemons on a branch

signed and dated tl: M. Laubser '20

oil on cardboard 35 x 28

EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Town 1969 cat 16
(E167-9); RAU Johannesburg 1975 cat 3
(E204)

LITERATURE Green Cape Argus 7 July 1969
p 15 (E167); Van Rensburg Vaderland 11 Nov
1969 p 2 (E169); Delmont 1975 (1) pp 11 footnote 4, 14, 71 footnote 2, 72, 87 footnote 85;
Delmont 1976 pp 36, 38 repro 2 p 36 [reproduced upside down]; see above p 109
PROVENANCE Julian Stekhoven, Cape Town;
purchased by Mrs Ash, Johannesburg



NOTES Compare the signature to that in nos 226-227, 229. See colour plate 23 p 204.

#### 226 Lemons on a branch

signed tr: M. Laubser oil on cardboard 34,5 x 27 LITERATURE see above p 109 PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by Mrs Ivy Laubser, Stellenbosch

NOTES Compare the signature to that in nos 225, 227 and 229. Note the similarity in style, motif and the signature to that in no 225, dated 1920.

ca 1920

ca 1920



### 227 Three lemons in a dish on drapery

signed bl: M. Laubser
oil on cardboard 41,5 x 32
LITERATURE Delmont 1975 (1) pp 11 footnote 7,
12, 13 footnote 13, 60, 61 footnote 67, 72,
76 footnote 17, 86
PROVENANCE purchased from Mr E A Malga,
Pretoria in 1952 by Mrs R M Heukelman,
Nylstroom

NOTES Compare the signature to that in nos 225, 226, 229. Compare the similar treatment of the lemons and the signature to that in no 225, dated 1920. Compare the drapery to that in no 238.



228 Lemons and two oranges on a dish with tray and drapery ca 1921

unsigned
oil on cardboard 28,5 x 34
PROVENANCE acquired from the artist
by Mrs Ivy Laubser, Stellenbosch

NOTES Compare the tray to that in nos 224 and 256 and the sketch on f16 of the Italian sketchbook (no 5), p 226.



229 Five oranges and drapery

signed bl: M. Laubser
oil on cardboard 26,5 x 34
LITERATURE see above pp 98, 108
PROVENANCE gift from Mr E A Malga,
Pretoria to Mrs P E Lodge, Pretoria

ca 1921



NOTES This particular form of the signature is also seen in no 225, dated 1920; and in nos 226 and 227. See colour plate 24 p 204.

230 Three lemons in dish on patterned cloth

signed and dated tl: M. Laubser '21 oil on cardboard 21,5 x 41 LITERATURE see above pp 97, 109 PROVENANCE purchased from Mr G Bakker, Johannesburg in ca1964 by Mr F J Olivier and Mr T J Marchand, Johannesburg

NOTES See colour plate 25 p 205.

signed and dated tl: M. Laubser '21 oil on cardboard 30 x 35,5
LITERATURE Delmont 1975 (1) pp 11 footnote 6, 14, 15, 16, 84, 87 footnote 86, 89, 94
PROVENANCE purchased from Mr E A Malga, Pretoria in 1952 by Mrs R M Heukelman, Nylstroom

NOTES Compare the dish to that in nos 219 verso, 240 and 241.

219 ver'o Three oranges in dish signed and dated br: M. Laubser '28/23? oil on cardboard 29 x 35 LITERATURE see above p 93 PROVENANCE gift from the artist to Mrs P Mackay, Cape Town

NOTES Similarities in colour, motif and style, to other works from the Italian period, are noticeable. Compare the dish to that in nos 231, 240 and 241. Thus neither dates: 1928/1923, are accepted.



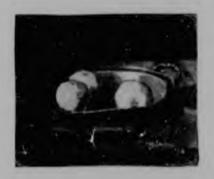
signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '24
cil on cardboard 30 x 40
EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Town 1969 cat 63
(E167-9)
LITERATURE Botha 1964 cat 57; Van Rooyen
1974 repro 20 p 40; Delmont 1975 (1) pp
11 footnote 5, 61 footnote 66
PROVENANCE Gallery Vermeer (1964);...
purchased from Adler Fielding Gallery
16 March 1967 by Mr A A Friedman, Cape
Town; purchased by Kunskamer Gallery,
Cape Town; purchased by SANG, Cape Town
in 1976 inv no 76 | 17



1921



ca 1921



ca 1921



NOTES Although this work is dated 1924 by the artist, 1921 is more acceptable as it clearly relates to firmly dated works, eg, no 225. Compare the motif of the cracked wall to no 226 and the intense contrast of the yellow lemons on the violet table to the lemons and violet shadows in no 225. Laubser's interest ir reflections is also seen in nos 224 and 229.

# 233 Orange jug and three limes on table Yellow jug and limes\*

signed br: M. Laubser
oil on cardboard 27 x 34,5
EXHIBITIONS Martin Melck House Cape Town
1968 cat 16 (E156)
LITERATURE see above pp 98, 109
PROVENANCE Dr H K Silberberg, Tulbagh

NOTES This painting was witled  $\underline{Yellow}$   $\underline{jug}$  and  $\underline{limes}$  in the E156 catalogue and

has been dated on the basis of the coloured shadows, the intense contrasts of hue (viz, the green limes against the violet table cloth), the motif of a jug and fruit, and the method of constructing form by directional brushstroke, evident in the limes. See colour plate 26 p 205.

## 234 Poppies in vase with plate

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '20 oil on cardboard 44 x 34 EXHIBITIONS Gallery van Rijn Pretoria 1972 cat 1 (E185)
LITERATURE Hoofstad 7 Nov 1972 p 16 with repro (E185)
PROVENANCE purchased from the Lister Gallery, Johannesburg by Mr Krut, Germiston

NOTES Compare the vase to the left vase in no 246.

# 235 Poppies

signed and dated bl: M. Lautser '21 oil on cardboard 34 x 41,5 PROVENANCE inherited by Mr and Mrs N P Berger, Cape Town

NOTES Compare to no 236. Compare the vase to that in no 246.

#### ca 1921





1920





236 Poppies

1921

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '21
oil on cardboard 35,5 x 28
EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Town 1969 cat 22 (E167-9)
LITERATURE Botha 1964 cat 42; Delmont 1975 (1)
pp 16, 87 footnote 87; see above pp 97, 98, 102,
103, 109
PROVENANCE Mrs H Hambidge, Strand; Mr I Cohen,
Cape Town; Mr Mastromatteo, Pretoria



NOTES Compare to no 235. Compare the vase to that in no 246. See colour plate 27 p 206.

237 Poppies

1920

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser  $^120/26(?)$  oil on cardboard 33,5 x 39,5 EXHIBITIONS RAU Johannesburg 1975 cat 7 (E2O4)

PROVENANCE purchased from artist/artist's exhibition by Prof P Van Braam, Stellen-bosch; inherited by Mrs B van der Riet, Brakpan

NOTES The date on this painting is unclear. It could be 1920 or 1926. Although the pot seen here is also seem in nos 224, 258 and 244 from the Italian



period, because it is depicted in fig 66 p 274 from 1928, one cannot date the work on the basis of the motif. The work is dated to the Italian period because of style: compare the handling of the background to that in no 236 dated 1921, and the rendition of the poppies to that in no 235, dated 1921. The same table is also seen in no 235.

238 Pot and drapery

signed br: M. Laubser charcoal on brown paper 24 x 33 LITERATURE see above p 130 PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by Mr B Trakman, Cape Town

ca 1921



NOTES Compare the pot to that in nos 224, 237, 244 from this period and to fig 66 p 274. Compare the drapery to that in no 227. Compare the technique to nos 239-243. Style, technique, subject matter (the drapery), and composition argue for a date of 1921.

## 239 Five apples in a dish

signed br: M. Laubser
initialled and dated bl: M.L.''20
charcoal and white chalk on brown
paper 24,5 x 33,5
EXHIBITIONS RAU Johannesburg 1975
cat 2 (E204)
LITERATURE Winder Rand Daily Mail
24 Sept 1975 p 16 (E204); see above
pp 81, 93, 130
PROVENANCE gift from the artist in
1953 to Mrs S Bakkes, Brakpan

1920



NOTES No 274 is also signed and initialled. The full signature in the bottom right hand corner appears to have been resigned over a previous signature. Compare this subject matter to the sketch in sketchbook 5 f13 p 226 and to nos 240-242. Compare the technique to nos 238, 240-243 from this period.

### 240 Lemons, apples and dish Study with lemons\*

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '24 charcoal and chalk on brown paper 26,5x35,5 LITERATURE Delmont 1975 (1) p 26; see above pp 82, 130 PROVENANCE purchased from the artist by Mrs S Greenwall, Cape Town in 1969

NOTES Although this work is dated by the artist to 1924, because of the similarity of motif, style, medium (charcoal and white

chalk) and interpretation (viz, the concentration and focalization on the subject) to no 239, dated 1920, it seems probable that the work dates to 1920/1921. This is confirmed by a note written by the artist in her diary (US79/12/12), on the page of Tuesday 29th January 1963 which reads: Dr and Mrs Greenwall Charcoal Study with lemons done in Italy. The work has therefore been redated to 1920/1921.

### 241 Three apples and dish

initialled and dated br: M.L. '24 charcoal and white chalk on paper 24,5x32,5 LITFRATURE see above pp 82, 130 PROVENANCE purchased from the artist on 5 Sept 1967 by Dr J C Vosloo, Somerset East

NOTES For basis for redating of work see note to no 240. A note written by the artist in her diary (US79/12/12) on the page of Wednesday 13th February 1963 confirms the redating of the work. The note reads:

Dr Johann Vosloo: charcoal Study of lemons [sic] - (Italy) £25



1920/1





### 242 Lemon and apples on dish

signed bl: M. Laubser
annotation bl: illegible
charcoal on paper 26,5 x 35
EXHIBITION SANG Cape Town 1969
cat 148 (E167-9)
LITERATURE Van Rooyen 1974 repro 19
p 40; Delmont 1975 (1) p 26; see
above pp 81, 130
PROVENANCE Mr and Mrs M Sachar,
Cape Town

1920/1



NOTES This work was dated to 1924 in the E167 catalogue. However, it has been redated to 1920/21 as there are similarities with regard to motif, style, medium and interpretation to nos 239-241. For further details see note to no 240.

### 243 Dish, jug and apple

unsigned charcoal and white chalk on (brown?) paper 24 % 34 LITERATURE so above p 130 PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by Miss J H Laubser, Stellenbosch

1920/1



NOTES Compare the jug to that in no 157 verso. Compare the technique to nos 238-242, dated variously 1920-1.

### 157 verso Dishes and jugs

unsigned
oil on cardboard 40 x 34
LITERATURE Sotheby 3 Nov 1976 cat 70
PROVENANCE purchased from Mrs I M Smuts,
Stellenbosch by Mr B Trakman, Cape Town;
sold at Sotheby 3 Nov 1976 to Rand Afrikeans University, Johannesburg (verso cat 70)

NOTES Compare the jug to that in no 243. The palette argues for placing this work in the Italian period. Compare the deep violet to nos 232 and 233 and the yellow-green to nos 181 and 203.

ca 1921



244 Pot, book and drapery
Blue jug on books, with yellow cloth\*

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '24 oil on cardboard 40,5 x 34,5 EXHIBITIONS Martin Melck House, Cape Town 1968 cat 17 (E156) PROVENANCE Dr H K Silberberg, Tulbagh

NOTES The work was titled Blue jug on books, [sic] with yellow cloth in the E156 catalcaue.

Compare the pot to that in nos 224, 237 and 238 from this period, and fig 66, p 274, the focus on reflections to that in nos 224, 229 and 232 and the drapery to that in nos 227 and 238.

ca 1921



245 Bust of young boy and orange

unsigned oil on cardboard 40 x 31 LITERATURE see above p 37 PROVENANCE U.5

NOTES For sketch for the bust of the young boy see the Italian sketchbook 4 f6, p 224. This sketch is based on a marble bust of a boy ca1460 by Desiderio da Settignano which is in the Mellon Collection of the Washington National Gallery of Art - fig 64, p 274. The artist could have worked from a photograph or she could have worked from a

plaster copy. A plaster copy of this bust is housed in the Victoria and Albert Museum but it is not known when it was acquired.

ca 1921



unsigned
pencil on paper ± 13 x 10
PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by
a private collector, Strand

NOTES Compare the vase with the horizontal striped pattern, to that in nos 235 and 236 and the other vase to that in no 234. Compare the broad flat dish with fruit to that in nos 231, 219 verso, 240, 241.

## 247 Self portrait

1920

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '20 oil on canvas on hardboard 39 x 31 LITERATURE letter US79/5/12177; see above p 108 PROVENANCE purchased from the artist by Mrs E D Le Roux, Paarl

NOTES In an undated letter to Balwé Snr. written whilst Laubser was in Italy, she writes that she is sending a portrait of herself to Balwé Snr. It is perhaps this portrait to which she was referring, for one cannot discount that she never sent the portrait, or that she 'reclaimed' it once Balwé had died.

See colour plate 28 p 206.



### 248 Self portrait

ca 1920/1

signed bl: M. Laubser annotated br: (Self portrait) pencil on paper 16,5 x 12 PROVENANCE gift from the artist to Mr B Trakman, Cape Town



NOTES Although it is difficult to date this work with precise accuracy, it relates thematically and stylistically to no 174 verso which is drawn on the back of an Italian boat scene. Furthermore the drawing style relates to other sketches from this period - nos 214 recto and verso.

174 verso Self portrait

ca 1920/1

signed bl: M. Laubser annotated br: Self Portrait pencil on paper 16,5 x 12 PROVENANCE gift from the artist to Mr B Trakman, Cape Town



NOTES See note to no 248.

247 Self portrait

1920

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '20 oil on canvas on hard' d 39 x 31 LITERATURE letter US75, /1217?; see above p 108 PROVENANCE purchased from the artist by Mrs E D Le Roux, Paarl

NOTES In an undated letter to Balwé Snr. written whilst Laubser was in Italy, she writes that she is sending a portrait of herself to Balwe Snr. It is perhaps this portrait to which she was referring, for one cannot discount that she never sent the portrait, or that she 'reclaimed' it once Balwé had died.

See colour plate 28 p 206.



248 Self portrait

ca 1920/1

signed bl: M. Laubser annotated br: (Self portrait) pencil on paper 16,5 x 12 PROVENANCE gift from the artist to Mr B Trakman, Cape Town



NOTES Although it is difficult to date this work with precise accuracy, it relates thematically and stylistically to no 174 verso which is drawn on the back of an Italian boat scene. Furthermore the drawing style relates to other sketches from this period - nos 214 recto and verso.

174 verso Self portrait

ca 1920/1

signed bl: M. Laubser annotated br: Self Portrait pencil on paper 16,5 x 12 PROVENANCE gift from the artist to Mr B Trakman, Cape Town

NOTES See note to no 248.



1920

249 Italian girl\* Italian girl in red\* Italian woman\*

p 2 (E169); see above p 108

signed and dated br: M. Laubser 120 annotated on the back by the artist: Maggie Laubser '20 Elsabe Sauer oil on cardboard 35,5 x 29 EXHIBITIONS Carnegie Library Stellenbosch 1952 cat 64 (E36); Argus Gallery Cape Town 1942 cat 64 (E37); SANG Cape Town 1969 cat 11 (E167-9) LITERATURE Botha 1964 pp 9, 13, 27-28, 143 cat 11; Van Rensbury Vaderland 11 Nov 1969

PROVENANCE purchased at E36 by Hon and Mrs

P O Sauer, Cape Town; inherited by Mrs Cato

NOTES Compare the sitter to no 250. This work was titled Italian girl in the E36 and 37 catalogues, Italiaanse meisie in rooi by Botha, and Portret van 'n Italiaanse vrou in the E167 catalogue. See the annotation in Laubser's writing alongside cat 64 in the E36 catalogue, US79/7/12: 'Sauer.'

### 250 Young girl

Meaker, Cape Town

ca 1920

unsigned oil on cardboard 34,5 x 28 LITERATURE Eglington 1962 after p 229 PROVENANCE inherited in 1970 from Mr E A Malga, Cape Town by Mrs A C Groeneveld, Johannesburg

NOTES Compare the model to that in no 249, dated 1920, and the treatment of the background to no 237, dated 1920.



### 251 Young girl

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '20 oil on cardboard 38 x 31,5 EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Town 1969 cat 15 (E167-9)LITERATURE see above p 108 PROVENANCE Mrs Elsa Steytler, Cape Town 1920



# 252 <u>Italian girl</u> \* Italian farmer woman\*

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '20 oil on cardboard 34,5 x 27 LITERATURE Botha 1964 pp 9, 13, 27-28 cat 9 PROVENANCE acquired from the artist in ca1953 by Mrs M Middleton, Pretoria

NOTES This work was titled <u>Italiaanse Boerin</u> by Botha. Compare model to that in no 253.





### 253 Italian girl\*

initialled bl: M.L. '
charcoal on paper 40 3 , 2
EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Yown 1969 cat 150
(E167-9); SANG Cape Town 1977 cat 26 (E2C9)
PROVENANCE So: African National Gallery,
Cape Town inv 69/17

NOTES It is unlikely that this work was drawn from memory and as the model appears to be the same as that in no 252, the work has been redated to the Italian period.

The title given by the SANG, Portret van 'n Italiaanse meisie, supports this dating.

### ca 1920



## 254 Old woman

initialled and dated br: M.L.''21 charcoal on paper 44 x 34,5 LITERATURE Ver Loren [sic Verloren]Van Themaat 1930 repro p 21; Botha 1964 cat 40; see above pp 79, 82, 117, 179 PROVENANCE Mr C van der Merwe, Salisbury Rhodesia; purchased by Wolpe Gallery, Cape Town: purchased by Mrs S Sifrin, Johannesburg

NOTES Compare to the sketches of an old woman in sketchbook 7 ff4 and 5 p  $234_{\star}$ 

1921



255 Woman in turquoise dress

initialled bl; M.L. oil on cardboard 37 x 30,5 PROVENANCE Mrs M Maisnek, Johannesburg

NOTES There is very little basis for dating this work accurately. The thick vigorous brushwork could relate the work to paintings from the Belgian period, eg, nos 149, 152 and the palette is perhaps too subdued for the Italian period, but simplification of form argues for a dating of ca1920/1921.

ca 1921(?)



256 recto Woman with tray in background

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '22 oil on cardboard 28,5 x 36 PROVENANCE Dr H K Silberberg, Tulbagh

NOTES Compare the tray to that in nos 224 and 228. Compare the abstract patterning of the hair to the treatment of foliage in nos 181 and 203. These similarities suggest that the work be redated to car921.

ca 1921



256 verso Landscape with three geese post 1924

1921

257 Arnold Balwé

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '21 oil on cardboard 36,5 x 30,5 EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Town 1969 cat 23 LITERATURE See note to no 259; Van Rooyen 1974 repro 16 p 37
PROVENANCE purchased from artist by Mr B Trakman, Cape Town

NOTES For same sitter see nos 258-260. See note also to no 188.



258 recto Arnold Balwé

unsigned
oil on cardboard 35 x 28
LITERATURE see note to no 259
PROVENANCE purchased at auction sale by
Dr H K Silberberg, Tulbagh

NOTES For the same sitter see nos 257, 259, 260. See note to no 259.

ca 1921

ca 1921



259 Arnold Balwe reading

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '22 oil on cardboard 44,5 x 34,5 EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Town 1969 cat 13 (E167-9)

LITERATURE Meintjes 1969 repro p 28; see notes

PROVENANCE acquired from the artist after 1969 by Mr P Bredenkamp, Stellenbosch

NOTES This work, as do nos 258 and 260, probably dates to 1921, as the artist was in South Africa for the first eleven months of 1922 and it is not known if she continued her friendship with Arnold Balwe immediately

her friendship with Arnold Balwe immediately on arrival in Germany in November 1922. This work, when exhibited on E167-9 in 1969, was unsigned and undated. The present signature and date were therefore added by the artist after 1969. It is thus probable that the date of 1922 is inaccurate and accordingly the work has been redated to 1921. For the same sitter see nos 257, 258, 260. In an undated letter to Balwe US79/5/1217, Laubser wrote that she 'painted Arnold's portrait again.' It has not been

established to which exact portrait (nos 257-260) this refers.

260 Arnold Balwe reading

unsigned oil on cardboard 46 x 36 LITERATURE see note to no 259 PROVENANCE US

NOTES For the same sitter see nos 257-259. See note to no 259.

ca 1921



261 Man with red hat and green coat unsigned oil on canvas 45 x 35 LITERATURE see above pp 97, 98, 108 PROVENANCE US

NOTES The palette, viz, the juxtaposition of the vivid red and intense green, argue for dating this work to Laubser's stay in Italy. See colour plate 29 p 207.

ca 1921



## SOUTH AFRICA, SEPTEMBER 1921 - NOVEMBER 1922

Laubser arrived in South Africa on 19th September 1921. She stayed for a year and returned to Germany sometime after 16th November 1922.

The majority of the thirty one paintings dated to this period are portraits (nos.262-283) and all of the sitters except for The artist's brother no.283 are Coloured or Malay women. Three works depict Cape homesteads (nos.284-286) and there are two landscapes (nos.287 and 288). The majority of works are executed in oils but there are ten charcoal drawings as well (nos.272-279, 282, 283).

There is doubt that the portraits of Coloured and Malay women, dated by the artist to 1920, (nos.262-268, 271-276) are correctly dated, for she was in Italy during 1920 and not in South Africa. There are two solutions to this problem. Firstly, the portraits could have been painted from memory or imagination whilst the artist was in Italy, but this seems improbable. If they were painted whilst in Italy this would help explain the position of the sketch for Coloured woman on the farm Oortmanspost no.264 which appears on the same page, f20, p.229, in sketchbook 6 as sketches for the Italian works: Boat in harbour nos. 155 and 156, From my studio window, Italy nos.182,183 and Trees by lake no.206. This would mean that she sketched a face from memory or imagination and then painted from the sketch. This, however, is not an acceptable explanation. Sketchbook 6 includes sketches from the British, Belgian, Italian and German period. The presence of portraits of Coloured women in this book (ff.2, 3, 20 and 39, pp.228-230) suggests that Laubser also sketched in this book whilst in South Africa. The difference in style between the sketch of the Coloured woman and the Italian subjects on folio 20, p.229, confirms that the Coloured woman was not sketched at the same time as the other sketches on the page.

The second solution is that the works could have all been incorrectly dated by the artist, years after execution. This

is not unusual as has been seen, and seems far more likely for several reasons. Firstly, Laubser wrote in her curriculum vitae: 'In 1920 I returned to South Africa to our farm Oortmanspost where my family had moved to while I was away in Europe.' She herself therefore inaccurately dated her trip to South Africa to 1920 instead of 1921. It is understandable that, years later, she repeated the error and dated works painted in South Africa to 1920 instead of 1921. The works were perhaps all dated later at the same time, possibly for an exhibition (e.g., E.36 and 37).

The latter explanation seems more probable as the paintings and drawings do not appear to have been drawn from
memory or imagination. They seem to have been executed
directly from a model.

Furthermore, the style of the works seems to confirm the theory that the works were incorrectly dated by the artist. As they are stylistically similar to the third group of Italian paintings and do not have the same intensity and exaggeration of colour or distortion of form as the German portraits, it seems most probable that they were executed after her stay in Italy and before her direct contact with German Expressionism. One would thus redate them to the period October 1921 to November 1922.

Stylistically, the works from this period show a consistent development towards liberation of colour, elimination of superfluous detail and greater structural clarity. Fairly thick paint establishes planes, directional brushstrokes are used to construct form, and colour is relatively intense although not fully saturated.

In some of the charcoal portraits, planes are simplified as in <u>Woman without scarf</u> no.27, while in others, more fully modelled forms are to be seen (nos.273 - 279). The emphasis on outline and contour, on dramatic tonal contrasts and on individual brushmarks, is not yet as evident as in her later German portraits.

<sup>1.</sup> U.S.79/4/8 p.2.

<sup>2.</sup> It was probably on this basis, that Meintjes in his book on Laubser published in 1944, dated Laubser's second return trip home to 1920 instead of 1921 (p.10).

For redating of nos 262-277 see catalogue summary above.

262 Woman without scarf

1921/2

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '20 oil on cardboard 35,5 x 28,5 EXHIBITIONS Carnegie Library Stellenbosch 1942 (E36); Argus Gallery Cape Town 1942 (E37) LITERATURE Botha 1964 p 30 cat 22

PROVENANCE purchased at E36 by Prof and Mrs C G W Schumann, Stellenbosch

NOTES For the same sitter see no 263. See catalogue US79/7/12 (E36) with annotations: 'Dr. Schumann paid 5 gns.' It has not been possible to identify the E36 catalogue number of this work.



263 Woman without scarf

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '20 oil on cardboard 39,5 x 33

PROVENANCE gift from the artist to Mrs I F Rossouw, Cape Town; inherited by Mr B J van Niekerk, Pretoria

NOTES For the same sitter see no 262.



1921/2

264 Coloured woman on the farm Oortmanspost\*
signed and dated br: M. Laubser '20
oil on cardboard 38 x 31

PROVENANCE Mr H de Villiers, Strand

NOTES For sketch see sketchbook 6 f20 p 229. This work was titled by the present owner.



265 Woman with red scarf

1921/2

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '20 oil on cardboard 37 x 31
EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Town 1969 cat 14 (E167-9) LITERATURE Botha 1964 cat 159; Pretoria News 16 Sept 1969 repro p 3 (E168) PROVENANCE gift from Mrs F A Murray-Louw, Durbanville to Mrs Claude Marais, Wellington

NOTES According to Botha, this work was not dated [in 1964]. It is not known if this information is erroneous, or if the work has been dated subsequently - cf no 24.



266 Woman without scarf in blue dress 1921/2

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '20 oil on canvas on cardboard 34  $\times$  28

PROVENANCE acquired from the artist ca1965 by Mrs M E Pretorius, Bloemfontein; gift to Mr D P Theron, Bloemfontein





267 Woman with scarf and striped dress

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '20 oil on cardboard 49 x 38 EXHIBITIONS Schweickerdts Pretoria 1944 cat 40 (E42) LITERATURE J. L. Transvaler 3 June 1944 p 6 (E42) PROVENANCE purchased at E42 by Mr S C M Naude, Pretoria

1921/2



268 Woman with orange patterned scarf 1921/2

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '20 oil on cardboard 37,5 x 29,5 LITERATURE see above p 115 PROVENANCE Mr M Shain, Johannesburg

NOTES For portrait of a woman wearing the same scarf see nos 269 and 270. Although colour is more liberated and brushwork more vigorous than in other works from this period, which suggests that this work might have been painted after 1924 or retouched after 1924, stylistic departures are not sufficiently radical to justify redating this work to post 1924. See colour plate 30 p 207.



269 Woman with orange patterned scarf

oil on cardboard 44,5 x 35,5 LITERATURE Botha 1964 cat 94; see above pp 115, 116 PROVENANCE acquired from the artist in ca1928 by Mrs B Verster, Silverton

NOTES For portrait of a woman wearing the same scarf see nos 269 and 270. This work and no 270 are dated on the basis of the thematic and stylistic similarity to no 268 dated by the artist to her return to South Africa 1920 [sic 1921]. See colour plate 31 p 208.





270 Woman with orange patterned scarf Orange and black scarf

1921/2

1921/2

initialled bl: M.L. oil on cardboard 46 x 37,5 EXHIBITIONS Carnegie Library Stellenboscn 1942 cat 48 (E36)?; Argus Gallery Cape Town 1942 cat 48 (E37)? LITERATURE Brander Suiderstem 12 Sept 1942 p 3 (E37 p 646); Botha 1964 cat 97 PROVENANCE inherited from Mrs P Serton, Stellenbosch by Mrs W E von Kleist, Windhoek



NOTES For portrait of a woman wearing the same scarf see nos 268 and 269. See note to no 269.

A work entitled Orange and black scarf was exhibited as cat 48 on E36 and 37. Included in Laubser's annotations on the E36 catalogue (US79/7/12), is the note: 'Mrs Serton paid', which perhaps refers to this work. However, see also note to no 124. Mrs. Serton could have paid for both works.

#### 271 Woman without scarf

initialled and dated br: ML '20
oil on canvas on hardboard 32,5 x 26,5
EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Town 1969 cat 12
(E167-9)
LITERATURE see above pp 115, 116
PROVENANCE Julian Stekhoven, Cape Town;
sold in ca1971 to Wolpe Gallery, Cape Town;
purchased by Mrs A Koch, Paarl

NOTES See colour plate 32 p 208

### 1921/2



## 272 Woman without scarf

signed and dated bm: M. Laubser '20 charcoal on paper 37,5 x 27,5 LITERATURE see above p 116 PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by Prof and Mrs J Swartz, Stellenbosch

1921/2



273 Portrait of Maria\*
The artist's servant\*

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '20 charcoal on paper 37 x 30,5
EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Town 1969 cat 138
(E167-9)
PROVENANCE gift from the artist in ca 1964 to Mrs Constance Macleod, Cape Town; gift to Dr A Brown, Cape Town

NOTES This work was titled <u>Portret van Maria</u> in the E167 catalogue and <u>The artist's servant</u> by the present owner.





### 274 Young woman vithout scarf

1 .. /

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '20 initialled and dated bl: M.L. '20 charcoal on paper 36,5 x 27,5 PROVENANCE gift from the artist in cal948 to Mrs M E Pretorius, Bloemfontein

NOTES No 239 is also signed  $\underline{\text{and}}$  initialled.





## 275 Old woman without scarf

initialled and dated br: M.L. '20 charcoal on paper 35 x 29 LITERATURE Botha 1964 p 86 cat 25; see above p 117 PROVENANCE gift from the artist in ca1943 to Mrs A H Koorts, Pretoria

1921/2



## 276 Woman with scarf

unsigned. dated br: '20 charcoal on paper 33,5 x 25,5 PROVENANCE gift from Prof A E du Toit, Pretoria in ca1941 to Mrs D Myburgh, Vereeniging

NOTES For the same sitter see no 440. This woman was perhaps an employee on the farm. This might explain the discrepancy in dates between this work and no 440 (redated to ca 1924-8) i.e. Laubser painted both portraits from life over an interval of 2-7 years.

1921/2



## 277 Woman without scarf

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '20 charcoal on paper 33 x 25,5

EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Town 1969 cat 137 (E167-9)

PROVENANCE Mr and Mrs J Hayward, Strand; inherited in 1973 by Mrs G Hayward, Aberdeen

1921/2



278 Young Malay girl with plait signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '21 charcoal on paper 36 x 26,5 PROVENANCE Mrs Claasen, Pretoria 1921



279 Woman with scarf

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '21 charcoal on paper 36,5 x 29 LITERATURE 3otha 1964 cat 27 PROVENANCE gift from the artist in ca 1540 to Mrs A H Koorts, Pretoria

1921



280 Ninna\*

1922

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '22
oil on cardboard 45 x 36
EXHIBITIONS Carnegie Library Stellenbosch
1942 cat 53 (E36); Argus Gallery Cape Town
1942 cat 53 (E37); SANG Cape Town 1969
cat 40 (E167-9)
PROVENANCE purchased at E42 by Mrs C de Waal,
Stellenbosch; purchased by Prof G P J Trümpelmann, Stellenbosch

NOTES On the E36 catalogue (US79/7/12), Laubser noted that Mrs P de Waal, who also purchased cat 43 <u>Belgian landscape</u> (D146) bought cat 53 <u>Ninna</u>.



281 Woman with blue scarf

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '22 oil on board (?) 49,5 x 37 LITERATURE see above pp 116, 134 PROVENANCE purchased from Mr Victor de Kock, Pretoria by Mr and Mrs A J Theron, Johannesburg

NOTES See colour plate 33, p 209.



282 Woman with scarf

signed and dated b1: M. Laubser '22
charcoal on paper 36 x 28
PROVENANCE Mrs M Orpen, Cape Town

1922



283 The artist's brother\*

unsigned charcoal on paper 33,5 x 24,5 LITERATURE see above p 115 PROVENANCE gift from the artist to Mrs I Laubser, Stellenbosch

NOTES According to the present owner this portrait of her husband, the artist's brother, was executed during 1922.





284 Cape homestead

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '22 oil on cardboard 34,5 x 43,5 LITERATURE see above pp 121, 160 footnote 2 PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by the present owner's mother; inherited by Mrs M Orpen, Cape Town

NOTES See colour plate 34, p 209.

1922



ca i921/1924-8

285 La Dauphine, Franschhoek\*

initialled bl: M.L. oil on cardboard 28,5 x 36,5 LITERATURE see above pp 119, 121 PROVENANCE purchased from the artist in ca1934 by Mrs S M Malherbe, Franschhoek; inherited by Mr T F S Malherbe, Citrusdal

NOTES For photograph of the same

homestead see fig 75a and b p 275. The motif dates this work to

Laubser's time in South Africa, ie, 1921/2 or post 1924. It is impossible, on present information available, to date this work any more accurately, for the style, with the broad brushwork and flat 'matt' paint relates to both 1921-2 paintings (eg, nos 265, 269, 280) and to post 1924 works (eg, figs 113-118 pp 282, 283).

286 Farmhouse

unsigned oil on cardboard 29 x 37 PROVENANCE US

NOTES Although the shiny paint texture (perhaps due to restoration) and the loose vigorous brushwork relate this work to Laubser's Belgian paintings (cf nos 149, 150, 152), the architectural style of the homestead is more typically South African than Belgian. It is thus impossible to date this work precisely.

ca 1919-22



287 Landscape with pig and two trees

unsigned
oil on canvas 30 x 36
LITERATURE see above pp 122, 123
PROVENANCE U3

NOTES Compare the generalization of form, the simplification of outline and the flattening of volumes and spatial recession to that in the firmly dated work no 288. The work has been dated to ca1922 on the basis of these comparisons.

ca 1921/2

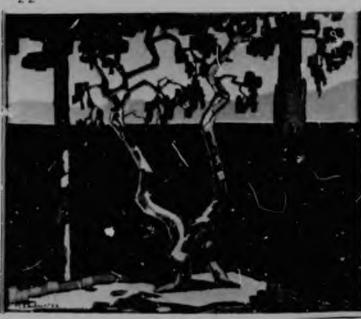


288 Trees by lake

signed and dated bl· M. Laubser '22 oil on cardboard 49,5 x 59 LITERATURE see above pp 102, 122, 123 PROVENANCE Judge Leo van den Heever, Kimberley

NOTES Although this work depicts an Italian motif, the extreme abstraction of detail, stylization of outline, absence of modelling and flattening of space, suggest that it was painted after her stay in Italy, from a sketch - see sketch-book 6 f19 p 229. For a sketch of similar trees see sketchbook 5 f 3 p 226. The date of 1922 is therefore accepted.

1922



### GERMANY, NOVEMBER 1922 - NOVEMBER 1924

Maggie Laubser left South Africa for Germany sometime after mid-November 1922. By the end of January 1923 she was already in Berlin, where she stayed virtually continuously for two years. She travelled little: to Holland for a week or so in June 1923, and to the Baltic Sea with Irma Stern for two weeks in August 1923. In November 1924 she returned to South Africa.

The majority of works from this period are portraits nos. 335-411, i.e., seventy six in all; followed by still lifes, nos.315-327, several of which are arum lilies: nos.315-320. There are a number of nude studies: nos.328-333 and a study of a Woman playing quitar, no.334. The remaining paintings are landscapes: nos.307, 309-314. In several landscapes, figures are included: nos.322-306, 308. There are three scenes of Berlin: Flowerseller, Berlin no.299 and the study for it no. 298 recto and Riverscene, Berlin no.300. Only Flowerseller, Berlin nos.299 and 298 recto may be classed as true townscapes for the attributes of a city (lamp post, shop front, tram lines) are given clear definition.

The majority of works executed whilst in Germany are oil paintings. There are several charcoal drawings: a still life, Sunflowers and three apples no.326 and a number of portraits nos.340, 141, 356, 363, 380-385, 391. Two sketchbooks relate to her stay in Germany: nos.6, pp.228-233 and 8, pp.235 and 236. There are several individual pencil sketches: nos.328, 330 recto and verso, 334, 337, 353, 354, 362, 366 recto and verso, 367, 369-372, 394 recto and verso, 395 recto and verso, 398 recto and verso, 399, 404, 405. These relate thematically and stylistical y to sketches in sketchbook 8. Furthermore, the size and type of paper is the same as that of the pages in the sketchbook. On the basis of all these similarities, these sketches have been dated to her stay in Germany. The loose sketches were probably originally included in sketchbook 8 and were subsequently torn out.

The majority of works from this period are dated by the artist, several to 1922 (nos.303, 304, 315, 342-344, 346,

357, 373, 374, 390, 401, 408). Many of the 1922 paintings show the influence of German Expressionism, e.g., nos.332, 342-344, 346, 390, 401, 408 and/or depict German subject matter: compare the sitter in Man with moustache no.346 to that in the other three portraits with the same title, viz., nos.345, 347 and 348. Laubser was still in South Africa in mid-November 1922. She would have travelled by sea and would not have reached England before the end of November. She was therefore only in Germany for one month at the most during 1922 - December. One may question firstly, whether she would paint so many works during such a short time, especially as it was her first month in Germany. Secondly, it seems unlikely that Laubser would have established contact with models (in the case of Man with moustache no.346) in such a short space of time and that influences of Expressionism should appear in her work so soon after her arrival in Germany. There is a converse argument, however, that, as she was already striving towards a style paralleling German Expressionism in its use of broad planes, purer colours and bold simplified shapes, she could react immediately to the style and absorb the influences into her work, particularly as there was a Brucke exhibition at the Gallery Ferdinand-Möller in Berlin from November 1922 to January 1923. One cannot solve this problem on the present documentation available, but car only point out that the dating of 1922 for works of Gerian subject matter or showing the stylistic influence of Expressionism, is suspect and thus the works should rather be dated ca 1922-24.

There is a problem with the dating of several works with British, Belgian or Italian mctifs but painted in a style which shows the influence of German Expressionism. Various factors point to their having been painted whilst the artist was in Germany. Firs ly, in these works there is a new vividness of colour showing the influence of German Expressionism: orange and blue in <u>Sun behind mountain</u> no.289, pl.35, p.210, and <u>Poplars by lake no.290; pink in Olives and cypresses no.291, pl.36, p.210, <u>Black sail nc.292</u>, <u>Harbour scene</u></u>

with boats no.192 verso and In the Highlands, Scotland nos.295 and 296, pl.37, p.211; acid yellow in Boats in harbour no.293 and deep purple in Figure in landscape with trees, mountains and sun's rays no.294. Secondly, two of these works: Black sail no.292 and In the Highlands, Scotland no.296 are dated 1924. This date seems to confirm the conclusion reached on the basis of style. For aspects which conflict with the postulation that these works were painted whilst the artist was in Germany, refer to the catalogue entries for Harbour scene with boats no.192 verso (after no.292) and Olives and cypresses no.291.

A further problem exists with the exact dating of works painted whilst the artist was at the Baltic Sea in 1923. At the Baltic Sea no.311 and Cornfields by the Baltic Sea no.312 are both undated; but North seascape no.314 and Field with cow (At the Baltic Sea) no.310 are both dated 1924. Either this date is incorrect, which is quite probable, or the artist visited the Baltic Sea on a second occasion during 1924. However, no permit in her passport indicating such a visit, exists. The artist told Dr. Hack, the present owner of Field at harvest time no.307, that it was painted on a farm in North Germany during 1924. It seems probable that it was painted whilst Laubser was on har way north to the Baltic Sea. If Laubser, years later, mistakenly dated her visit to the Baltic Sea to 1924 - as it appears she did from the date on nos.310 and 314 - it is understandable that she should date all the works pertaining to that trip to 1924 (in the same way that she erroneously dated a whole group of portraits of Coloured woman to 1920 instead of 1921 or 1922). Because of the confusion over the exact date of execution of the works painted whilst at the Baltic Sea, or from memory after the visit, the paintings have been dated 1923/4.

For the dating of individual paintings not dated by the artist (nos.298-301, 306, 308, 309, 316, 320, 322, 325, 335, 336, 348, 359-361, 386, 389, 396, 410) and for the redating of works that were dated to before her stay in

Germany (nos.305, 327, 355, 358, 378) or after 1924 (nos. 319, 331, 332, 365, 391) see the notes to the individual catalogue entries.

Stylistically, Laubser continued to develop the characteristics seen in some of her paintings executed whilst in Italy, viz., liberation of colour, large bold forms and simplification of shape, and a negation of deep recessional space. Laubser's stay in Germany was, to a lesser extent than in Italy, a time of experimentation and she therefore continued to paint in a variety of styles.

There are several works which show marked symbolistic influences, e.g., nos. 289, 291, 294-299 pls.35-39, pp.210-212. Colour is vivid, shapes are stylized and silhouettes emphasized, and there is an overt symbolic content. In several works, particularly nos. 303, 313, 332, 333, 238, 357, 374-376, colour is more subdued. The individual brushmarks, which are fairly small and are applied 'wet-in-wet', are clearly visible. In other paintings vigorous whirling brushstrokes are applied in an apparently free and spontaneous way, e.g., nos. 306-308.

In the majority of works from the early German period, paint is thickly and fairly flatly applied. Forms are large, bold and simplified, outlines are stylized and there is a lack of descriptive detail. Heavy dark outlines are emphasized and diagonals, jagged forms and sinuous, curving outlines are common. In most paintings vivid colours are combined with low-keyed tonal colours, providing a dramatic contrast (particularly the portraits). Laubser made greater use of non-local colour than previously, also evident particularly in the portraits.

During this period there is a development towards more strident and disturbing colour relationships. Colour combinations become harsh in their contrasted quality, seen particularly in nos.344, pl.44, p.214, 348, pl.45, p.215, 360 and 393, pl.47, p.216. In the later German works, paint is more thinly applied and has a transparent quality, and lines and brushwork are not smooth and flowing, e.g.,

nos.342, 343, 348, pl.45, p.215, 349, 350, 360, 361, 389, 393, pl.47, p.216, 396, 402, 406, pl.48, p.216, 407, 408. Brushwork is loose, jagged and agitated, fanning outwards from the forms. The influence of German Expressionism is therefore more marked than in works painted earlier during the artist's time in Germany.

### 289 <u>Sun behind mountain</u> Sunset\*

signed br: M. Laubser
oil on cardboard 29 x 35

EXHIBITIONS Martin Melck House Cape Town
1968 cat 20 (E156)

LITERATURE see above pp 131, 132, 137,
145, 146, 182

PROVENANCE acquired from the artist
by Dr H K Silberberg, Tulbagh

ca 1921-4



NOTES This work was titled <u>Sunset</u> in the E156 catalogue. For a similar scene see sketchbook 6 f31 p 230 and for the same sun motif see sketchbook 6 ff26 and 27 p 230 and no 174 recto.

It is impossible to date this work with certainty. Although the rendition of the sun seems to show the direct influence of Schmidt-Rottluff, cf <u>Buchenwald with sun</u> 1919 fig 90 p 278, the same interpretation is seen in a work by Laubser dated to her stay in Italy viz, no 174 recto. The work has been dated to ca1921-4 (ie, late during Laubser's stay in Italy or during her German period), although the strong contrasts of vivid hues - blue and orange - argue for dating the work to the German period. See colour plate 35 p 210.

### 290 Poplars\*

ca 1921-4

signed br: M. Laubser
oil on cardboard 33,5 x 40
EXHIBITIONS Martin Melck House Cape Town
1968 cat 23 (E156)
LITERATURE see above pp 132, 136
PROVENANCE Dr H K Silberberg, Tulbagh

NOTES This work was titled Poplars in the E156 catalogue. For sketch see sketchbook 6 ff31 and 33 p 230. The motif dates this work to her stay in Ttaly - ca1921 - but the unusually vivid palette suggests the painting was executed while the artist was in Germany - the latte scems more probable.

### 291 Olives and cypresses Writhing olives\*

ca 1921-4

signed br: M. Laubser (date obscured?)
oil on cardboard 48 x 40
EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Town 1969
cat 52 (E167-9)
LITERATURE Botha 1964 pp 48, 133 cat 72;
Green Cape Argus 7 July 1969 p 15 (E167);
Van Rensburg Vaderland 11 Nov 1969 p 2
(E169); Van Rooyen 1974 repro 15 p 36;
see above pp 131, 132, 134, 136, 145,
147-152
PROVENANCE purchased from the artist

NOTES This work was titled bewegende olywe in the E167 catalogue and was

dated to 1924. It is possible that the date of 1924 is hidden under the frame for the top of a figure is apparent at the bottom of the painting. Factors arguing for an Italian dating are the motif, the style (cf nos 209, 210) and the artist's reference to having painted this work after Balwe's death (May 1921) - see above pp 150-151. However, the unusually vivid pink in this painting, not encountered in her Italian works, was introduced in her work during her German period.

For sketches see sketchbook 4 f13 p 224; sketchbook 5 f20 p 226; and sketchbook 6 f19 p 229. See colour plate 36 p 210.

## 292 Black sail\*

ca 1924

initialled and dated br: M.L. '24
oil on cardboard 40 x 34

EXHIBITIONS Martin Melck House Cape Town
1968 cat 26 (E156)

LITERATURE see above pp 134, 136

PROVENANCE Dr H K Silberberg, Tulbagh

NOTES This work was titled Black sail in the E156 catalogue. For sketch see sketch-book 5 f17, p 226.



192 verso Harbour scene with boats ca 1923/4?

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser (date obscured)

oil on cardboard 30 x 36
PROVENANCE Mr A Rose-Innes, Ca

PROVENANCE Mr A Rose-Innes, Cape Town; purchased by Mr B Trakman, Cape Town

NOTES This work is painted on the reverse side of a painting redated to her Italian period. It appears unlikely that she would have taken any Italian paintings with her to Germany. It seems more probable that

she would have sent them back to South Africa. Perhaps she painted this work whilst in Italy ie, 1920-1921 and retouched it with bright pink after her contact with Expressionism and on her return to South Africa. It is impossible to date this work with any certainty and it is thus only tentatively dated to ca1923/1924.

## 293 Boats in harbour

unsigned oil on cardboard 29 x 34 PROVENANCE US

NOTES Compare motif to no 159, dated to the Italian period. The acid yellow in this painting argues against including this work in the Italian period. It seems probable that this work was painted from the sketch at a later period - probably

whi it she was in Germany. (Whilst in Germany Laubser also painted English landscapes: nos 295 and 296).





192 verso Harbour scene with boats ca 1923/4?

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser (date obscured) oil on cardboard 30 x 36 PROVENANCE Mr A Rose-Innes, Cape Town;

purchased by Mr B Trakman, Cape Town

NOTES This work is painted on the reverse side of a painting redated to her Italian

side of a painting redated to her Italian period. It appears unlikely that she would have taken any Italian paintings with her to Germany. It seems more probable that

she would have sent them back to South Africa. Perhaps she painted this work whilst in Italy ie, 1920-1921 and retouched it with bright pink after her contact with Expressionism and on her return to South Africa. It is impossible to date this work with any certainty and it is thus only tentatively dated to ca1923/1924.

# 293 Boats in harbour

unsigned
oil on cardboard 29 x 34
PROVENANCE US

NOTES Compare motif to no 159, dated to the Italian period. The acid rellow in this painting argues against including this work in the Italian period. It seems probable that this work was painted from the sketch at a later period - probably

whilst in Germany. (Whilst in Germany Laubser also painted English landscapes: nos 295 and 296).

1923/4?



# 294 Figure in landscape with trees, mountains and sun's rays 1923/4

unsigned
oil on canvas 52 x 70
LITERATURE Burger magazine
26 Oct 1974 colour repro
p 10 (B3 p 306); Beeld
supplement 26 Oct 1974
colour repro p 10 (B3
p 306); see above pp 1312, 137
PROVENANCE US



NOTES Compare landscape to that in no 80 dated ca 1916-19 and that in sketch on f5 of book 6 (p 228). For discussion

of motif of sun's rays refer to note to no 289. For a similar juxtaposition of a figure and the sun's rays refer to sketch-book 6 f13 p 229. The work has been dated on the basis of the style and palette which show the influence of German Expressionism.

# 295 Study: ir the Highlands, Scotland\* 1924

unsigned
oil on cardboard 24 x 28,5

EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Town 1969
cat £4 (£167-9)

LITERATURE Botha 1964 pp 44-45, 49
cat 67; Van Rensburg Vaderland 11 Nov
1969 p 2 (£169); see above p 136

PROVENANCE ourchased from the artist
by Mr and Mrs J D Miles, Johannesburg



NOTES According to Botha (p 44) this sketch was made after she had already

come into contact with German Expressionism in Germany during the early twenties. For final painting see no 295, dated 1924.

296 In the Eighlands, Scotland\*

signed bm: M. Laubser
initialled and dated bl: M.L. '24
oil on cardboard 51 % 62
EXHIBITIONS Macfadyen Hall
Pretoria 1931 cat 24 (E6)?;
Macfadyen Hall Pretoria
1939 cat 22 (E32); Gainsborough
Galleries Johannesburg 1943 cat 50
(E40)?; Schweickerdt's Pretoria
1944 cat 33 (E42)?; Constantia
Gallery Johannesburg 1945 cat 27
(E46)?; Constantia Gallery Johannesburg 1946 cat 35 (E48)?; Oranje
Koffiehuis Bloemfontein 1948 cat
21 (E52)?; Asso of Arts Cape Town





1949 (E55)?; Venice 1952 cat 9 (E73); Lady Anne Barnard Hall Cape Town 1952 cat 92 (E74); Whippman's Gallery Johannesburg 1953 (E76)?; Carnegie Library Stellenbosch 1954 (E80)?; SANG Cape Town 1969 cat 55 (E167-9); SANG Cape Town 1976-7 cat 31(E207) LITERATURE Enseel Pretoria News Nov 1931 (E6)?; Visser Brandwag 15 Sept 1939 p 27 (E32, p 645)?; Pretoria News 3 June 1944 p 3 (E42)?; Meintjes 1944 p 46; Dekker 1946 pp 11, 61; P.H.W. Cape Times 9 Feb 1949 p 3 (E55)?; Nienaber 1951 p 189; Burger 6 March 1952 p 2 (E74); S.M. Transvaler 15 Sept 1953 p 8 (E76); M de V Burger 10 June 1954 p 2 (E80)?; Burger 31 May 1956 p 2 with repro (B5 p 319); Von Moltke 1962 p 22 repro p 22; Botha 1964 pp 41, 44, 45-7, 53, 73 cat 68 repro 4 p 45a; Bokhorst 1965 p 36 repro p 30; Miles 1965 p 194-195 repro p 198; Bermai 1970 p 175 repro p 172; Van Rooyen 1974 p 15 colour repro 5 p 27; see above pp 66, 133, 136, 145, 156-158, 159, 182 PROVENANCE acquired by the SANG Cape Town in 1955 inv no 55/16

NOTES Compare scene to no 72 pl 4 p 194 painted in ca1916-19. No 296 was perhaps painted from this painting as it seems unlikely that she would paint a scene so accurately from memory after 5 years or more. For preparatory study see no 295. See colour plate 37 p 211.

The queries in the exhibitions and literature above, arise because one cannot establish whether the work exhibited or referred to in literature as <u>In the Highlands</u>, <u>Scotland</u>, or <u>Highlands</u>, <u>Scotland</u>, is definitely the same work as no 296. However, it seems highly probable that it is, for in most exhibition catalogues, <u>In the Highlands</u>, <u>Scotland</u>, is listed at a far higher price than other works on show, thus indicating that Laubser regarded it [the work exhibited], as an important work. Thus the preparatory study no 295, and her earlier Scottish canvases eg, nos 72-77, found rolled up in the back of her garage, can almost certainly be ruled out.

297 Harvesting in Belgium\*

ca 1922-4

unsigned
oil on canvas on cardboard
54 x 67,5
EXHIBITIONS Carnegie Library
Stellenbosch 1942 cat 86 (E36)?;
Argus Gallery Cape Town 1942
cat 86 (E37)?; SANG Cape Town
1969 cat 35 (E167-9); SANG
Cape Town 1976-7 cat 30 (E207)
LITERATURE Bouman 1943 p 7
repro p 7; Joubert 1947 p 60
repro p 8; Joubert 1948 p 15
repro p 14; Rembrandt film
1958 with repro; Malherbe



1959 p 170; Botha 1964 pp 35-36, 38, 40, 41, 47, 111, 136-137, 143, cat 39 repro 2 p 36a; Miles 1965 p 193; Alexander Burger 5 July 1969 p 2 with repro (E167); Green Cape Argus 7 July 1969 p 15 (E167); Van Graan 4 Aug 1969 p 2; Van Rooyen 1974 pp 14-15 colour repro 4 p 26; Berman 1975 p 64 repro p 64; see above pp 132, 141, 145, 152-154, 155, 156, 159 PROVENANCE gift from Mrs F A Murray-Louw, Durbanville to SANG, Cape Town inv no 69/59

NOTES For the same motif see woodcut no 414, titled Harvesting in Belgium by the artist. In the E36 catalogue U.S.79/7/12, Laubser noted amongst the list of buyers: 'Mrs Muriay Louw paid 12 [gns.]' Two works on this exhibition were priced at 12 gns viz: cat 86 Harvesting in Belgium and cat 87 Impression of Tablemountain. Works with these titles are both in Mrs Murray-Louw's collection (see no 432) and thus one cannot establish with certainty, to which work Laubser's annotation on the catalogue refers. See colour plate 38 p 211.

298 recto Study: flower seller, Berlin\* ca Jan-March 1923
Berlin flower market\*

unsigned
oil on canvas 60 x 52
EXHIBITIONS Martin Melck House Cape Town
1968 cat 7 (E156)
LITERATURE see above p 22
PROVENANCE Dr H K Silberberg, Tulbagh



NOTES Th. rk was titled Berlin flower market in = E156 catalogue. For finished painting see 2.2 299. See note to no 299.

298 verso Mother and child

See after no 422

# 299 Flower seller in Berlin\* Selling flowers in Berlin\*

ca Jan-March 1923

initialled br: M.L.
oil on cardboard 49 x 42,5
EXHIBITIONS Stellenbosch 1930 cat 9 (E4);
SANG Cape Town 1930 cat 79 (E5); Carnegie
Library Stellenbosch 1942 cat 24 (E36);
Argus Gallery Cape Town 1942 cat 24 (E37)
LITERATURE Bouman 1930 (E4); Botha 1964
pp 33, 36, 40-41, 79, 144, 145 cat 63
repro 3 p 45a; see above pp 22, 133, 140,
145, 160-161, 177, 187
PROVENANCE gift from Mrs Blommaert in
1943 to Mrs A H Koorts, Pretoria



NOTES This work was titled <u>Selling flowers in Berlin</u> in the E5 catalogue and <u>Flowerseller in Berlin</u> (not for sale) in the E36 and 37 catalogues. According to Botha (p 40) this picture depicts a flowerseller in Karfürstendamm [sic Kurfürstendamm]. In her passport (appendix 5 f8 p 440) her address is recorded on 23 Jan 1923 as Kurfürstendamm 43, Berlin. By 8th March 1923 she had moved to another address. It is likely that this painting was executed between January and March 1923 for it was winter, and it is improbable that she would have travelled far from her lodgings to paint.

For study see no 298. See colour plate 39, p 212.

## 300 Riverscene, Berlin\*

1923/4

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '74
oil on cardboard 41 x 47
EXHIBITIONS Martin Melck House Cape Town
1968 cat 8 (E156)
LITERATURE Van Rooyen Cape Times 8 April
1968 p 7 (E156); see above pp 133, 141,
145, 161
PROVENANCE Dr H K Silberberg, Tulbagh



NOTES This work was titled Riverscene, Berlin in the E156 catalogue. See colour plate 40, p 212.

301 Figures round a table

ca 1924

unsigned
oil on cardboard 29,5 x 37
PROVENANCE US



NOTES This painting is a preparatory study for no 302, dated 1924.

Figures round a table 1924
Looking down on the tea garden\*

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '24 oil on cardboard/panel 28 x 36,5 EXHIBITIONS Carnegie Library Stellenbosch 1942 cat 39 (E36)?; Argus Gallery Cape Town 1942 cat 39 (E37)?; PAC Pretoria 1969 cat 12 (E164); PAG Pretoria and JAG Johannesburg 1969 cat 182 (E168 and 169)



PROVENANCE Dr R H [sic? R A] Van Rooyen, Pretoria

NOTES For preparatory study see no 301.

A work entitled Looking down on the tea garden was exhibited on E36 and 37 as cat 39. As no 302 is the only finished work traced, to which this title could be applied, it is suggested that it was this work that was shown on E36 and 37. This work was not included in the E167 printed catalogue and was only exhibited in the Transvaal - Pretoria and Johannesburg (E168 and 169). The medium and measurements quoted above were obtained from the supplementary typed catalogue of E168 and 169.

# 303 Three women hoeing

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '22 initialled br: M.L. oil on cardboard 30,5 x 40,5 EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Town 1969 cat 34 (E167-9) LITERATURE Sotheby 17 March 1976 cat 188 repro p 136; see above pp 132, 163 PROVENANCE Mrs S Dirmeik, Cape Town

NOTES For sketch see sketchbook 8 f5 p 235, which dates to her German period. One may therefore presume that the painting was executed after she left South Africa in 1922.





#### 304 Woman with hat sitting on bench

initialled and dated bl: M.L. '22 oil on cardboard 36,5 x 29 LITERATURE see above pp 145, 154-155 PROVENANCE inherited from Mrs M Toerien, Stellenbosch in ca1955 by Mr and Mrs W H Toerien, Johannesburg

ca 1922-4



305 Harvester resting: woman between sheaves ca 1922-4

initialled and dated bl: M.L. '20 oil on cardboard 24,5 x 31 LITERATURE see above pp 145, 154-155 PROVENANCE purchased from Mrs Lategan, Johannesburg by Dr and Mrs T Burger, Stellenbosch

NOTES The dating of this work is suspect.

Because of the non-naturalistic blue background, it seems unlikely that it was executed
before the artist's contact with Expressionism. The style is,
however, atypical both of the German works and of the rest of
her oeuvre. Although there is a simplification of form and a
focalization on the motif, there is not the same intensity of
hue as seen in most of the other works from 1922-1924. As the
motif is European and the style differs from the post 1924
works, the painting has been dated to the German period. Compare also the motif to that in no 306, dated to the German
period on the basis of style. See colour plate 41, p 213.

306 <u>Harvester resting</u>: woman between sheaves ca 1922-4 Harvest time, woman resting\*

signed bl: M. Laubser
oil on cardboard 31 x 24

EXHIBITION Martin Melck House Cape Town
1968 cat 53 with repro (E156)

LITERATURE see above pp 132, 145, 154-155

PROVENANCE Dr H K Silberberg, Tulbagh

NOTES This work was titled Harvest time, woman resting in the E156 catalogue. Compare also the seated woman with hat to that in no 304. For reasons for dating see note to no 308.



307 Field at harvest time

signed br: M. Laubser (see notes)
oil on cardboard 30 x 39,5
LITERATURE see above pp 132, 145
PROVENANCE purchased at an auction in
Pretoria by Dr P Hack, Pretoria

NOTES According to the present owner, the work was signed by the artist in 1946. The artist told the present owner that this painting depicted a scene on a farm in North Germany in 1924. It seems probable that this was painted on the way to the Baltic Sea in 1923. See catalogue summary p 570 and note to no 311.

ca 1923/4



308 Four woman hoeing

ca 1923/4

unsigned
oil on cardboard 30 x 40
LITERATURE see above pp 132, 145
PROVENANCE purchased from Mr E A Malga,
Pretoria by Mrs R M Heukelman, Nylstroom

NOTES Compare to sketches of hoers in sketchbook 6 ff21 and 30, pp 229, 230. Compare to woodcut no 415. This work and <u>Harvester resting</u>: woman between sheaves no 306 have been dated on the

basis of style. The loose, vigorous swirling brushstrokes are seen also in Field at harvest time no 307, dated by the artist to her stay in Germany.

309 recto Farmhouse

ca 1923/4

unsigned
oil on cardboard 30 x 36
PROVENANCE US

NOTES This work has been dated to 1923/4 because of the similarity in the palette, viz, the turquoise, rust red, violet, green and white to that in Riverscene, Berlin, no 300 colour plate 40 p 212, firmly dated to her stay in Germany. The same structuring of composition with horizontals and verticals seen in Flower



seller in Berlin no 299 is also seen here and there is a concentration and focalization on the motif.

309 verso Seascene with two boats post 1924 fig 160 p 291

310 Field with cow At the Baltic Sea\* ca 1923/4

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '24
oil on cardboard 29 x 38
EXHIBITIONS Carnegie Library Stellenbosch
1942 cat 15 (E36); Argus Gallery Cape Town
1942 cat 15 (E37)
LITERATURE Brander Suiderstem 12 Sept
1942 p 3 (E37 p 646)
PROVENANCE purchased at E36 by Dr J M
Gorter, Stellenbosch/Pretoria

NOTES For redating see catalogue summary p 570 and note to no 311. In the E36 catalogue US79/7/12, Laubser, amongst her list of purchasers, noted: 'Mnr Gorter paid 75

gns.' As At the Baltic Sea cat 15 was priced at 75 gns, it is assumed that it was this work which he bought.

# 311 At the Baltic Sea

signed bl: M. Laubser annotated on bacl: Biennale Internazionale d'Arte di Venezia -1952, 495

1952, 495
oil on cardboard 50 x 64
EXHIBITIONS Schweickerdt's Pretoria
1944 cat 72 (E42)?; Constantia Gallery
Johannesburg 1945 cat 23 (E46)?; Venice
1952 cat 7 (E73); Whippman's Johannesburg
1953 (E76)

ca 1923/4



LITERATURE Meintjes 1944 colour repro p 12: Malherbe Vaderland
15 June 1945 p 5 (E46)?; Du Toit Trans-Africa 1945 p 42 (E46 p646);
Dagbreek en Sondagnuus 20 Sept 1953 repro p 22 (E76); Dagbreek
en Sondagnuus 29 Sept 1963 repro p 12 (E117); Rembrandt film
1959 with repro; Botha 1964 pp 16, 41, 44, 47, 49, 53, 73 cat
69; Miles 1965 p 194; see above pp 145, 157, 158-160, 182
PROVENANCE Universiteit vir Christelike Hoer Onderwys, Potchefstroom

NOTES Botha (p47) states this work was painted whilst Laubser was on holiday at the Baltic Sea with Irma Stern. The date of her stay in Ahrenshoop, given in her passport (Appendix 5 f9 p 441) is July 1923. This provides a date for this painting.

Gambser regarded this painting as a major and important work - she sent it to the Venice Biennale in 1952. In several exhibition catalogues (those marked with queries above), a work entitled At the Baltic Sea, On the Baltic Sea or By the Baltic Sea was listed at a price far higher than other works on show. It is thus presumed that the work chibited in these instances, was no 311. In other cases, a work entitled At/On the Baltic Sea was listed in catalogues at a price comparable with other works on show. Eg, on the exhibitions in the Carnegie Library Stellenbosch 1942 (E36) and Argus Gallery Cape Town 1942 (E37), cat 6 At the Baltic Sea was priced at 8 } gns (cf the highest price on the same exhibitions was cat 22 and 30: 15 gns); and also on the exhibition at Schweickerdt's Pretoria 1944 (E42), cat 6 On the Baltic Sea was listed at 15 gns (cf no 311 at 80 gns on the same show). In these latter instances, the work exhibited could have been any of nos 307, 312-314. See colour plate 42 p 213.

312 Cornfields by the Baltic Sea \* ca 1923/4

unsigned
oil on cardboard 22 x 29
LITERATURE see above p 133
PROVENANCE gift from the artist to
Mrs A B de Villiers, Stellenbosch;
gift in 1970 to Mrs W C Hugo, Roodepoort

NOTES Titled by the present owner. See note to no 311.



313 Boats

ca 1923/4

signed br: M. Laubser
oil on canvas on cardboard 40 x 32
EXHIBITIONS Martin Melck House Cape Town
1968 cat 27 (E156)
LITERATURE Van Rooyen Cape Times 8 April
1968 p 7 (E156); see above pp 132, 133
PROVENANCE Dr H K Silberberg, Tulbagh

NOTES See note to 311.



314 North seascape\*

ca 1923/4

signed and dated: '24 M. Laubser oil on cardboard 29,5 x 39,5
LITERATURE Botha 1964 cat 61
PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by Dr Con de Villiers, Stellenbosch

NOTES This work was titled Noordseeskap by Botha. See note to no 311.



315 Three arum lilies in vase

1922-4

initialled and dated br: M.L. '22
oil on cardboard 47 x 33
EXHIBITIONS Stellenbosch 1930 cat 25 (E4)?;
Schweickerdt's Pretoria 1944 cat 1 (E42)
LITERATURE Bouman 1930 (E4)?; Botha 1964
pp 42-43 cat 46; Meintjes 1969 repro p 29;
Delmont 1975 (1) pp 21, 24, 54 footnote 34,
76 footnote 17, 91 footnote 110, 92-93, 94
colour repro 3; see above pp 129, 133, 145,
162



PROVENANCE University of Pretoria, Pretoria

NOTES Bouman (E4) describes cat 25 on E4 in the following way: Arum\_lilies

'teen oranje agtergrond...wit blomblare met die sitroengeel lig op sykante...die steenrooi oranje, en die glas, donker en groen, gee 'n goeie ruspunt, waar die swierige lyne van die regse lelie na terugkeer.'

This describes no 315 sufficiently accurately to suggest that it was this work which was shown on E4.

316 Two arum lilies and leaf in vase

1922-4

signed bl: M. Laubser
oil on cardboard 47,5 x 33,5
EXHIBITIONS Stellenbosch 1930 (E4)
LITERATURE see above pp 129, 133, 145, 162
PROVENANCE purchased at E4 by Mrs Kuhn; gift
to Dr C H Kuhn in 1962

NOTES Compare the similarity in motif and style to no 315 dated 1922-4. See colour plate 43 p 214.

Laubser referred to the lily years later in her interview with Dr Schutte 'Die Wêreld van Maggie Laubser' in 1972 p 7 (B2 p 306):



Marr ek moet darem vertel van die tyd toe ek op die plaas kom [in 1921/22].... Ek het dadelik gevoel daar is nie baie verandering nie, maar ék het darem verander...en dit was 'n bietjie moeilik toe. En ek was 'n bietjie hartseer. - My moeder het altyd pragtige blomme gehad, maar die blom wat ek so van gehou het - aandlelie...is net oorkant my slaapkamer op die stoep en ek sê o, nou is julle ook dood nou is julle ook weg, maar kan julle dan nie maar eenmaal nog vir my 'n blom gee nie. En wil jy glo vir my Jan, dat die dag of ek weet nie 'n dag daarna twee dae was daar knoppe. Twee knoppe.

#### 317 Four arum lilies in vase

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '23 oil on canvas on wood 45 x 54,5 LITERATURE see above pp 129, 133, 145, 162
PROVENANCE inherited from Mr P L Schoeman, Potgietersrust by Prof P A Duminy, Alice

1923



#### 313 Four arum lilies in vase

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '23
oil on cardboard 53 x 59,5

EXHIBITIONS Schweickerdt's Pretoria
1948 cat 42 (E51); Rembrandt Stellenbosch 1966 cat 14 (E147); SANG Cape Town
1969 cat 8 (E167-9)

LITERATURE Katinka unidentified newspaper April 1948 (E51); Alexander Burger
27 Sept 1966 p 2 (E147); Dubow Cape Argus
3 Oct 1966 p 12 (E147); Botha 1964 pp 42,
43, 72 cat 48; Delmont 1975 (1) pp 20-21,
22, 29, 51, 53 footnote 32, 59, 80, 83, 95;
Delmont 1976 pp 37, 38 repro 3 p 37; see
above pp 129, 133, 145, 162
PROVENANCE Mrs H Rupert, Stellenbosch

1923



NOTES In her review of E51, Katinka describes Aronskelke in this way: 'die blomme met 'n massiewe donker lyn omsluit is en die blomlyke effektief kontrasteer met die vertikale donker lyne in die agtergrond.' The only finished work thus far traced, to which this description applies, is no 318.

## 319 Four arum lilies in vase

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '30 oil on cardboard 29 x 35,5
LITERATURE see above pp 129, 133, 145, 162
PROVENANCE gift from the artist to Mrs P Mackay, Cape Town

NOTES The dating of this work is suspect as it was probably dated years after execution - the signature is in red, the numerals '30 are in yellow.

ca 1923



The work has been redated to this period as it clearly belongs with the group nos 315-318, as does no 320. It is most closely related to no 318 (cf vertical stripes in background). It could even predate no 318 as it is somewhat more naturalistic, 'softer' in style, less abstracted and slightly more tentative.

320 Four arum lilies in vase

ca 1923

signed br: M. Laubser annotated on back:

Maggie Laubser Arum lilies present of artist to Mrs H Silberberg 1964 oil on canvas on cardboard 21 x 27 EXHIBITIONS Martin Melck House Cape Town 1968 cat 12 (E156) LITERATURE see above pp 129, 145, 162 PROVENANCE gift from the artist to Dr H K Silberberg, Tulbagh



NOTES Compare to nos 317-319. See note to no 319.

321 recto Flowers, fruit and book
signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '24
oil on cardboard 44 x 35
LITERATURE Delmont 1975 (1) pp 26-27,
30 footnote 6, 51, 54 footnote 37
PROVENANCE purchased from the artist
by Wolpe Gallery Cape Town; purchased by
by Mrs O B Anziska, Cape Town in ca1965



321 verso Portrait of a young girl post 1924

395 verso Study: tulips ca 1922-4 signed and dated br: M. Laubser '22 pencil on paper 21 x 16 PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by Mr B Trakman, Cape Town



322 Tulips

signed bl: M. Laubser
oil on cardboard 39,5 x 48,5
EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Town 1963 cat 52
(E115); Martin Melck House Cape Town
1968 cat 15 (E156)
LITERATURE see above pp 133, 145, 161-2
PROVENANCE Dr H K Silberberg, Tulbagh



NOTES For sketch of tulips see no 394 verso and sketchbook 8 file, 17 and 18, p 235. Compare the style, viz, the thick impasto, sinuous curving lines and bold shapes to that in no 323, dated 1924.

322a Yellow tulips

ca 1924

initialled bl: M.L.
oil on cardboard 48 x 56
EXHIBITIONS Constantia Gallery
Johannesburg 1945 cat 5 (E46)?
LITERATURE Daily News 14 Sept

No illustration available

1967 p 11 (included in background of a photograph) (E101); Botha 1964 cat 65; De Vos 1967 p 16 (same photograph as above) PROVENANCE gift from the artist to Mr and Mrs W J Zwart, Durban/Netherlands

NOTES It was most likely this work (for which no 322 is probably a study), which was exhibited on E46 as <u>Tulips</u> cat 5. It is almost certainly this work which appears in the background (partially visible in bottom left corner) of a photograph of Laubser in her Berlin studio (fig 86, p 277).

#### 323 Pointsettias

ca Nov 1924

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '24
oil on cardboard 49 x 36
EXHIBITIONS Carnegie Library Stellenbosch
1942 cat 56 (E36)?; Argus Gallery Cape Town
1942 cat 56 (E37)?; Schweickerdt's Pretoria
1944 cat 27 (E42)
LITERATURE Botha 1964 cat 59; Delmont 1975
(1) pp 21 footnote 33, 23, 27, 53; see
above pp 133, 145, 161-2
PROVENANCE purchased at E42 by Mr W E
Mussman, Pretoria; gift to Mrs E C S Wessels,

Cape Town; purchased by University of Stellenbosch in 1976

NOTES Pointsettias are grown in hot houses in Germany and flower towards the end of the year near Christmas; hence they are known in Germany as Christmas Stars. This work probably therefore dates to the end of 1924. A work entitled Pointsettias, was shown on E36 and 37. The price, 7% gns, indicates that the work was an oil, as the charcoaf works on the same exhibition were priced at 5% gns. As no 323 is the only pre-1942 oil painting of pointsetties thus far traced, it is presumed that it was this work which was shown on E36 and 37 as cat 56.

#### 324 Amaryllis

1923

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '23 oil on canvas on board 44 x 40 LITERATURE see above p 133 PROVENANCE gift from the artist in 1965 to Mr J Hayward, Aberdeen

NCTES For sketch see book 8 f22 p 236.



325 recto Still life with toy duck against window ca 1923/4 unsigned oil on canvas 60 x 52 PROVENANCE US

NOTES The palette, which includes pinks and purples, is comparable to that in In the Highlands, Scotland no 296 p) 37 p 211, firmly dated to 1924.



325 verso Black woman See after no 420

326 Sunflowers and three apples
signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '24
charcoal on paper 48 x 38
EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Town 1969
cat 147 (E167-9)
LITERATURE Botha 1964 cat 58; Delmont
1975 (1) pp 25, 27 footnote 60; see
above p 130
PROVENANCE Mrs F A Murray-Louw,
Durbanville

1924



327 Dressingtable and washbowls

initialled and dated br:.M.L. '20 pencil on paper 17,5 x 22,5 PROVENANCE Mr B Trakman, Cape Town

ca 1922-4

NOTES This work is initialled and dated in red ballpoint. The dating is therefore suspect. Comparison of the drawing style

viz, the loose lines and assertive jagged strokes, with earlier works, argue for a dating of ca 1922-4, when the artist was in Germany. Compare to Self portrait no 353 dated 1924.

328 Sketch: female nude reading - front view

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '24
annotated on back by present owner:
 present from Maggie Laubser December
 1969 The Strand
pencil on paper 19,5 x 13,5
LITERATURE see above p 128
PROVENANCE gift from the artist in December
1969 to Mr and Mrs Denis Godfrey, Johannesburg

1924



NOTES Compare the subject matter, style and size of paper to sketchbook 8 ff2 and 3 p 235. It seems probable that this sketch was torn out of book 8. The narrower width of this sketch compared to the pages of sketchbook 8 is probably the result of the framing. According to Mr Godfrey this sketch was signed and dated in 1969.

329 Sketch : female nude kneeling by chair

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '24
annotated on back by present owner:
 Maggie Laubser figure study 1924
 present from Maggie Laubser
 December 1969 The Strand C.T.
pencil on paper 27,5 x 21,5
LITERATURE see above p 128
PROVENANCE gift from the artist in 1969
to Mr and Mrs Denis Godfrey, Johannesburg

1924



330 recto Sketch : male nude reclining - back view ca 1924

signed br: M. Laubser
pencil on paper 21 x 16
LITERATURE see above pp 128, 131
PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by
Er B Trakman, Cape Town



NOTES Compare the type and size of paper to sketchbook 8, pp 235, 236. This sketch and no 330 verso have been dated on the basis of the motif and style. Laubser used a male model whilst in Germany. On the inside front cover of sketchbook 8, (p 235) Laubser made various notes of appointments etc. Two of these read: 'Tuesday 8th July model man - 10 o'clock'; and: 'Friday model (man) 10.' At the bottom of the page there is another reference to a male model. The style, with the jagged strokes, summary depiction of detail, eg, the hand, and emphasis on tonal contrasts, shows the influence of German Expressionism.

330 verso Sketch: male nude with hands on head ca 1924 unsigned further details same as 330 recto



331 Seated female nude with book ca 1923/1924

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '30 oil on cardboard 46,5 x 41,5 EXHIBITIONS Martin Melck House Cape Town 1968 cat 42 (E156) LITERATURE see above pp 128, 187 PROVENANCE Dr H K Silberberg, Tulbagh

NOTES For sketch see sketchbook 8 f1
p 235. The influence of German Expressionism is seen in this work in the featureless face, the schematized rendering of the neck, the thin paintwork and jagged brushmarks, the emphasis on outline and the pink and turquoise palette. Laubser executed two monotypes of nudes on her return to South Africa (see figs 162 and 163 p 291). However, no paintings of nuder firmly dated to post 1924 have been traced. Style, motif and the related sketch at the beginning of book 8 provide evidence for the redating of this work.

#### 332 Seated female nude

ca 1923/4

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '28
oil on canvas on cardboard 30 x 31,5
EXHBBITIONS Martin Melck House Cape Town
1966 cat 40 (E156)
LITERATURE see above pp 128, 132, 163, 187
PROVENANCE Dr H K Silberberg, Tulbagh

NOTES Laubser did not paint nudes when she returned to South Africa (see note to no 331). The date of 1928 is therefore suspect. It is thus necessary to

place this painting in a group of stylistically related works - viz, nos 303, 314 and 333 - all dated to ca 1922-4.

# 333 Seated female nude

1924

signed and dated bm: '24 M. Laubser oil on cardboard 39,5 x 45,5
EXHIBITIONS Martin Melck House
Cape Town 1968 cat 41 (E156)
LITERATURE Mesman Burger 16 April 1968
p 2 (E156); see above pp 128, 112, 163, 187
PROVENANCE Dr H K Silberberg, Tulbagh



334 Woman playing guitar

ca 1922-4

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '26 pencil on paper 20,5 x 15 PROVENANCE Mr B L Kramer, Johannesburg

NOTES Because of the stylistic similarities to <u>Self portrait</u> no 353 (firmly dated to 1924), it is argued that this work was probably executed whilst the artist was in Germany.



335 Man with hat

ca 1923/4

signed b1: M. Laubser
oil on cardboard on hardboard 53,5 x 42
LITERATURE see above pp 116, 133, 164
PROVENANCE purchased from Ashbey's
Galleries, Cape Town in ca1968 by
Mrs R Gonsenhauser, Witkoppen

NOTES The palette and the simplification of detail, eg, in the shadow areas of the face and the hairline, are typical of other works from this period. The same man is seen in sketches on a page (no 337) which includes a study for <u>Self portrait</u> no 365

firmly dated to the German period. This portrait and Man with elbow resting on chair no 336 (cf the model) are thus dated to Laubser's stay in Germany.

336 Man with elbow resting on chair ca 1923/4

unsigned
oil on paper 61,5 x 52
LITERATURE see above p 164
PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by
Dr H K Silberberg, Tulbagh

NOTES For the sketch for this work see no 337. Compare model to that in no 335. See also note to no 335.

This painting was in very bad condition at the time of photographing.



337 Studies: man with elbow resting on chair; self portrait ca 1923/4

unsigned
pencil on paper measurements unknown
PROVENANCE US archive no 79/6/28

NOTES The sketch in the bottom left hand corner is a preparatory study for no 336 and the <u>Self portrait</u> is a sketch for no 365, dated 1924.



338 <u>Man</u>

1924

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '24 oil on cardboard 39,5 x 29,5
LITERATURE Meintjes 1944 repro p 16;
see above pp 102, 116, 132, 163, 164
PROVENANCE Mr A Jacobson, Johannesburg



332 Man with glasses Man, Berlin\*

1924

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '24 oil on cardboard 40,5 x 34 EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Town 1969 cat 53 (E167-9)
LITERATURE Cheales Star 7 Nov 1969 p 16 (E169); Van Rensburg Vaderland 11 Nov 1969 p 2 (E169): see above pp 102, 162
PROVENANCE Prof W E G Louw, Stellenbosch



NOTES This work was titled Heer, Berlyn in the E167 catalogue.

340 Man with beard

1924

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '24 charcoal on paper 51,5 x 39 LITERATURE see above pp 116, 130 PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by Mr B Trakman, Cape Town



341 Man with beard

1924

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '24 charcoal on paper 53 x 39,5 EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Town 1977 cat 27 with repro (E209) LITERATURE Meintjes 1969 repro p 29; see above pp 116, 130 PROVENANCE purchased from the artist in 1969 by SANG inv no 69/19



342 Young man with bow tie

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '22 oil on cardboard 48 x 37 EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Town 1969 cat 39 (E167-9) LITERATURE Cheales Star 7 Nov 1969 p 16 (E169); Van Rensburg Vaderland 11 Nov 1969 p 2 (E169); see above pp 134, 164 PROVENANCE purchased from Mr O S Jooste, Cape Town on 21 Sept 1966 by Mr A A Friedman, Cape Town



343 Man with white moustache ca 1922-1

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '22 oil on cardboard 52 x 39 EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Town 1969 cat 38 (E167-9) LITERATURE Cheales Star 7 Nov 1969 p 16 (E169); see above p 164 PROVENANCE Mr B Trakman, Cape Town

NOTES For same sitter see no 344.



344 Man with white moustache

ca 1922-4

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '22 oil on paper on hardboard 47 x 38 LITERATURE see above pp 134, 164, 165, 166
PROVENANCE Mr B Trakman, Cape Town

NOTES For same sitter see no 343. See colour plate 44, p 214. It is perhaps this work which appears in the background (partially obscured behind the easel legs) of a photograph of Laubser in her Berlin studio (fig 86, p 277).



345 recto Man with moustache Mad man\*

1924

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '24 oil on cardboard 48,5 x 38,5 LITERATURE Botha 1964 pp '8,39, 40 cat 50; Miles 1965 p 194; see above p 164 PROVENANCE purchased from the artist by Mrs H C Steyn, Pretoria

NOTES The artist told Botha that she always found this model rather strange and that after she had completed this portrait she was struck by the staring confused expression that she had captured in his eyes. Sometime later she



learnt that he was committed to an institution - hence Botha's title <u>Die mal man</u>. (p 39 Personal interview with the artist Strand 10 Dec 1961). For same sitter see nos 346-348.

345 verso Still life and eastern figurine post 1924

346 Man with moustache

ca 1922-4

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '22 oil on cardboard 49 x 36,5
LITERATURE see above p 164
PROVENANCE Adv V H Booysen, Kloof

NOTES For same sitter see nos 345, 347 and 348. See notes to no 345. It seems that it is this work which appears in the photograph of Laubser in her studio in Berlin (fig 86, p 277).



347 Man with moustache

1924

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '24
oil on cardboard 49,5 x 36,5
LITERATURE South African Digest 21 July
1972 p 14 (B5 p644); see above p 164
PROVENANCE Prof and Mrs W Herbst, Pretoria

NOTES For same sitter see nos 345, 346, 348. See notes to no 345.



348 Man with moustache

ca 1924

signed br: M. Laubser
oil on cardboard 47 x 34
LITERATURE see above pp 134, 163,
164, 166-167
PPOVENANCE purchased at an auction in
ca 1973 by Mr and Mrs D E Botha,
Kempton Park

NOTES For the same sitter see nos 345-347. See notes to no 345. According to the present owner the work was painted in 1924. The style and the model confirm this date. See colour plate 45, p 215.



349 Young man

1924

signed and dated br: M. Laubser 124
oil on paper on hardboard 46,5 x 36,5
LITERATURE see above pp 134, 164
PROVENANCE Mr B Trakman, Cape Town

NOTES For the same sitter see nos 350 and 351.



350 Young man with bow tie German architect\*

1924

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '24
oil on paper on cardboard 50 x 37,5
EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Town 1969
cat 61 (E167-9)
LITERATURE see above pp 134, 164, 166
PROVENANCE purchased from the artist in
November 1968 by Mr and Mrs Denis Godfrey,
Johannesburg

NOTES According to Mr Godfrey the artist told him that this was a portrait of a German architect. For the same sitter see nos 349 and 351. This work appears in the background of a photograph (fig 86, p 277) of Laubser in her Berlin studio: see top row, third from left.



351 Young man with jacket and tie 1924 signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '24 charcoal on paper 49 x 36,5 LITERATURE see above p 116 PROVENANCE purchased from Mr K Arber, Johannesburg in 1971 by Dr and Mrs R Kramer, Johannesburg.

NOTES For the same sitter see nos 349 and 350.



352 Turkish man\*

1924

signed and dated br: '24 M. Laubser annotated on back: 'Pension' am Lūzow Ufer Berlin oil on brown paper 50 x 37,5 LITERATURE see above pp 134, 164, 166 PROVENANCE purchased from the artist by Prof G P J Trümpelmann, Stellenbosch

NOTES The artist told Prof Trumpelmann, Stellenbosch that this portrait depicted a Turkish man who was a fellow lodger in her pension. See colour plate 46 p 215.



353 Self portrait

1924

dated tr: 1924
annotated br: Vir Jan van Maggie
pencil on paper 22,5 x 16
EXHIBITIONS SANG 1969 cat 145 with
repro (E167-9)
LITERATURE Jewish Affairs Nov 1969
repro p 38 (E169); Harmsen Artlook
1969 repro p 34 (E169); Van Rensburg
Vaderland 11 Nov 1969 p 16 (E169);
Van Rooyen 1974 repro 3 p 25;
see above p 131
PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by
Dr J J de Villiers, Stellenbosch



354 Self portrait

1924

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '24 pencil on paper 19,5 x 14,5 PROVENANCE purchased from the artist by Wolpe Gallery Cape Town; purchased by Miss Mimi Coertse, Pretoria



# 355 Self portrait

ca 1922-4

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '18 annotated br: Self portret annotated tl: To dear Basil and Marlene pencil on paper 29 x 22,5 PROVENANCE gift from the artist to Mr B Trakman, Cape Town

NOTES Although it is impossible to redate this work with any accuracy, it has been tentatively dated to this period because of the loose flowing lines which may be compared to those in nos 353 and 354, dated by the artist to 1924.



## 356 Self portrait

1924

signed and dated tl: M. Laubser '24 charcoal on paper 50 x 38 LITERATURE see above p 130 PROVENANCE US



## 357 recto <u>Self portrait</u>

1922-4

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '22 oil on cardboard 34 x 43,5
EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Town 1969 cat 42 (E167-9)
LITERATURE Botha 1964 p 36 cat 38;
Green Cape Argus 7 July 1969 p 15 (E167); see above pp 132, 163, 164
PROVENANCE purchased from the artist via Prof. Louw, Cape Town by Mrs H C Steyn, Pretoria



357 verso Landscape with figure post 1924

# 358 Self portrait with hand on forehead 1922-4

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '21 oil on paper 29,5 x 25,5
EXHIBITIONS PAG Pretoria 1969 (E168);
JAG Johannesburg (E169)
LITERATURE see above p 165
PROVENANCE purchased from the artist by Mr J Wolpe Cape Town; purchased by Mr A Krook, Johannesburg; purchased by Johannesburg Municipality

NOTES This portrait is almost certainly unfinished. Even in this state, however, the simplification and stylization of form is evident, eg, in the shadow around the left eye and light on her hair. The

the left eye and light on her hair. The meditative gaze with the hand on her forehead recalls the self analytical mood of other self portraits from this period, eg, nos 363-365. The work is thus redated to 1922-4.

This work was not included in the E167 printed catalogue - it was only exhibited in the Transvaal but was not included in the typed addendum to the printed catalogue.



359 Self portrait

. . .

1922-4

signed br: M. Laubser
oil on cardboard 48,5 x 35
LITERATURE see above pp 135, 164,
165 footnote 1
PROVENANCE purchased from R Mountjoy
in ca 1970 by Mr P G and Mrs A P de
Vries, Boksburg

NOTES Compare to no 360. On the basis of the style, viz, the intense colour, vivid contrasts, thin paint, jagged brushmarks, and the turquoise and pink palette, it seems that this work and nos 360 and 361 were executed whilst the artist was in Germany.



360 Self portrait

1922-4

unsigned
oil on cardboard 51 x 38
LITERATURE see above pp 134, 135, 163,
164, 165 footnote 1
PROVENANCE US

NOTES See note to no 359.



361 <u>Self portrait?</u>

1922-4

signed br: M. Laubser
oil on paper on hardbood 47,5 x 35,5
LITERATURE see above pp 134, 164, 166
PROVENANCE Mr B Trakman, Cape Town

NOTES See note to no 359.



362 recto Sketches: self portrait 1922-4

unsigned
pencil on paper 21 x 16
PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by
Mr B Trakman, Cape Town

NOTES Compare to nos 363-365.



362 verso Sketches: landscape, ducks etc. post 1924

# 363 Self portrait

1924

initialled and dated br: M.L. '24
pencil on paper 47 x 33,5
EXHIBITIONS Martin Melck House Cape Town
1968 cat 35 (E156)
LITERATURE Mesman 16 April 1968 p 2 (E156)
PROVENANCE Dr H K Silberberg, Tulbagh

NOTES Compare to nos 364 and 365.



# 364 Self portrait

1924

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '24 oil on cardboard 47 x 33,5
LITERATURE see above pp 164, 165
PROVENANCE Dr H K Silberberg, Tulbagh

NOTES Compare to nos 363 and 365.



### 365 Self portrait

1922-4

initialled and dated bl: M.L. '28
oil on cardboard 46,5 x 32,5
EXHIBITIONS Martin Melck House, Cape Town
1968 cat 36 with repro (E156)
PROVENANCE Botha 1964 pp60, 141 cat 79 repro 5
p60a; Miles 1965 p 195; see above pp 133,
163, 164, 165
PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by
Mrs M Mentz, Harrismith; purchased by
Dr H K Silberberg, Tulbagh

NOTES Compare to nos 363 and 364 both dated to 1924. The work has thus been redated. For sketch see no 337.



366 recto Young woman

1922-4

signed mr: M. Laubser pencil on paper 21 x 16 PROVENANCE Mr B Trakman, Cape Town

NOTES This work has been dated on the basis of style, viz, the jagged shading and loose broken contours.



366 verso Study of man - unfinished ca 1922-4

unsigned further details same as 366 recto above NOTES Although it is virtually impossible to date this unfinished work with accuracy it has been placed in the German period because it is on the back of a work tentatively dated 1922-4.

367 Young woman

1922-4

signed 'r: M. Laubser pencil on paper 21 x 16 PROVENANCE Mr B Trakman, Cape Town

NOTES Compare drawing style to no 366 recto, dated to 1922-4.



368 Woman with beret in chair

1924

signed and dated br: '24

M. Laubser

pencil on paper 20 x 15
LITERATURE see above p 131
PROVENANCE purchased from Wolpe Gallery,
Cape Town in ca 1971 by Miss Mimi Coertse,
Pretoria

NOTES This drawing relates to nos 366, 367, 369-372 and to sketchbook 8 (pp 235, 236) in size and type of paper and style of drawing. Compare to top sketch in no 394 verso and to no 377.



369 Sketches: woman

ca 1924

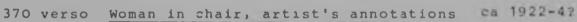
signed br: M. Laubser pencil on paper 21 x 16 PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by Mr 3 Trakman, Cape Town

NOTES The style dates this work, viz: definite tonal contrasts and jagged shading comparable to that in no 368 dated by the artist to 1924.

370 recto Woman with hat in chair 1922-4 signed br: M. Laubser

pencil on paper 21 x 16
LITERATURE see above pp 131, 163
PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by
Mr B Trakman, Cape Town

NOTES Compare to no 371 recto (dated 1922) and 371 verso.



unsigned
annotated by artist:
 Western Art and the new Era
 by Katherine S Dreier
 Paula Modersohn von Gustav Pauli
 'The arts' 19, East 59th Street
 New York City
pencil on paper 21 x 16
LITERATURE see above p 163
PROVENANCE same as 370 recto

371 recto Woman with hat in chair 1922-4 signed and dated br: M. Laubser '22 pencil on paper 21 x 16 LITERATURE see above p 131 PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by Mr B Trakman, Cape Town

NOTES Compare to no 370 recto and 371 verso.





371 verso Woman with hat in chair 1922-4 unsigned further details the same as 371 recto

NOTES Compare to nos 370 recto and 371 recto,



372 recto Young girl in chair 1922-4 initialled br: M.L.

PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by Mr B Trakman, Cape Town

the latter dated 1922.



NOTES Compare drawing style to nos 366 recto-371 verso. The work has been dated on this basis.

372 verso Sketches: man playing piaro 1922-4 unsigned further details the same as 372 recto



NOTES The style which is loose and abstracted, eg, the hand of the bottom left sketch merging into the piano, argues for dating this work to the German period.

1922-4

373 Young girl in chair

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '22
oil on canvas on cardboard 49 x 40,5
EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Town 1969

cat 41 (E167-9)

PROVENANCE Miss T K Jooste, Cape Town (1969); present whereabouts unknown



374 The cleaning woman \*

1922-4

signed and dated b1: M. Laubser '22
oil on cardboard 47,5 x 35,5

EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Town 1969
cat 37 (E167-9)

LITERATURE Botha 1964 pp 38-39 cat 44;

Miles 1965 p 194; Alexander Burger

5 July 1969 p 2 (E167); Van Rensburg

Vaderland 11 Nov 1969 p 2 (E169); see
above pp 102, 132, 163, 164

PROVENANCE purchased from Constantia Dealers,
Johannesburg in ca1946 by Mrs H C Steyn,
Pretoria



NOTES According to Botha (p 38) this model was in the artist's service during her stay in Berlin. Botha titled the work <u>Die Poetsvrou</u> but provided no supporting documentation for this title. It was also titled <u>Poetsvrou</u> in the E167 catalogue.

375 recto Woman

1923

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '23
oil on cardboard 43,5 x 32
EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Town 1969 cat 47
(E167-9); SANG Cape Town 1971 (E175);
LITERATURE Green Cape Argus 28 April 1971
p 25 (E175); Van Rooyen 1974 repro 23 p 43;
size above pp 102, 132, 163, 164
PROVENANCE purchased from the artist in
1964 by the South African National Gallery,
Cape Town inv no 64/23

NOTES This portrait has been erroneously titled Sister of author Frederick van meden by the SANG (see E167 catalogue and Green E175). In a letter dated 27 Sept 1977, H van Eeden, Frederick van Eeden's son, informed the author that his father had no sisters. He had sisters-in-law, but according to H van Eeden, this painting does not depict any of them.

375 verso Coloured girl post 1924

376 Wcman

1924

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '24

cil on cardboard 38 x 29

EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Town 1969

cat 58 (E167-9)

LITERATURE Alexander Burger 5 July 1969

p 2 (E167); Cheales Star 7 Nov 1969 p 16

(E169); Sotheby Johannesburg 27 Sept 1973

cat 327 [unsold]; see above pp132, 163, 164

PROVENANCE purchased from the artist by

Mr J Wolpe, Cape Town;...Kunskamer Gallery,

Cape Town; purchased by Mr H L Israel,

Bloemfontein



377 Woman with beret Berlin girl\*

1924

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '24 oil on paper 51,5 x 40 EXHIBITIOMS SAN( Cape Town 1969 cat 51 E167-0) LITERATURE see above p 164 PROVENANCE Dr F P Scott, Bloemfontein

NOTES See sketch no 368. Compare also to no 394 verso. This work was titled Berlynse meisie in the £167 catalogue.



378 Woman in striped dress with hand on head ca 1922-4

signed and dated br: M. Laubser 1921 oil on cardboard 64,5 x 51,5 LITERATURE Botha 1964 p 55 cat 41 PROVENANCE Mr G de Leeuw, Johannesburg; Mr and Mrs J Enslin, Kroonstad

NOTES The date of 1921 is rejected as the portrait shows the obvious influence of German Expressionism in the paintwork, jagged brushmarks, simplification of form seen particularly in the hair, and the turquoise colouring.



379 Woman

1924

signed and dated b1: M. Laubser 124 oil on cardboard 45,5 x 35,5 EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Town 1969 cat 59 (E167-9) LITERATURE see above p 164 PROVENANCE P J Olivier Art Centre, Stellenbosch



380 Woman

1924

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '24 charcoal on paper 52 x 38,5
EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Town 1969 cat 142 (£167-9)
LITERATURE see above pp 116, 130
PROVENANCE Nell Kaye, Cape Fown

NOTES For the same sitter see no 381.



381 Woman

1924

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser 1924 charcoal on paper 49 x 36 LITERATURE see above pp 116, 130 PROVENANCE purchased in Cape Town in ca1970 by Mr M Saacks, Cape Town

NOTES For the same sitter see no 380.



382 Woman with hand on head

1924

signed and dated tr: M. Laubser '24 charcoal on paper 40 x 52 EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Town 1969 cat 143 LITERATURE South African Digest 4 July 1969 repro p 12 (E167); Meintjes 1969 repro p 28; Van Rooyen 1974 pp 12-13 repro 22 p 42; see above pp 116, 130, 166 PROVENANCE South African National Gallery, Cape Town

NOTES For the same sitter see no 383.

383 Woman with hat

1924

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '24 charcoal on paper 70 x 50 LITERATURE see above pp 116, 130 PROVENANCE gift from the artist to Mr G F J van der Reis, Pretoria in ca1967

NOTES For the same sitter see no 382.



384 Woman with her right arm resting on the back of a chair 1924

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '24 charcoal on paper 50 x 39,5
LITERATURE Sotheby 19 April 1977 cat 153; see above pp 116, 130
PROVENANCE purchased from Mr and Mrs
I Fine, Cape Town in ca1971 by Mrs
S Sifrin, Johannesburg; purchased at Sotheby 19 April 1977 by Vintage Cape, Johannesburg

NOTES For the same sitter see nos 385-389.



385 Woman

1924

signed and dated br: w. Laubser '24 charcoal on paper 5' 37 LITERATURE see above p 116, 130 PROVENANCE purchased from the artist in 1971 by Dr and Mrs G C Kachelhoffer, Pretoria

NOTES Compare the sitter to no 384, 386-389.



386 Woman with hat

ca 1924

unsigned
oil on cardboard 47,5 x 37,5
LITERATURE see above p 164
PROVENANCE purchased at an auction,
Johannesburg in ca1969 by Prof P R
Botha, Pretoria

NOTES For the same sitter see nos 384, 385, 387-389. Nos 384, 385, 387 and 388 are all firmly dated to 1924.



387 Woman with necklace
Ruth Prowse?\*

1924

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '24
pencil on paper 20 x 14,5
LITERATURE see above p 116
EXHIBITIONS Gallery 101 Johannesburg
1970 (E171)
PROVENANCE purchased from Gallery 101
on 29 May 1970 by Mr N Berg, Johannesburg

NOTES Compare sitter to nos 386, 387-9 and to the work in the background of the photograph (fig 86, p 277) of Laubser in her Berlin studio. According to the present owner this portrait depicts Ruth Prowse. Comparison of this work with a charcoal portrait of Ruth Prowse by Rupert Shephard (reproduced in 'Ruth Prowse.' Artlook 22,

(reproduced in 'Ruth Prowse.' Artlook 22, vol 2, no 10: p 17; Sept 1968), reveal close similarities in the model. However, according to Berman, (1970, p 245), Prowse was in England from 1923-5. There is thus doubt about the identity of the sitter.

388 Woman (with earring?)

1924

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '24
oil on cardboard 50 x 36
LITERATURE see above p 165 footnote 1
PROVENANCE purchased from the artist in
ca1967 by Mr G F J van der Reis, Pretoria

NOTES For same sitter see nos 384-387, 389.



J89 Woman (with earring?)

ca 1924

signed br: M. Laubser
oil on cardboard 52,5 x 39
EXHIBITIONS Martin Melck House Cape
Town 1968 cat 39
LITERATURE see above pp 134, 164,
165 footnote 1
PROVENANCE Dr H K Silberberg, Tulbagh

NOTES For same sitter see nos 384-388. Nos 384, 385, 387 and 388 are firmly dated to 1924.



390 Woman with necklace and earrings

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '22
oil on paper (?) on hardboard 52 x 39
LITERATURE see above pp 133, 164
PROVENANCE purchased from Gallery 101
in ca1970 by Mr K H Bahnemann, Roodepoort

1922-4



391 Woman with necklace

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '30 charcoal on paper 47,5 x 35 PROVENANCE Mr S Welz, Johannesburg

NOTES Because ! he style, viz, the stark tonal co tracts, jagged shading and stressed lines, this work has been redated to Laubser's stay in Germany. Further re, compare the model to that in no dated 1922-4.



392 Woman with hat

signed and dated br; M. Laubser '24 oil on cardboard 45 x 36,5
LITERATURE see above pp 135, 164,
165 footnote 1
PROVENANCE purchased from private collector in ca1972 by Prof P R
Botha, Pretoria

NOTES Compare to no 393.



393 Woman with hat

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '24 oil on paper on hardboard 52 x 38,5 LITERATURE see above pp 134, 135, 163, 164, 165 footnote 1, 166 PROVENANCE Mr B Trakman, Cape Town

NOTES Compare to no 392. See colour plate 47 p 216.



390 Woman with necklace and earrings

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '22
oil on paper (?) on hardboard 52 x 39
LITERATURE see above pp 133, 164
PROVENANCE purchased from Gallery 101
in ca1970 by Mr K H Bahnemann, Roodepoort

1922-4



391 Woman with necklace

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '30 charcoal on paper 47,5 x 35 PROVENANCE Mr S Welz, Johannesburg

NOTES Because of the style, viz, the stark tonal contrasts, jagged shading and stressed lines, this work has been redated to Laubser's stay in Germany. Furthermore, compare the model to that in no 390 dated 1922-4.



392 Woman with hat

signed and dated br; M. Laubser '24 oil on cardboard 45 x 36,5
LITERATURE see above pp 135, 164,
165 footnote 1
PROVENANCE purchased from private
collector in ca1972 by Prof P R
Botha, Pretoria

NOTES Compare to no 393.



393 Woman with hat

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '24 oil on paper on hardboard 52 x 38,5 LITERATURE see above pp 134, 135, 163, 164, 165 footnote 1, 166 PROVENANCE Mr B Trakman, Cape Town

NOTES Compare to no 392. See colour plate 47 p 216.



1924

394 recto Japanese girl\*

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '24
pencil on paper 21 x 16

LITERATURE see above p 131

PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by
Mr B Trakman, Cape Town



NOTES For same sitter see nos 394 verso, 395, 396. See note to no 396.

394 verso Sketches: woman with beret; Japanese girl \* ca 1924

unsigned
pencil on paper 21 x 16
LITERATURE see above p 131
PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by
Mr B Trakman, Cape Town

(大)·

NOTES See note to no 396. Compare Woman with beret to nos 368 and 377 and Japanese girl to nos 394 recto, 395 and 396.

395 recto Sketches: Japanese girl \* ca 1924

unsigned
pencil on paper 21 x 16
LITERATURE see above p 131
PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by
Mr B Trakman, Cape Town

NOTES For the same sitter see nos 394 recto and verso, 396. See note to no 396.

395 verso Study: tulips see after no 321 recto

396 Japanese girl\*
Chinese girl\*

signed br: M. Laupser
oil on cardboard 49,5 x 37
EXHIBITIONS Martin Melck House Cape
Town 1969 cat 37 (E156)
LITERATURE Berman 1966 colour repro
p 180; Berman 1970 colour repro opp
p 145; see above pp 134, 136, 164
PROVENANCE Dr H K Silberberg, Tulbagh

ca 1924



NOTES Titled Japanese girl in the E156 catalogue and Chinese girl by Berman 1966. For sketches of same model see nos 394 recto and verso and no 395.

And there [at a concert in Berlin] this lovely woman sat opposite me - emerald green kimono with violet flowers... eyebrows and the mouth and cheeks like porcelain Oh so lovely! and I said to my friend... 'I'd love to paint her' I said: 'Well I'm going to ask her' but he said: 'You can't. How are you going to meet her?' and I said 'Well I'm going to.' So wher it was finished and people were going out I went quickly to the door and I went up to her and ... apologized for speaking to her...[saying]...'I'm an artist and I'm very interested in you and your lovely kimono and I'd love to paint you. 'Oh' she said 'with the greatest pleasure' Then she quickly told me that she was studying singing in Berlin and her husband the violin - her husband was alongside her. We exchanged addresses [and] she and I met. That night I couldn't sleep - perhaps I was a little bit overtired and I thought of this woman - this interesting woman. The next morning early I made a sketch - I took my watercolour and made that sketch and put it in my portfolio and then later I made a portrait of her and I introduced her to my German friend and we often met then after that. She confirmed that she did not paint the portrait from life. 'It was from the sketch from memory and the sketch was from

memory also.'

The artist at 86, interviewed by Benita Munitz in 1968.

397 Woman looking in mirror

1923

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '23 oil ca 49 x 37 PROVENANCE Dr C R J van Rensburg, Ermelo

NOTES The slightly slanted eyes of the model suggest that she may be the same girl as that portrayed in nos 394 recto and verso, 395 and 396.



398 recto <u>Eketches</u>: self portrait(?); young singer\* 1922-4 initialled br: M.L.

pencil on paper 21 x 16
PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by
Mr B Trakman, Cape Town

NOTES This work has been dated on the basis of the model with hat, the Young singer, seen also in nos 399-402 dated variously 1922 and 1924.



398 verso Sketches: portraits; seated nude; still life ca 1924/5

unsigned
further details same as 398 recto



399 Young singer \*

1922-4

signed and dated hr: M. Laubser '22 pencil on paper 21 x 16 PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by Mr B Trakman. Cape Town



NOTES For same sitter see nos 398 recto, 400-402. See note to nos 400 and 402.

400 Young singer \* (1)

1924

signed and dated br; M. Laubser '24 oil on paper 52 x 38
EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Town 1969
cat 62 (E167-9)
LITERATURE Van Rooyen 1974 p 14 colour repro 10 p 31; Munitz 1975 repro p 24; see above p 164
PROVENANCE Mr L J Hill, Cape Town

NOTES In the E167 catalogue this work was titled <u>Young singer</u>. Nos 398 recto, 399, 401, 402 have been titled accordingly. See note to no 402.



401 Young singer\* (2)

1922-4

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '22(?)
oil on cardboard 49 x 37
LITERATURE see above pp 164, 165 footnote 1
PROVENANCE purchased from Mr V E
Mastromatteo, Pretoria in ca1969
by Mr A Wapnick, Pretoria

NOTES For same sitter see nos 398 recto, 399, 400, 402. See note to nos 400 and 402.



402 Young singer \* (3)

1924

signed and dated br: '24 M. Laubser oil on cardboard 48,5 x 36,5

EXHIBITIONS Martin Melck House Cape Town 1969 cat 38 (E156)

LITERATURE see above pp 133,134,165 footnote 1,166

PROVENANCE Dr H K Silberberg, Tulbagh

NOTES For same sitter see nos 398 recto, 399-401. Of this work she said:

Laubser: 'Yes I think that [woman with hat] was a model at the pension where I was staying...'

Munitz: 'That was done from life then?'
Laubser: 'Yes that was from life.'

On the basis of style, however, it seems probable that Laubser was referring to no 401 and not this work which was probably painted from no 401. Cf the greater abstraction, eg, the neck.



403 Woman
German Jewess\*

1924

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '24 annotated on back by the artist:

Maggie Laubser Victoriastr Strand oil on cardboard 49 x 36
LITERATURE Botha 1964 cat 52; see above p 164
PROVENANCE purchased from Edrich's,
Stellenbosch by Mr C Schilthuys,
Stellenbosch

NOTES Botha titled this work <u>Duitse</u>
<u>Jodin</u> but gives no documentation to
support this title.



404 Woman

ca 1924

signed br: M. Laubser
pencil on paper 21 x 16
LITERATURE see above p 131
PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by
Mr B Trakman, Cape Town



NOTES Compare the sitter in nos 405 and 406, the latter dated 1924.

405 Study of girl smoking\*

ca 1924

signed m: M. Laubser
pencil on paper 21 x 16
EXHIBITIONS Schweickerdt's Pretoria
1948 cat 41 (E51)?
PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by
Mr B Trakman, Cape Town



NOTES This is a preparatory study for no 406 and has been dated accordingly. A work entitled Study of girl smoking, was shown as cat 41 on E51. The price was marked as 8 gns, the same price as cat 55-57 all titled Sketch. Charcoal studies were priced at 9 (cat 35) or 10 gns (cat 45-47) and watercolours at 30 to 40 gns. As the comparative price suggests that cat 41 was a pencil sketch, and as no 405 is the only work thus far traced to which this title applies (see also sub-title to no 406), it is suggested that it was perhaps this work which was shown on E51.

406 Whore, Berlin\*
Girl smoking\*

1924

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '24
oil on paper 61 x 48
EXHIBITIONS Carnegie Library Stellenbosch 1942 cat 17 (E36); Argus Gallery
Cape Town 1942 cat 17 (E37)?; SANG Cape
Town 1969 cat 54 with repro (E167-9)
LITERATURE Brander Suiderstem 12 Sept
1942 p3 (E37 p646)?; Berman 1970 repro
p174; Berman 1973 colour repro p24; Van
Rocyen 1974 p14 colour repro 9 p30; Berman 1975 colour repro p61; Dewar Star
Tonight 11 July 1975 repro p4 (B4 p324);
see above pp43 footnote 4, 134, 163, 164,
166, 167, 176
PROVENANCE Mr G Hulme, Cape Town



NOTES This work was entitled Hoer, Berlyn in the E167 catalogue. A work entitled Girl smoking was shown as cat 17 on E36 and 37. As no 406 is the only oil thus far traced to which this title applies, it is presumed that it is this work which was shown on these exhibitions. See colour plate 48 p 216.

407 German girl\*

1924

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '24
annotated on back by the artist:
Maggie Laubser Klipheuwelstasie
Kaap Studie 1924
typed on back: no 3 - Duitse Meisie

typed on back: no 3 - Duitse Meisie oil on cardboard 47,5 x 37

EXHIBITIONS Constantia Booksellers

Johannesburg 1949 (E57)?

LITERATURE Botha 1964 cat 51; see above pp 134, 164

PROVENANCE purchased in Johannesburg in September 1949 [E57?] by Mr I Sittig, Bloemfontein



408 Woman

1922-4

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '22 oil on cardboard 52 x 38,5
LITERATURE see above pp 134, 164, 166
PROVENANCE purchased from Gallery van Rijn in 1974 by Mr and Mrs A L Rabie, Witbank



409 Woman with right arm resting on a chair 1924

sigled and dated br: M. Laubser '24 oil on cardboard 49 x 37,5
LITERATURE repro in advertisement for Wolpe Gallery, Artlook vol 1 no 9 p 22 Aug 1967; see above pp 133, 134, 164
PROVENANCE Wolpe Gallery, Cape Town; ...purchased from a private collector by Mr D M Holtzhausen, Cape Town



410 Woman

ca 1924

signed bl: M. Laubser
annotated on back by Mr Godfrey:
bought from Maggie Laubser 1969
oil on cardboard 42 x 37,5
LITERATURE see above pp 134, 164
PROVENANCE purchased from the artist
in 1969 by Mi and Mrs Denis Godfrey,
Johannesburg

NOTES This work has been dated on the basis of style viz: intense colouring, vivid contrasts, simplification of detail and vigorous paintwork. See colour plate 49 p 217.



411 Woman

details unknown photograph from Laubser estate US79/27/16

ca 1922-30



#### WOODCUTS NOS. 412-417

The following woodcuts (nos.412 - 417) all depict European motifs except for no.412, Tablemountain. Windmill no.417 is dated 1922 by the artist and Three women hoeing no.415, is dated 1924. There is doubt about the dating of the whole group, however, as various examples of the same woodcut are dated differently by the artist. For example, Tablemountain no.412: the print in Prof. Scott's collection is dated 1924, and the two woodcuts in Mr. Trakman's collection are dated 1926 and 1950. One print of Windmill no.416 is dated 1926 (Mr. Wesselo's collection) and another is dated 1950 (Mr. Trakman's collection). Both prints in the Trakman collection dated 1950 (nos.412 and 416) are signed in ball-point - the dates can therefore be rejected.

Laubser executed a few woodcuts on her return to South Africa, e.g., two versions of Stork and two versions of Goose and lilies. It seems probable that she started experimenting with the woodcut medium as a result of her contact with the graphic work of the German Expressionists. These woodcuts (ros.412 - 417) should be seen within the context of Laubser's German period and for this reason and because of motif, they have been dated variously between ca 1922-4 and ca 1924-6.

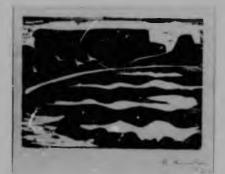
## 412 <u>Tablemountain</u>

ca 1924

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '24 woodcut 13 x 18
EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Town 1969
cat 149 (E167-9)
LITERATURE see above pp 2, 130
142

PROVENANCE Dr F P Scott, Bloemfontein

- 2. Miss J Laubser Stellenbosch initialled and dated br: M.L.
- 3. Dr H K Silberberg, Tulbagh
- 4. Mr B Trakman, Cape Town
   signed and dated: M Laubser '50
   (in ballpoint pen)
- 5. Mr B Trakman, Cape Town signed and dated: M. Laubser '26 (in pencil)



NOTES Compare to paintings of same subject nos 432 and 433.

### 413 House with sunflowers

ca 1924

signed br: M. Laubser woodcut LITERATURE see above pp 130, 142 PROVENANCE Mr B Trakman, Cape Town

NOTES Compare to painting of same subject - no :47.



## 414 Harvesting in Belgium\* ca 1924-6

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '26 annotated bl: 'Harvesting in Belgium' EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Town 1969 cat 153 (E167-9) LITERATURE see above pp 130, 142, 153 footnote 1

PROVENANCE Mr B Trakman, Cape Town

- 2. Dr H K Silberberg, Tulbagh
- 3. Miss J H Laubser, Stellenbosch signed and dated br: M. Laubser '26
- 4. Mr and Mrs E Delmont, Johannesburg signed and dated br: M. Laubser '26
- 5. Mr B Trakman, Cape Town signed and dated br: M. Laubser '26
- 6. Mr B Trakman, Cape Town signed br: M. Laubser

NOTES Compare to no 297 for same motif.



415 Three women hoeing

ca 1924

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '24 woodcut on paper 16,5 x 21,5 LITERATURE see above p 130, 141 PROVENANCE Prof and Mrs Meyer de Villiers, Stellenbosch

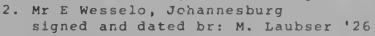


NOTES Refer to sketchbook 6 ff21 and 30 pp 229, 230 for sketch of Two women hoeing. Refer to painting of Four women hoeing no 308.

416 Windmill

ca 1924-6

annotated b1: Vir Liewe Hermione
van Maggie
woodcut on paper 13 x 18
LITERATURE see above p 130
PROVENANCE gift from the artist to
Mr and Mrs G J McCaul, Johannesburg



3. Mr B Trakman, Cape Town signed br: M. Laubser

4. Mr B Trakman, Cape Town signed and dated (in ballpoint pen): M. Laubser '50



417 Windmill, Baltic Sea\*

ca 1922-4

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '22 woodcut on paper 13 x 18 LITERATURE Botha 1964 cat 45; see above pp 130, 142 PROVENANCE Mr C Schilthuys, Stellenbosch



NOTES Titled Windmeul, Baltiese See by Botha.

## GERMANY, 1924 / SOUTH AFRICA, 1925

There is a problem with the dating of several works (nos. 418-420, 325 verso, 422, 298 verso, 423 recto and verso, 428, 430, 432-436) which show the influence of German Expressionism. Sketches for many of these works appear in both sketchbook 6 (pp.228-333) and sketchbook 8 (pp.235, 236) as well as on individual pages. These loose sketches relate to the pages of sketchbooks 6 and 8 through size and type of paper: nos.429 and 431 are on the same size and type of paper as book 6 and nos.421, 424-427 are on the same size and type of paper as book 8. These loose sketches also relate to books 6 and 8 through subject matter: for example compare no.429 recto and 431 recto with book 6 ff.44, 49, 50 and 56, pp.231, 232, and 427 recto and verso with book 8 f.13, p.235. It is almost certain that these pages were originally part of books 8 and 6 respectively, and were subsequently torn out. Furthermore, it appears that Laubser sketched in book 6 and book 8 contemporaneously, for sketches of the same subject matter appear in both books, e.g., Woman and bird book 6 ff.45, 52 and 53, p.231, and book 8 f.7, p.235; and Woman with arums book 6 ff.44, 49, 50 and 56, pp.231, 232, and book 8 f.12, p.235.

On folio 50 of sketchbook 6, p.231 sketches for the following six works appear (the relevant catalogue number is noted alongside). Laubser numbered each sketch from I to VI:

- I Woman with arums no.428
- II Madonna and child no. 422
- III Old Coloured woman with scarf no.430
- IV Red lilies no.436
- V <u>Arums</u> nos.434 and 435 (Although this is not an exact sketch for nos.434 and 435, an exact sketch appears on f.48, p.231 of the same book)
- VI Impression of Tablemountain no.433.

It seems probable that all the above works date to more or less the same time as do the other paintings related to

sketches on ff.42-59, pp.231, 232, viz., Black woman and bird no.419, Black woman with beads and headdress no.420 and Mother and child nos.298 verso and 423 recto.

Sketchbook 8 includes sketches for German works in the beginning of the book, viz., nudes ff.1-11, p.235, and for South African works at the end of the book, viz., farm scenes ff.24-28, p.236, and still lifes ff.29 and 30, p.236. One cannot therefore establish with any certainty whether the sketches that appear in the middle of the book ff.7-15, p.235, were drawn whilst the artist was in Germany or when she returned to South Africa. Similarly, as book 6 contains sketches for British, Pelgian and Italian works one cannot establish the exact date of execution of the sketches on ff.42-59, pp.231, 232. It is not possible therefore, to establish with exactitude, whether the works related to the sketches in question (i.e., nos.419-436) were executed late during her stay in Germany or soon after her return to South Africa in November 1924. One may conclude that they date to 1924 or 1925.

#### 418 Woman with red scarf

ca 1924/5

initialled bl: M.L.
oil on canvas on hardboard 48,5 x 45
LITERATURE Botha 1964 p 64 cat 101;
see above pp 117, 143, 171
PROVENANCE gift from the artist in 1955
to Mr and Mrs A van Wyk, Bellville.

NOTES According to the present owners, Laubser said that this work was painted in 1928. However, because of other inaccuracies in the artist's dating, the date of 1928 may be incorrect. This work



and Black woman no 325 verso relate stylistically, and in the emphasis on the primitive, to other works dated (on the basis of sketches) to her late German or early South African period, viz, nos 419, 420, 422, 298 verso, 423 recto and 428. The forms are large and bold, details are simplified, eg, the folds of the scarf; and outline is stressed, eg, the scarf. There is an emphasis on the primitive to be seen in the thick lips, wide nostrils and almond shaped eyes. The bold harsh outline of the scarf, the egg shaped face and the enclosing of the face by the scarf relate directly to the treatment of the head in Woman with arums no 42P while the cloud motif is similar to that in 11d Coloured woman with scarf no 430.

## 419 Black woman and bird

unsigned
oil on canvas 73 x 60
LITERATURE see above pp 117, 143,
171, 176
PROVENANCE US

NOTES The style, which shows the influence of German Expressionism, and the sketches for the work, which appear in book 6 on ff45, 52 and 53, p 231 and in book 8 f7 p 235, argue for a data of ca1924/5. Refer also to sketch of a flying bird on the loose page no 424 recto. Refer also to the titles of paintings listed on f44 of book 6 p 231, one of which is Woman with birds behind.

ca 1924/5



420 Black woman with beads and headdress ca 1924/5

unsigned oil on canvas 58 x 50
LITERATURE see above pp 117, 143, 171, 176 PROVENANCE US

NOTES This work is dated on the basis of style which shows the influence of German Expressionism and because of sketches which appear in book 6 ff53 and 54 pp 231, 232. See also no 421 recto.



325 verso Black woman

unsigned oil on canvas  $60 \times 52$ LITERATURE see above pp 117, 143, 171, 176 PROVENANCE US

NOTES See note to no 418.





421 recto Sketches: black woman with beads and headdress ca 1924/5

unsigned pencil on paper 21 x 16 PROVENANCE Mr B Trakman, Cape Town

NOTES This page was probably originally part of book 8 because of size and type of paper and is contemporary with book 6 ff53 and 54, pp 231, 232 because of the similar subject matter.



These sketches are preparatory studies for no 420.

421 verso Sketches: mother and child See after no 423 recto

#### 422 Madonna and Child\*

ca 1924/5

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '40 oil on canvas on cardboard 45 x 42,5 EXHIBITIONS Martin Melck House Cape Town 1968 cat 50 (E156)
LITERATURE pp 117, 143, 171, 178
PROVENANCE Dr H K Silberberg, Tulbagh

NOTES This work has been redated to ca1924/5 because of the style which shows the influence of German Expressionism and because of sketches which appear in book 6 ff42, 43, 44, 50 (sketch II), and 59, pp 231, 232. The inscription on f50 of sketchbook 6 (p 231), gives this work its title. Refer also to the titles of paintings listed on f44 of book 6 (p 230) one of which is Madonna and child. It was perhaps this work that was exhibited at Schweikerdt's Pretoria 1948 cat 48 (E51), under the title Madonna. However, Laubser may have also titled many other paintings of similar subjects, Madonna, eg, no 423 recto. Thus the inclusion of no 422 on E51 remains purely speculative.

298 verso Mother and child ca 1924/5 signed and dated br: M. Laubser '24 oil on canvas 60 x 52 LITERATURE see above pp 117, 143, 178 PROVENANCE Dr H K Silberberg, Tulbagh

NOTES See no 423 recto and note to no 423 recto.



423 mecto Mother and child ca 1924/5 Woman with child on back\*

unsigned
oil on canvas 44,5 x 50,5
LITERATURE see above pp 117, 143, 171
PROVENANCE Prof and Mrs I D MacCrone,
Johannesburg

NOTES Sketches for this work appear in sketchbook 6 ff42, 43,55,58 and 59, pp 231, 232. See also no 421 verso and refer to the titles of paintings listed on f44 of book 6 p 231, one of which is Woman with child on back.



423 verso Landscape see after no 436

421 verso Sketches: woman with child on back; ca 1924/5 self portrait

unsigned
pencil on paper 21 x 16
PROVENANCE Mr B Trakman, Cape Town

NOTES See note to no 421 recto. The two bottom sketches are preparatory studies for no 423 recto.



424 recto Sketches: mother and child

unsigned
pencil on paper 21 x 16
PROVENANCE Mr B Trakman, Cape Town

NOTES This page was probably originally part of book 8 because of size and type of paper and is contemporary with book 6 ff42, 43, 55 and 59, pp 231, 232, because of the similar subject matter. Compare the similar

17 1 160 C

ca 1924/5

of the similar subject matter. Compare the sketch in the top right corner to no 423 recto and compare the sketch of the flying bird to that in no 419. Compare motif of Mother and child to nos 425 recto and 426 recto and verso.

424 verso Mother and child

ca 1924/5

pencil on paper 21 x 16 PROVENANCE Mr B Trakman, Cape Town

NOTES See note to no 424 recto. Compare motif to no 425 recto and 426 recto. See also book 6 f55 p 232.



425 recto Sketches : mother and child

ca 1924/5

unsigned pencil on paper 21 x 16 PROVENANCE Mr B Trakman, Cape Town

NOTES Refer to nos 424 recto and verso and 426 recto and verso. See note to no 424 recto.



425 verso Sketches: flowers ca 1924/5

unsigned pencil on paper 21 x 16 PROVENANCE Mr B Trakman, Cape Town

NOTES See note to no 425 recto. Compare subject matter to book 8 ff16, 17 and 18, p 235.



426 recto Sketches: mother and child

ca 1924/5

unsigned pencil on paper 21 x 16 PROVENANCE Mr B Trakman, Cape Town

NOTES Compare to nos 424 recto and verso and 425 recto and verso. See note to no 424 recto.



426 verso Sketches: mother and child; seli portrait with arums ca 1924/5

unsigned
pencil on paper 21 x 16
PROVENANCE Mr B Trakman, Cape Town

NOTES See note to 427 recto.



+27 recto Sketches: self portrait; self portrait with child / arums ca 1924/5

unsigned
pancil on paper 21 x 16
LITERATURE see above p 179
PROVENANCE Mr B Trakman, Cape Town

NOTES This page was probably originaly part of book 8 because of size and type of paper and subject matter, see ff13 and 15, p 235, and is contemporary with sketchbook 6 because of the similar subject matter: refer to Woman with arums, sketchbook 6 ff44, 49, 50 (sketch I) p 231 and 56, p 232. Refer also to no 427 verso.



427 verso Sketches: self portraits with arums ca 1924/5

signed and dated mr: M. Laubser '40 pencil on paper 21 x 16 PROVENANCE Mr B Trakman, Cape Town

NOTES See note to no 427 recto.



428 Woman with arums

ca 1924/5

signed bl: M. Laubser oil on canvas 57 x 49 EXHIBITIONS Stellenbosch 1930 cat 8 (E4); Macfadyen Hall Pretoria 1931 cat 15 (E6) LITERATURE Bouman 1930 (E4); Verloren van Themaat 1930 p 71 (E4): Pretoria News 28 Nov 1931 p 5 (E6); Enseel Vaderland Nov 1931 (E6); Du Toit Burger 1 Feb 1932 p 7 (E6p644); Meintjes 1944 colour repro p 25; Herd 1946 repro p 63; see above pp 117, 143, 171 PROVENANCE gift from Mr E A Malga, Cape Town in 1970 to Mrs A C Groeneveld, Johannesburg; sold through Holtzhausen Gallery, Pretoria to Mrs M Raucenbach, Pretoria



NOTES The style, which shows the influence of German Expressionism, and the sketches for the work, which appear in sketchbook 6 ff44, 49, 50 (sketch I) and 56 pp 231, 232 and sketchbook 8 f12 p 235, argue for a dating of ca 1924/5.

This work has been identified as the one exhibited on E4 because of Verloren van Themaat's description: a black woman with blue lips, a red doek and arums behind her. Enseel described the work Woman with arums, exhibited on E6, as having 'skerp omlyning.' These descriptions do not apply to any other pre 1931 works of Woman with arums.

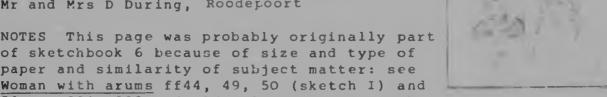
See \$ketch no 429 recto. Refer also to the titles listed on f44 of sketchbook 6 p 231, one of which is Woman with arum flowers. Compare to the sketches of Self portrait with acoms book 9 ff13 and 15 p 235 and nos 427 recto and verso.

429 recto Sketches: old Coloured woman with scarf; woman with arums; Coloured we man with scarf

ca 1924/5

unsigned pencil on paper 12 x 18 PROVENANCE acquired from the artist by Mr and Mrs D During, Roodepoort

NOTES This page was probably originally part of sketchbook 6 because of size and type of paper and similarity of subject matter: see



56, pp 231, 232 and Old Coloured woman with scarf f50 (sketch III) p 231, and is contemporary with book 8 because of subject matter: see Woman with arums f12, p 235 and Old Coloured woman with scarf f13, p 235.

The top left sketch is a study for no 430. Compare also to the face in the centre sketch of no 431 recto.

## 429 verso Sketches: Tablemountain and house and/or birds

see before no 432

430 Old Coloured woman with scarf ca 1924/5

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '20 oil on cardboard 44 x 39
EXHIBITIONS Carnegie Library Stellenbosch 1942 cat 3 (E36); Argus Gallery Cape Town 1942 cat 3 (E37); SANG Cape Town 1969 cat 10 (E167-9)
LITERATURE Botha 1964 pp 30, 136 cat 23; see above pp 151, 171, 179
PROVENANCE purchased at E36 by Dr P O Sauer, Stellenbosch; inherited by Mr and Mrs J Krige, Stellenbosch

NOTES This work has been redated because of style, which shows the influence of German Expressionism, and the motif of

the cloud also seen in Olives and cypresses no 291 dated to ca 1921-4 and because of sketches for the work which appear in sketchbook 5 f50(sketch III) p 231 and book 8 f13 p235. Refer also to the top left sketch of no 429 recto.

431 recto Sketches: old Coloured woman; Tablabay from Bloubergstrand ca 1924/5

unsigned
pencil on paper 12 x 18
PROVENANCE Mr and Mrs D During,
Roodepoort

NOTES This page was probably originally part of sketchbook 6 because of size and type of paper and similarity of subject matter: see ff46, 47 and 50, p 231. See

1

also nos 429 verso and 431 verso. Refer also to the sketches of Tablebay from Bloubergstrand book 6 f48 p 231 and the related paintings nos 432 and 433. The sketch of Old Coloured woman with scarf in the top centre relates to the painting no 430.

# 431 verso Sketches: arum lilies, Tablebay from Bloubergstrand

ca 1924/5

unsigned
pencil on paper 12 x 18
PROVENA"CE Mr and Mrs D During,
Roodepoort

NOTES See note to no 431 recto. Compare the motif of arums to nos 434 and 435 and to book 6 f50 (sketch V) p 231. The top left sketch is a preparatory study for no 432.



# 429 verso Sketches: Tablemountain and house and/or birds ca 1924/5

unsigned
pencil on paper 12 x 13
PROVENANCE Mr and Mrs D During,
Roodepoort

NOTES See note to nos 429 recto and 431 recto.



## 432 Impression of Tablemountain\* Tablebay from Bloubergst.and\*

to this painting.

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '24 oil on canvas on cardboard 39 x 49,5 EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Town 1969 cat 65 (E167-9); see also notes to no 433 LITERATURE Botha 1964 p 41 cat 60; see also notes to no 433; see above pp 17, 171, 189-190 PROVENANCE Mrs F A Murray-Louw,

Durbanville

NOTES Cf to no 433, titled

Inpression of Tablemountain. For

discussion of inclusion of this work on E36 see notes to no 297.

For sketches see no 431 verso and book 6 ff46-48 p 231. Refer

also to the titles of printings on folio 44 of sketchbook 6

p 231, one of which is 1.B.Strand - this could possibly refer

ca 1924

433 Impression of Tablemountain ca 1924

signed bl: M. Laubser annotated on back:

Impression of Table Mountain 150 gns

Maggie Laubser
EXHIBITIONS Macfadyen Hall Pretoria 1931
cat 25 (E6)?; Macfadyen Hall Pretoria 1939
cat 21 (E32); Carnegie Library Stellenbosch
1942 cat 87 (E36)?; Algus Gallery Cape Town
1942 cat 87 (E36)?; Schweickerdt's Pretoria
1944 cat 21 (E42)?; Whippman's Johannesburg
1953 (E76)



LITERATURE unidentified newspaper 28 Nov 1931 (E6)?; Pretoria

News 28 Nov 1931 p 5 (E6)?; Visser Brandwag 15 Sept 1939 p 27

(E32 p 645)?; Brander Suiderstem 12 Sept 1942 p 3 (E37 p 646);

E. W. Rand Laily Mail 15 Sept 1953 p 8 (E76); S. M. Transvaler

15 Sept 1953 p 8 (E76); Botha 1964 pp 24, 41 cat 70; see above pp 17, 171, 189-190

PROVENANCE Potchefstroomse Universiteit vir Christelike Hoer Onderwys

NOTES The annotation on the back of the work gives this painting its title. For the same scene see no 432 dated 1924.

The queries in the exhibitions and literature above, arise because one cannot establish whether the work mentioned in catalogues or in literature as Impression of Tablemountain, refers to this work or no 432. The descriptions in literature could apply to both works, eg, Enseel 1931 writes of 'Tablemountain with the bay', that the mountain dominates everything around it, making the sea appear dark and sinister. In the E42 catalogue Laubser has added 'of T. M.' [of Table Mountain], after cat 21 Impression.

## 434 Four arum lilies

ca 1924/5

signed bl: M. Laubser
oil on canvas on cardboard 48,5 x 34,5
EXHIBITIONS RAU Johannesburg 1975 cat 4
(E204)
LITERATURE Delmont 1975 (1) pp 23-24,
25, 26, 54 footnote 34, 78, 96 footnote
142; see above p 171
PROVENANCE Mrs I M Muller, Pretoria

NOTES This work and no 435 are dated as a result of the style and motif which show the influence of German Expressionism (see nos 315-320) and because of the sketches which appear in book 6 f48 p 231. See also sketch V on folio 50 of book 6 p 231 and no 431 verso.



### 435 Four arum lilies

unsigned charcoal on paper 45 x 60 LITERATURE Delmont 1975 (1) p 25 PROVENANCE purchased from the artist in ca 1964 by Mr G P C Laubser

NOTES Compare to no 434. See note to no 434.

ca 1924/5



## 436 Red lilies

ca 1924/5

initialled br: M. L.
signed br: M. Laubser
oil on cardboard 54 x 41
EXHIBITIONS Constantia Bookshop,
Johannesburg 1946 cat 6 (E48);
Schweickerdt's Pretoria 1944 cat 26
(E51); RAU Johannesburg 1975 cat 5 (E204)
LITERATURE Nuwe Brandwag 1930 opp p112
(B5 p 644; Katinko unidentified
newspaper 1948 (E51), Botha 1964
pp 43 cat t4; Delmont 1975 (1) pp 16,
23, 31, 54 footnote 34, 71, 72 footnote 12, 79, 81, 91 footnote 109;
Delmont 1975 (2) pp 22-23 repro 3 p 22;
see above p 171



PROVENANCE Prof M L du Toit, Pretoria; Mrs M Gunther, Warmbaths; Mr and Mrs P Goldberg, Pretoria

NOTES The style, which shows the influence of German Expressionism in the large bold forms and diagonals and the sketch for the work which appears in book 6 f50 (sketch IV) p 231, argue for a dating of ca 1924/5. In the E48 catalogue, Red lilies was listed as having been lent by Mev. G - almost certainly Mrs Gunther. In the E51 catalogue, no indication of the lender is given. It is presumed, because of the distinctive title, that it is no 436 which was exhibited.

423 verso Landscape

ca 1924/5

unsigned
oil on canvas 51,5 x 57,5
PROVENANCE purchased through
Prof W Battissin 1950 by Prof
and Mrs I D MacCrone, Johannesburg

NOTES Compare style to Riverscene, Berlin no 300, pl 40 p 212.



437 Trees

unsigned oil on cardboard 25 x 19 PROVENANCE US

NOTES It is impossible to date this work with any certainty but because of the simplification of form and the stress on outline, it seems that it dates to during her stay in Germany or perhaps soon after.

ca 1922-1926?



438 Barges

ca 1925?

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '25 oil on cardboard 29 x 36,5 PROVENANCE purchased from Mr K Bakker, Johannesburg in ca 1963/4 by Mr F J Olivier and Mr T J Marchand, Johannesburg

NOTES This work depicts a European motif - see sketch on folio 21 of book 6 p 229 and the style shows the influence of German Expressionism in the thin paint and jagged brushmarks. The work is dated 1925 so perhaps Laubser painted this work from the sketch, on her return to South Africa.



#### REDATED WORKS

Certain works relating to South African motifs and dated to 1920, 1921 or 1922 have been redated to post 1924.

### 439 Woman with green scarf

ca 1922-8

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '22 oil/gouache on cardboard 46 x36 EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Town 1968 Laubser section cat 2 (E158); SANG Cape Town 1969 cat 25 (E167-9) LITERATURE Botha 1964 cat 30 PROVENANCE Prof I W van der Merwe, Cape Town; bequeathed to Jan Van Riebeeck High School, Cape Town

NOTES This work has been tentatively redated to post 1924 because of style which shows the influence of German Expressionism in the palette: turquoise and acid yellow. It is impossible to ascertain with certainty whether the work was painted from memory or imagination whilst the artist was in Germany between 1922-1924 or on her return to South Africa in 1924.



440 Old Coloured woman with pink scarf

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '20
oil on cardboard 39 x 33
PROVZNANCE Mr A Jacobson, Johannesburg

NOTES This work and nos 441 and 442 which, unlike no 439, appear to have been painted directly from a model, are redated to post 1924 on the basis of the thin paint in the background, also seen in many of Laubser's German portraits and in several of her portraits firmly dated to 1924-1928. Compare the sitter to that in no 276.

ca 1924-8



## 441 Malay girl

ca 1924-8

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '20 oil on cardboard on hardboard 39,5 x 33,5 PROVENANCE purchased in Kimberley in 1949 by Mr F M Barnett, Johannesburg

NOTES See notes to no 440.



## 442 Young Coloured girl in chair ca 1924-8

signed and dated br: M. Laubser '22 annotated on back by artist:

Maggie Laubser '22 oil on cardboard 38 x 31 EXHIBITIONS Carnegie Library Stellenbosch 1942 cat 78 (E36); Argus Gallery Cape Town 1942 cat 78 (E37); SANG Cape Town 1969 cat 28 (E167-9) PROVENANCE purchased at E36 by Mrs L C Dekker, Pretoria; inherited by Mr H P Dekker, Pretoria

NOTES See note to no 440. Refer to Laubser's list of purchasers on E36 catalogue US79/7/12, viz, 'Mev Dekker 78.



## 443 Woman with hand on cheek

ca 1924-30

signed and dated bl: M. Laubse '20 oil on cardboard 44,5 x 34,5 PROVENANCE gift from the artist in ca 1935 from Mrs D I Louw, Boksburg

NOTES The thick paintwork, focalization on the motif, the cutting off of the head by the frame and the matt texture relate to other paintings dated to 1924-1930, eg, figs 113-118, pp 282, 283. Compare sitter to that in fig 115 p 282 dated ca 1928-30.



444 Near Stellenbosch\*

ca 1930

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '20/'30? oil on cardboard 30 x 40 EXHIBITIONS Carnegie Library Stellenbosch 1942 cat 26 (E36); Argus Gallery Cape Town 1942 cat 26 (E37); SANG Cape Town 1969 cat 8 (E167-9) LITERATURE Kerr Sunday Express 9 Nov 1969 p 19 (E169); Van Rensburg Vaderland 11 Nov 1969 p 2 (E169) PROVENANCE purchased at E36 by Mrs Verloren van Themaat, Stellenbosch; inherited by Mrs C M Andrag, Cape Town

NOTES In the E36 and 37 catalogues

and later in the E167-9 catalogue, this work was titled Naby Stellenbosch. In the latter catalogue this work was dated to 1920. The date is, however, not clear on the painting, and it seems more probable that it reads '30 instead of '20, as the sketches for the work appear on ff62 and 63 of a book in the University of Stellenbosch collection (US79/6/15), which contains other sketches for paintings firmly dated to Laubser's early South African period, ie, 1924-1930. A sketch of a similar scene also appears on folio 4 of a book (US79/6/11) which contains sketches for paintings firmly dated to 1924-30. The style confirms the conclusion that the painting dates to post 1924.

Refer to Laubser's list of purchasers on the E36 catalogue US79/7/12, viz, 'Mev Verloren van Themaat 26.'

445 Seascene

ca 1924-30

initialled and dated bl: M.L. '20 oil on canvas on board 28,5 x 37,5 EXHIBITIONS SANG Cape Town 1969 cat 5 (E167-9) LITERATURE Green Cape Argus 7 July 1969 p 15 PROVENANCE gift from the artist to Mr J Haywood, Aberdeen

NOTES This work has been redated because of the style, which shows the influence of German Expressionism, and because of the

preparatory sketches on ff9 and 10 of a sketchbook in the University of Stellenbosch collection (US79/6/15) which contains other sketches for paintings firmly dated to ca 1924-30. Compare also to other seascapes of ca 1924-30, eg, figs 159 p 290, and 160, p 291. The title of European scene has therefore been rejected. Green, in his review of E167, erroneously refers to cat 4 European scene, rather than cat 5.

446 Four sailing boats

ca 1924-30

oil on cardboard 26,5 x 35

PROVENANCE inherited from Hon and
Mrs P O Sauer, Stellenbosch by Mr
and Mrs Krige, Stellenbosch

NOTES Preparatory sketches appear on folio 70 of a sketchbook in the University of Stellenbosch (US79/6/11) and on folios 3 and 4 of a book in Mr Trakman's collection. Both these books contain other sketches for paintings dated to ca 1924-30.



447 Mother and child

ca 1924-30

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '22
oil on canvas on wood 53 x 43
EXHIBITIONS Egon Guenther Gallery
Johannesburg 1963 (E117); SANG Cape
Town 1969 cat 32 (E167-9)
LITERATURE Botha 1964 pp 32,33 cat 32;
Miles 1965 p 193; Delmont 1973 repro
p 24; see above p 160 footnote 2
PROVENANCE purchased at E117 by friends
of Maria Steyn-Lessing and presented to
University of the Witwatersrand
Johannesburg



NOTES The style shows the influence of German Expressionism: compare to Flowerseller in Berlin no 299 pl 39, p 212 and Riverscene, Berlin no 300 pl 40 p 212. The motif of mother and child in this work and no 448 relates directly to that in fig 101 t 280, dated 1930 by the artist. Preparatory sketches for no 447 and 448 are found on folios 43 and 44 of a sketchbook in Mr Trakman's collection containing other sketches for paintings dated to ca 1924-1930.

448 Mother and child

ca 1924-30

initialled and dated br: M.L. '22
oil on cardboard 41 x 34
PROVENANCE University of Pretoria, Pretoria



NOTES For same subject see no 447 and fig 101, p 280. See note to no 447. The style of this work shows the influence of German Expressionism in the simplification of form, lack of facial features and thin paintwork.

Shepherd and five sheep by the sea
Shepherd at Langebaan\*

ca 1924-28

init'alled and dated bl: M.L. '21 oil on canvas on cardboard 18,5 x 24,5 LITERATURE Botha 1964 pp 31, 143 cat 28; Van Rooyen 1974 p 12 PROVENANCE Mrs Taljaard, Stellenbosch

NOTES Botha titled this work

Skaapwagter by Langebaan. The
date of 1921 for this work and no 450
is doubtful. It seems, on the basis
of other firmly dated works depicting



shepherds, eg, figs 102 p 280, 122 p 284 and 140 p 286, that Laubser only began painting this theme on her return home in 1924. The style, with the loose brushwork and indistinct outlines, accords with other works from ca 1924-28, eg, fig 156 p 290. Similar sketches for the shepherd and sheep in landscape appear on folios 15, 17 and 18 of a book in the University of Stellenbosch collection (US79/6/3), which contains other sketches for paintings to ca 1924-30.

450 Shepherd and eleven sheep

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '21 oil on cardboard 37 x 45,5
PROVENANCE Mr and Mrs M Sachar,
Cape Town; purchased at an auction
Hofmeyer and Son, Cape Town December
1976 by Mr J B Low, Cape Town

NOTES See notes to no 449.

ca 1924-28



451 Woman ca 1930-4

signed and dated bl: M. Laubser '20 (in ballpoint pen)
charcoal and white chal on brown
paper 47,5 x 36,5
PROVENANCE Mr B Trakman, Cape Town

NOTES The signature and date were certainly added at a later date - hence the date of 1920 is suspect. The style and the medium place this work after 1930, along with several other stylistically related portraits executed in the same medium.



#### ADDENDUM

During the final stages of completion of this study the following additional bibliographic material was discovered. Refer to: Nilant, F. G. E. and Schoonraad, M. Bibliografie: Suid Afrikaanse Kunstenaars; Pretoria: Universiteit van Pretoria, 1976, for further information about brief passing recences to Laubser in books and articles of a general nature.

- 3. Books, monographs, articles of a lengthy or informative nature in both magazines and newspapers, pamphlets, auction catalogues, films, etc. in which specific mention of Laubser and/or her art, is made.
- Anonymous 'A South African Artist: Maggie Laubser.' Cape Argus; 27 Feb. 1926. [Original not traced].
- Anonymous 'Johannes Meintjes Veelsydige Kunstenaar.' Lantern, vol.12, no.3: pp.80-89; March 1963.
- Anonymous 'Maggie Laubser Ons Beroemdste Skilderes.'
  Afrikaner, vol.1, no.16; 1 May 1970: p.16.
- Battiss, W. 'Towards an Independent Art "The New Group" of South Africa', Studio, vol.117, no.554: pp.208-209; May 1939.
- Battiss, W. 'Kunshewegings in Suid-Afrika.' Standpunte, vol.18, no.6: pp.18-27; Aug. 1965.
- Bokhorst, M. ''n Suid-Afrikaanse "Schilderboek" Beskouinge na aanleiding van Dr. A. C. Bouman se "Kuns in Suid-Afrika."' <u>Huisgenoot</u>, vol.19, no.680: pp.35, 57; 5 April 1935.
- Botha, H. M. 'Die Kuns an Suid-Afrika in die Afgelope Vyftig Jaar.' <u>Historia</u>, vol.5, no.3: pp.153-168; Sept. 1960.
- Goldberg, A. 'Die Kunstenaar en die Verlange van 'n Volk.' Buurman, vol.9, no.3: pp.18, 19, 31; March-May 1979.
- Kuiper, A. K. 'De Schilderes Maggie Laubser.' Volkstem, vol.17, no 81; 29 Nov. 1930. [Original not traced.]
- Department of Information South African Tradition, 3rd ed.; Pretoria: Staatsdrukker, 1974.
- Van der Westhuizen, H. M. 'Die Hedendaagse Skilderkuns in Suid-Afrika.' <u>Historia</u>, vol.9, no.1: pp.34-43; March 1964.
- Van der Westhuizen, H. M. 'Hedendaagse Skilderkuns in S.A.'
  Ons Erfdeel, no.5; March 1962. [Original not traced.]

- 5. Newspapers and passing references to Laubser in magazine articles.
- Illustrations of Laubser's works cf. D.436. Nuwe Brandwag, vol.2, no.2: opp. pp.112, 120; May 1930.
- Illustrations of Laubser's works. Nuwe Brandwag, vol.3, no.3: opp. pp.131, 147, 151, 159; Aug. 1931.
- Illustration of Jochem van Bruggen. Huisgenoot, vol.20, no.715: p.16; 6 Dec. 1935.
- Illustration entitled Ouderdom, a charcoal portrait of an old Coloured man. Brandwag, vol.2, no.92: p.21; 5 May 1939.
- Illustration of Jan F. E. Celliers. Brandwag, vol.3, no.107: p.27; 18 Aug. 1939.
- Illustration entitled Reiers. Brandwag, vol.10, ro.487: p.33; 31 Jan. 1947.
- 'Vaste uitstalling.' Brandwag, vol.11, no.645: p.1; 10 Feb. 1950.
- 'Ons Eerste Kunstenaarsklub.' Brandwag, vol.16, no.35: p.5; 22 Sept. 1952.
- 'Pretoria Skep/Pretoria Creates.' Lantern, vol.5, no.2: pp.143, 187; Nov. 1955.
- 'Maggie Laubser.' <u>Sarie Marais</u>, vol..1, no.10: p.15; 28 Oct. 1959.
- Illustration of Harvesters. De Arte, no.4: p.7; Cct. 1968.
- Godfrey, D. 'Private Collection at Cape Realises High Prices.' Star, stop press ed.: p.28; 13 Sept. 1971.
- Illustration of D.347 sold at 'auction of South African paintings and Persian and Oriental carpets from the "S. A. Pioneer", which was involved in a recent sea collision.' South African Digest: p.14; 21 July 1972.

#### 6. Exhibitions

- 6. REVIEW: Du Toit, M. L. 'Skilderye van Maggie Loubser [sic].' Burger, vol.17, no.5113; 1 Feb. 1932: p.7. [Refers to Oestyd; 'n meid met 'n persagtige kopdoek. En een eenheid met haar is die lelies.' (D.428)].
- 7. REVIEW: Bouman, A. C. 'Hedendaagse S. A. Kuns.' <u>Huis-genoot</u>, vol.16, no.519: 4 March 1932: pp.25,69. [Refers to 66. Vrou met blou serp].

- f. REVIEW: Bouman, A. C. 'Die Tweede Jaarlikse Kunstentoonstelling.' <u>Huisgenoot</u>, vol.17, no.567; 3 Feb. 1933: pp.12, 13, 61. [Refers to 43. a landscape].
- 9. DES. OF EXHIB.: 2) paintings and 10 charcoals.
  - NOTICE: Untitled paragraph. Huisgenoot, vol.18, no.597; 1 Sept. 1933: p.11.
  - REVIEW: 'Maggie Loubser [sic] Haar Werk Tentoontoonstelling Word Saterdag Geopen.' Volkstem, vol.20, no.21; 18 Sept. 1933: p.6.
    - 'Maggie Loubser [sic] Haar Werk Tentoonstelling Deur Mnr. Totten Geopen.' Volkstem, vol.20, no.26; 23 Sept. 1933: p.5.
    - Du Toit, M. L. 'Opgewektheid Vervang die Tragiese in Maggie Loubser [sic] se Kuns.' Vaderland, vol.16, no.1335; 23 Sept. 1933: p.13.
- 11. REVIEW: Bouman, A. C. 'Suid-Afrikaanse Kuns.' <u>Huis-genoot</u>, vol.19, no.760, 25 Jan. 1935: pp.24, 25, 59. [Refers to 230.a drawing].
- 12a. Stuttafords Building : 'Charcoals by Laubser'; Nov. 1936.
  - REVIEW Murray, A. H. 'Twee Merkwaardige Suid-Afrikaanse Kunstenaresse.' <u>Vaderland</u>, vol.1, no.108; 8 Nov. 1936: p.11.
  - 20. REVIEW: Bouman, A. C. 'Moderne Kuns in Kaapstad.'

    Huisgenoot, vol.22, no.824; 7 Jan. 1938:

    pp.14, 15, 17. [Refers to 121. Hibiscus
    reproduced p.14].
  - 26. REVIEW: Steenkamp, J. P. 'Die Nuwe Groep In Ons
    Kunslewe.' Brandwag, vol.2, no.71;
    9 Dec. 1938: p.25. [No mention of Laubser].
- 27. REVIEW: Hugo, J. 'Die Nuwe Groep Ons Jonger Kunstenaars se Werk.' Brandwag, vol.2, no.84;
  10 March 1939: p.21. [Refers to [30.]Kat
  en blomme; [33.] Pondo meidjie].
- 32. REVIEW: Visser, R. P. 'Die Kuns Van Maggie Laubser.'

  Brandwag, vol.3, no.11; 15 Sept. 1939:
  p.27. Refers to: 3.Ligroos hibiscus;
  23.Rooi hibiscus; 6.Sonneblomme; 9.Blomme;
  24.Kat en petunias; 1.Kat en blomme;
  15.Flaminke; 25.Reiers; 15.[Reiers?];
  2.Landskap; 21.'n Indruk van Tafelberg
  (D.433); 22.In die Skotse Hooglande (D.296);
  7.Vissershuisie; 8.Wasvroue by die see;

5.0estyd; 10.1ndier vrou met blou sari; 12.Indier vrou met blou sari; 14.Meidjie met geel-groen doek; 13.Indier vrou en pointsettias; 16.Visserseun. 17.Kind en kat; 1.Pondo-meidjie; 3.Meidjie met garingblare; 2.Vrou met pot.

- 37. REVIEW: Brander: 'Maggie Laubser se Skilderye en

  Tekeninge.' Suiderstem, vol.6; 12 Sept.

  1942: p.3. [Refers to 87. Indruk van Tafelberg (D.433); 15. By die Baltiese See (D.310);

  48. Oranje en swart doek (D.270); 'swart
  meisie'; 1; 3; 57; 75; 78; 17. Meisie wat
  rook (D.406); 74. Betrokke dag by die Garda
  See; oestoneel; two skildery van varkblomme].
- 45. MENTION: 'Maggie Laubser Kom Na Goudstad.' Brandwag, vol.8, no.375; 1 June 1945: p.25.
- 46. REVIEW: Du Toit, P. M. 'Maggie Laubser.' TransAfrica, vol.1, no.6: June 1945: pp.42-43.

  [Refers to By die Baltiese See (D.311);
  'skilderye oor Indiese v.oue' and Vuurtoring op die Monillepunt [sic Mouille] die eerste skildery wat die kunstenares
  ooit geskilder het.' (D.11)].
- 57. MENTION: 'Maggie Laubser Stal Uit.' Brandwag, vol.11, no.625; 23 Sept. 1949: p.1.

## **Author** Delmont E C **Name of thesis** Catalogue raisonne of Maggie Laubser's work 1900-1924 1979

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