Guido Brink (1913-2002)

Guido Brink is known worldwide for his countless pieces that illuminate public and commercial buildings. These works are influenced by growing up between two world wars in the battlegrounds of Europe, during a time of pivotal changes within the art community. He was both an art student and a German soldier seeking a mental equilibrium in an excessively chaotic world.

- Influenced by German Expressionism, Neue Sachlichkeit and Surrealism
- Composes vivid and varied colors as an attempt to create an uplifting feeling
- Aims to suggest inner workings of nature in emotional rather than to depict nature itself

1913 – Born January 8th in Düsseldorf, Germany
1929 – Visited America to work for Uncle at A.L Brink Studio
1934 – Attended Academy of Fine Art in Düsseldorf, Germany
1937 – Attended the Munich Architectural Institute where he and his peers were ordered by Hitler to view “Degenerate Art” (Hitler was negatively jolted by the unexpected inspiration given to Brink and his fellow students)
1953 – Moved to New York and then settled in Milwaukee, Wisconsin
1955-1974 – Taught at Layton School of Art and Design, Where he would go on to become Chair of Faculty
1959 – Studied welding and metal fabrication at MATC
1970 – Award of Merit for outstanding work by the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Institute of Architects
1974 – Became instrumental figure in the founding of The Milwaukee School of the Arts and became its first president (Now Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design)