

Visions

7 October-10 December 1976

Dennis Adrian
Guest Curator



Painting and Sculpture: Distinguished Alumni 1945 to the Present

The School of the Art Institute of Chicago

Lamantia, Paul

Lives in Chicago
SAIC: MFA, 1968

Us and Them

1976

acrylic on canvas
47½" x 37"

Lent by Douglas Kenyon Inc, Chicago

Paul Lamantia's paintings lately have developed a fluency of formal invention that until a few years ago was so strongly marked only in his fierce and glowing pastels. The incredible complication of his visceral forms, suggesting violently anatomized segments of human and animal parts, becomes so dizzying that the viewer must fight to find any focus of vision as a point from which to orient all the shapes and distinguish any figure ground relationships. It is this very plunge into the tangle of visual and psychic experience that Lamantia sees as the primary function of his demanding art.