

**ART**

**GARY CATALANO**

**A**PART from remarking on the sharp contrast in their curatorial approaches, it is hard to know just what to say about Heide's '33 Men Painters' (7 Templestowe Road, Bulleen) and ACCA's 'How much beauty can I stand?' (Dallas Brookes Drive, South Yarra). Though both exhibitions seek to examine issues of contemporary importance, they do so in ways that are likely to leave one dissatisfied, confused, and somewhat short-changed (both ending 20 April).

**'H**OW much beauty can I stand? strikes me as confused in its motives. Though it purports to deal with romanticism, it is unclear whether it is seeking to document one aspect of its current resurgence or (which seems more likely) to question the possibility of a genuinely romantic response to nature.

Yet whatever its precise intentions may be, surely commonsense would tell one that this ACCA exhibition of just 11 items (one of which was painted back in 1879 by Eugen von Guerard) does not provide the grounds on which to generalize about the future directions of contemporary art. Undeterred by such matters, Sue Cramer claims that the works on show challenge the empirical habits which have long sustained our landscape tradition.