ALEXANDRE

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ART ATTACK by JAMES GARDNER

NEIL WELLIVER $\star \star \frac{1}{2}$

Welliver, who died in April at 75, was one of the most conservative artists to win any respect in the art world. Perhaps that is because he turned his back on that world, retreating into wholesome scenes of natural beauty. A number of his works are new on view, images of trees slanting this way and that without any trace of human intervention. One of his most accomplished works. "Blueberries in Fissures,* is consumed by the gray side of a mountain, set against a steel-blue sky, with a few ungainly pines here and there. The grimness of this world view is typical of the late artist. (Alexandre Gallery, 41 E 57th St. [212] 755-2828. Through Oct. 22)



"Big Flowage" by Neil Welliver at the Alexandre Gallery.

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